

Domaine Joseph Voillot (Volnay)

2021	Beaune "Aux Coucheries" 1er	red	89
2021	Bourgogne Pinot Noir Vieilles Vignes	red	86
2021	Pommard Vieilles Vignes	red	88
2021	Pommard "Clos Micault" 1er	red	89
2021	➔ Pommard "Les Epenots" 1er	red	91
2021	Pommard "Les Pézerolles" 1er	red	90
2021	➔ Pommard "Les Rugiens" 1er	red	92
2021	Volnay Vieilles Vignes	red	87
2021	➔ Volnay "Les Caillerets" 1er	red	92
2021	Volnay "Les Champans" 1er	red	90
2021	Volnay "Les Frémiets" 1er	red	90

Jean-Pierre Charlot, one of Burgundy's most well-loved and respected *vignerons*, has now completely retired, in favor of his nephew Etienne Chaix. Chaix described 2021 as "having pretty much every problem imaginable. The frost of course marked everyone's view of the growing season but there was intense disease pressure and even some sunburned fruit! Moreover, most of the season was cool and wet so the tiny quantities actually allowed what little fruit there was to ripen properly. For example, we were off fully 80% in white and 60 to 80% in red. To express it in terms of volumes, all the wines came in between 8 and 12 hl/ha! It was in a sense a double whammy of problems because while the frost hit the premier crus hard, it largely spared the regional vines. However, while the flowering passed well in the premier crus, there was a lot of shatter in the regional vines so basically, we didn't produce much volume in any of our vines. In fact, there was so little of the Meursault Chevalières that we're not even going to commercialize it. Ultimately, we picked from the 18th of September and there was enough sorting necessary to mention and after that, everything was pretty much easy. With the exception of the Bourgogne, I bottled the reds in January 2023." (A Roy Cloud Selection for Vintage '59 Imports, www.vintage59.com, Washington, D.C., USA; Anthony Sarjeant, UK; Jalux, www.jalux.com, Japan; Dieckmann's Wein, www.dieckmannswein.de, Germany; Okhuysen, www.okhuysen.nl, Netherlands; Divine Wines, www.divine-burgundy-wine.com, Ireland; La Cave de Reverolle, www.cavedereve.ch, Switzerland; Fine Wine Company, www.sdvf.ca, Canada).

2021 Bourgogne Pinot Noir Vieilles Vignes: (from a parcel of 100% pinot vines located near Volnay). A very pinot-like nose reflects mostly notes of various red berries and earth character that is picked up by the delicious and vibrant lighter weight flavors that display good detail on the ever-so-mildly dry and lean finish. I suspect that the dryness is due to the bottling, but I doubt that this will ever be seductive. 86/2024+

2021 Volnay Vieilles Vignes: A slightly riper nose offers up touches of spice and herbal tea on the cool red currant and cherry scents. The vibrant and equally well-detailed flavors are also on the lighter side before concluding in a delicious if slightly short finale. This somewhat awkward effort may also better harmonize once the recent sulfur addition from the bottling is integrated. 87/2026+

2021 Pommard Vieilles Vignes: (from Les Cras though not labeled as such). A more deeply pitched nose displays notes of earth, forest floor and red and dark currant. There is slightly better volume and punch to the barely middleweight flavors that carries over to the bitter pit fruit and firmly austere finale. 88/2027+

2021 Beaune "Aux Coucheries": Fresh and cool aromas of plum, spicy black cherry and violet can be found on the attractively textured and more concentrated medium weight flavors that possess a seductive, even velvety, texture that contrasts with the austere but sneaky long finish. 89/2027+

2021 Volnay “Les Frémiets”: (from vines that average 50+ years of age). Agreeably fresh if somber aromas of plum, red and dark raspberry and a hint of crushed anise are trimmed in just enough wood to notice. The supple yet nicely energetic flavors exude a subtle bead of minerality on the dusty, moderately austere and lingering finale. This attractively textured effort could use more depth but that could reasonably occur with a few years of cellaring. 90/2028+

2021 Volnay “Les Champans”: (from vines that average 50 years of age). A softly spicy and noticeably earthier nose blends notes of both red and dark currant with those of plum and violet. The supple, round and velvet-textured medium-bodied flavors seem quite forward though this impression contrasts with the compact and youthfully austere finale. Note that this is sufficiently firm to benefit from at least a few years of keeping. 90/2029+

2021 Volnay “Les Caillerets”: (from a small .14 ha parcel planted in 1984). Here the elegant nose amply reflects the classic spiciness of the mostly red berry aromas that are liberally laced with violet and lilac nuances. There is both good volume and intensity to the nicely concentrated medium weight flavors that exude an almost pungent minerality on the much more complex and persistent bitter cherry-inflected finish. This classy effort is really quite lovely. 92/2029+

2021 Pommard “Clos Micault”: A discreet if perceptible application of wood sets off a markedly earthier mix of red and dark wild currant, forest floor and a hint of smoke. The supple, round and almost easy-going middleweight flavors conclude in a mildly austere and sneaky long finish that could use more depth so some patience advised. 89/2027+

2021 Pommard “Les Epenots”: An ultra-fresh if more restrained nose combines airy notes of red cherry with those of spice, violet and a whiff of wood toast. The mouthfeel of the seductively textured and nicely caressing medium weight flavors is noticeably finer than those of the Clos Micault, all wrapped in a dusty, powerful and moderately austere finale. Like a number of wines in the range, this would benefit from having better depth, so some cellaring is again advised. 91/2029+

2021 Pommard “Les Pézerolles”: (from a .4 ha parcel planted in 1963). A more floral-suffused nose is composed by notes of various red berries and background hints of spice and earth. There is both good richness and verve to the succulent medium weight flavors that culminate in a lightly austere finish where a touch of acid tang appears. 90/2028+

2021 Pommard “Les Rugiens”: (from a .25 ha parcel in Rugiens Bas planted in 1959). Here too there is a discreet application of wood to be found on the softly spicy and quite floral-scented nose of essence of plum, dark currant and green tea. The slightly bigger and definitely more powerful flavors deliver fine length on the markedly mineral-driven, moderately austere and quite serious finish. I would strongly suggest not even thinking about opening a bottle for the first 5 to 7 years as it's very tightly wound. 92/2031+