

Burghound.com - Allen Meadows

Ladoix « Les Buis » 2017 : 87-89/2022+

A relatively deeply pitched nose features notes of plum, newly turned earth and a spicy top note. The sleek, intense and nicely delineated lighter weight flavors terminate in a lingering and youthfully austere finish. This should be approachable after only a few years of cellaring.

Côte de Nuits-Village 2017 : 87-90/2023+

A spicy and quite floral nose combines notes of red and dark cherry with hints of earth that are picked up by the nicely detailed and textured flavors that offer solid persistence if only average depth. Still, I suspect that this will add complexity if allowed to age for a few years.

Chorey-lès-Beaune « Les Beaumonts » 2017 : 87-89/2022+

This too is relatively deeply pitched and a bit somber if otherwise aromatically similar to the Les Buis. There is a lovely sense of tension to the delicious flavors that are a bit denser if somewhat less refined on the attractively persistent finale.

Ladoix « Le Clos Royer » 2017 : 87-90/2023+

A very pretty and perfumed nose is comprised by notes of various red berries, rose petal and a hint of earth. The supple and vibrant flavors possess an equally lovely texture before terminating in a delineated, reasonably complex and lingering finish. This could be enjoyed young if that's your preference.

Savigny-Lès-Beaune 1^{er} Cru « Les Serpentières » 2017 : 88-91/2023+

Here too there is just enough wood in evidence to merit mentioning on the softly spicy nose of violet and dark currant. The finer if not necessarily denser flavors are rich but also almost delicate while delivering pretty good length if only average depth. This is very pretty but it needs to develop more complexity, which it may well do if allowed a few years of bottle age.

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Aloxe-Corton 2017 : 87-89/2024+

A relatively elegant if cool and restrained nose combines notes of red cherry, raspberry and violet, all of which is trimmed in just enough wood to notice. The rich and solidly voluminous flavors possess a caressing mid-palate mouth feel that contrasts somewhat with the mildly rustic bitter cherry-inflected finish.

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « Les Joyeuses » 2017 : 87-89/2023+

A deft touch of wood can be found on the dark pinot fruit, spice, floral, menthol and newly turned earth-infused aromas. Here too the mid-palate mouth feel of the middle weight flavors is relatively fine though the supporting tannins are somewhat raspy on the slightly short finish. This could well harmonize but that's a guess, not a prediction.

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « La Corvée » 2017 : 89-92/2027+

Once again there is a deft but not invisible application of wood setting off notes of plum, red cherry, violet and soft earth nuances. There is also good punch to the nicely detailed and caressing middle weight flavors that display touches of rusticity and austerity on the markedly more structured finale. This is quite serious and will necessitate exercising at least some patience.

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « Les Valozières » 2017 : 89-92/2027+

A brooding and reticent nose grudgingly reveals its aromas of the sauvage, plum liqueur, humus and forest floor. The big, robust and muscular flavors possess excellent punch and drive before culminating in a lightly mineral-inflected, rustic and equally serious finish.

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « La Toppe au Vert » 2017 : 89-91/2025+

A background whiff of wood toast easily allows the aromas of black cherry, cassis and earth to be appreciated. The mouth feel of the middle weight flavors is a bit less refined though I like the vibrancy and detail on the lingering if slightly less complex finale.

DOMAINE
MICHEL MALLARD *et Fils*

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Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2017 : 90-92/2025+

(only one barrel made and Mallard indicated that it's possible that this might be bottled exclusively in magnum). An overtly floral nose reflects additional notes of red and dark cherry, violet, plum and warm earth. The supple and round medium-bodied flavors possess a markedly different texture and particularly so on the sleek and nicely balanced finish. This is worth considering.

Corton Grand Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2017 : 89-92/2027+

This is very ripe, indeed to the point that it lacks a bit of freshness and the generous wood doesn't help in this regard. By contrast there is much better freshness and energy on the palate of the medium-bodied flavors that are relatively refined on the lingering finish. While I can't say the nose appeals to me, overall this is perfectly good if not distinguished.

Corton Grand Cru « Le Rognet » 2017 : not rated

This presently possesses the same nose as the Maréchaudes that lacks freshness. In the same vein, the rich and velvety flavors seem flat and borderline heavy. This is very difficult to read and while it may recover before it's bottled, it's impossible to say that with any conviction.

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Corton Grand Cru « *Les Renardes* » 2017 : 90-93/2029+

(from a .75 ha parcel). Here too very generous wood fights somewhat with the more sauvage-inflected and slightly fresher aromas of plum liqueur, cassis and warm earth. The sleek, intense and bigger-bodied flavors possess more evident muscle on the more complex, more firmly structured and lengthier finish.

Bourgogne Blanc Chardonnay 2017 : 86-88/2020+

Pungent aromas of petrol, citrus zest and straw give way to nicely vibrant and attractively textured, rich and delicious flavors that conclude in a clean, dry and linear finish. To enjoy young.

Ladoix Blanc Village 2017 : 87-89/2021+

There is a whiff of the exotic suffusing the white peach, grapefruit and soft wood nuances. The nicely vibrant medium-bodied flavors possess a seductive mouth feel while exhibiting good persistence on the clean, dry and mildly tangy finale. This too should drink well young.

Ladoix « *Le Clos Royer* » 2017 : 87-90/2022+

Here too there a certain exoticism present on the petrol, acacia blossom, passion fruit and soft wood scents. There is better volume to the solidly intense and nicely detailed medium-bodied flavors that also culminate in a dry, tangy and clean finish where the wood displayed by the nose reemerges.

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « *Les Gréchons* » 2017 : 90-92/2023+

A cooler and airier nose features notes of matchstick, white orchard fruit, iodine and a whiff of smoke. The more elegant and more mineral-driven middle weight flavors possess excellent punch on the clean, chiseled and agreeably dry finish. Lovely.

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Corton Charlemagne Grand Cru 2017 : 91-93/2025+

(from Le Charlemagne). There is enough wood to point out framing the ultra-floral green apple-suffused nose of pear, mineral reduction and soft spice nuances. Interestingly, there is more size, weight and density to the larger-scaled flavors that manage to retain the same refinement on the lingering finish where hints of grapefruit rind impart a sense of lift. This needs to add some depth but the underlying material appears to be present.

Vinous - Neal Martin

Ladoix « *Le Clos Royer* » 2017 : 85-87/100

The 2017 Ladoix Le Clos Royer Rouge offers smuged red cherry and cranberry on the nose. The palate is medium-bodied with crunchy red berry fruit and a little tough on the entry. Rustic but charming. Drink over the next 4-5 years. (2019 – 2024)

Chorey-lès-Beaune « *Les Beaumonts* » 2017

This wine had just been rached and so was no tasted.

Aloxe-Corton Village 2017 : 86-88/100

The 2017 Aloxe-Corton Village offers quite pure blue and black fruit on the slightly floral nose, with rose petal scents becoming more and more prominent. The palate is well balanced, displaying chalky tannin and a fine bead of acidity. Quite foursquare and correct, but a pleasant spiciness develops on the finish. Give it two or three years in bottle. (2021 – 2028)

DOMAINE
MICHEL MALLARD *et Fils*

Vinous - Neal Martin

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « Les Joyeuses » 2017 : 86-88/100

The 2017 Ladoix Les Joyeuses 1er Cru has a slightly monotone bouquet of simple raspberry fruit, perhaps a little outplayed by the ALoxe-Corton Village. The palate is well balanced with fresh acidity and a little chewy and sinewy, but with a grippy finish. Not bad, but I might actually just prefer some of Mallard's Village Crus by comparison. (2020 – 2026)

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « La Corvée » 2017 : 90-92/100

The 2017 Ladoix La Corvée 1er Cru was the first to be racked this year. It has fine *mineralité* on the nose, a step up from the Les Joyeuses by direct comparison. The palate is well balanced with crunchy red berry fruit, fine acidity, tensile red currant and wild strawberry and an almost licked-limestone element tingling on the finish. Superb. (2021 – 2030)

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « Les Valozières » 2017 : 89-91/100

The 2017 Aloxe-Corton Les Valozières 1er Cru comes from a single parcel of around 50-year-old vines. It offers blackberry, tobacco and minerals on the nose – not powerful but precise. The palate is medium-bodied with crunchy red fruit and quite spicy in the mouth, although I would like a little more persistency on the finish. But very fine overall. (2022 – 2033)

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « La Toppe au Vert » 2017 : 90-92/100

The 2017 Aloxe-Corton La Toppe au Vert 1er Cru comes from a parcel of vines just below the house that belonged to Michel Mallard's grandfather. It has a pretty bouquet of light floral scents, crushed chalk filtering through the dark berry fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with light tannin, quite masculine in style, with a brittle but quite long finish. There is good structure here but it manages to convey a sense of elegance. (2021 – 2030)

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Vinous - Neal Martin

Corton Grand Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2017 : 88-90/100

The 2017 Corton Les Maréchaudes Grand Cru sports quite a noticeable marine influence on the precise, detailed nose, hints of kelp infusing the red berry fruit. The medium-bodied palate of mulberry and raspberry fruit is slightly chewy on the entry, but lacks a little precision toward the finish, which offers a pinch of black pepper on the aftertaste. (2021 – 2031)

Corton Grand Cru « Le Rognet » 2017 : 91-93/100

The 2017 Corton Le Rognet Grand Cru has a backward, discreet yet well defined bouquet displaying more purity of fruit than the Maréchaudes (although that was racked later). The palate is medium-bodied, crisp and tensile, displaying fine tannin and red cherries and raspberry toward the nicely structured, classy finish. Excellent. (2022 – 2038)

Corton Grand Cru « Les Renardes » 2017 : 92-94/100

The 2017 Corton Les Renardes Grand Cru, which contains around 60% whole bunches, has a wonderful, fresh, vibrant bouquet of blackberry, raspberry and crushed stone aromas. There is wonderful precision and detail here. The palate is medium-bodied, taut and crisp, featuring fresh acidity and a little more backbone and *panache* than the Corton-Rognet. This Michel Mallard's finest in 2017 – a great wine with good aging potential. (2022 – 2038)

Bourgogne Blanc Chardonnay 2017 : 84-86/100

The 2017 Bourgogne Blanc comes from a small parcel just outside Ladoix; this sample was racked in August. It has a light fresh pineapple and green apple bouquet. The palate is nicely balanced and quite primal, offering pear and a touché of lime on the finish. (2019 – 2022)

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Vinous - Neal Martin

Ladoix Blanc Village 2017 : 86-88/100

A blend of two *lieux-dits* that includes the last vineyards in the Côte de Beaune, the 2017 Ladoix Blanc Village has a fresh white flower and green apple bouquet. The palate is nicely balanced, offering Golden Delicious apple on the entry, a touch of sherbet and a simple but pretty finish. Drink over the next 3-4 years. (2019 – 2023)

Ladoix « Le Clos Royer » 2017 : 87-89/100

The 2017 Ladoix Le Clos Royer Blanc has a pleasant reduction on the nose, the 50% new oak neatly integrated. The well-balanced palate is fresh on the entry and reveals a touch of citrus peel and Conference pear toward the finish. There's a pleasant tingle on the tongue once the wine has departed. Promising. (2020 – 2028)

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « Les Gréchons » 2017 : 90-92/100

The 2017 Ladoix Les Gréchons Blanc 1er Cru has a taut, quite stony bouquet with delicate touches of nettle and white flower complementing the citrus fruit. The tensile palate is very well balanced with a sense of energy on the entry and a crisp, minerally finish. This is superb and comes highly recommended. (2019 – 2027)

Corton Charlemagne Grand Cru 2017 : 91-93/100

The 2017 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru comes from the Le Charlemagne *lieu-dit* on the Aloxe-Corton side. Matured in around 60% new oak. It has a fresh Granny Smith apple, granite and smoke scented bouquet that you might mistake for a Puligny. The palate is fresh and vibrant on the entry, with a fine bead of acidity, yet somehow just a little conservative, pretty but not quite delivering that final *coup de grâce* on the finish. Maybe it's keeping something up its sleeve ? (2022 – 2035)

DOMAINE
MICHEL MALLARD *et Fils*

Decanter - Tim Atkin MW

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2017 : 94/100

This is a first release for the Mallards, made from a premier cru parcel close to the bottom of the slope (Maréchaudes can also be a Corton Grand Cru). And what a debut it is, confirming this domaine as a rising star of the Côte de Beaune. Fermented with 50% stems and aged in one-year wood, it's a savoury complex, red with fine-boned tannins, raspberry sweetness and savoury complexity.

Drinking Window 2020 – 2027

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « La Toppe au Vert » 2017 : 93/100

Given its position below Corton Rognet, it's no surprise that this parcel, located in Ladoix but labelled as an Aloxe-Corton premier Cru, often makes such impressive wines. Textured, layered and hauntingly scented, this has 50% stems and 60% new wood, with fine, zesty wild strawberry and pomegranate fruit.

Drinking Window 2020 – 2025

Corton Grand Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2017 : 95/100

In a very good year for Corton, the wines from this family domaine really stand out for their freshness, polish and finesse. Fermented with 60% whole bunches and aged in 75% new oak, this is subtle and nuanced, with fine-grained tannins and a savoury finish.

Drinking Window 2024 – 2030

Corton Grand Cru « Le Rognet » 2017 : 95/100

Michel Mallard's Corton has a little more colour and guts than his Les Maréchaudes bottling, but is similarly polished and refined. Made from a 0,36ha parcel, with 60% whole bunches and 80% new wood, this is chalky and sappy with scented rose petal and red cherry top-notes followed by a focused finish.

Drinking Window 2025 – 2032

DOMAINE
MICHEL MALLARD *et Fils*

Decanter - Tim Atkin MW

Ladoix Blanc Village 2017 : 90/100

Something of a curiosity, given that it's the most northerly vineyard in the Côte de Beaune, this is also an excellent value white Burgundy. Sourced from two parcels and fermented in 30% new oak, it's a bright, tangy, sappy, stylishly oaked white that wouldn't look out of place in Puligny-Montrachet.

Drinking Window 2019 – 2023

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « Les Gréchons » 2017 : 92/100

Its parcels of Corton-Charlemagne notwithstanding, Ladoix isn't a particularly sexy appellation for whites, but this premier cru site close to the Hautes Côtes is capable of making thrilling wines. This has lovely texture, finely integrated oak, some beeswax and aniseed and a taut finish.

Drinking Window 2019 – 2025

Corton Charlemagne Grand Cru 2017 : 93/100

As well as his day job at Domaine d'Eugénie, Michel Mallard makes the wines at his family domaine. There are only 600 bottles of this superb Grand Cru white from the Le Charlemagne climat in Aloxe-Corton, but it's well worth tracking down. Showing old-vine concentration, perfumed oak and taut, mineral-edged acidity, it's a racy, complex Chardonnay with lovely palate length.

Drinking Window 2020 – 2029

DOMAINE
MICHEL MALLARD *et Fils*

Winehog - Steen Öhman

Chorey-lès-Beaune « Les Beaumonts » 2017 : Good ++ (86-87)

Same style and expression, yet a lovely mid-palate tension and intensity. A quite cool expression – fine energy in the rather generous finish. On the enjoyable and richer side; more pleasure than intellectual exercise. But then again, what's wrong with pleasure ?

Drink from 2023

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « Les Corvées » 2017 : Very Good (88-89)

This is a delightful Ladoix and a step up from the first wines. This 1st cru is from the northern part of the village – a bit up the hill from the RN974. The nose is quite detailed – some impression of oak spicing things up with some notes of red cherries, violet, plum and some earthy nuances. Nice intensity and punch to the finely detailed flavours that caress your palate. The finish is firm and reveals that this will take some time fully to unfold.

Drink from 2027

Aloxe-Corton Village 2017 : Good + (87)

The Aloxe-Corton is rather elegant – a cool nose showing red cherries, raspberries and hints of violets – with the discrete oak underpinning doing fine work. On the palate rich and generously flavoured, offering a delightfully harmonious feel. Clearly a bit more openly knit than the Ladoix Corvées; lighter and more approachable.

Drink from 2024

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « Les Valozières » 2017 : Very Good (88-89)

A 1er cru located below Corton Bressandes, heading towards the village of Aloxe-Corton coming from Ladoix. This is a robust and sturdy wine, with a fine, vivacious mid-palate leading to a delightfully mineral finish. It has a rather complex nose with a hint of sous-bois and amaretto cherries. It will require some time in the cellar to unfold, as it is quite serious in the finish. Nevertheless a delightful glass.

Drink from 2027

Winehog - Steen Öhman

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « La Toppe au Vert » 2017 : Very Good (89-90)

I do love the name of this vineyard : an Aloxe-Corton, yet located in Ladoix ! The vineyard is located just above the village and just below the Corton part of Ladoix. Here we have black and morello cherries with a hint of cassis and an earthy minerality. A quite intense wine with plenty of length and staying power. A Winehog award to this wine.

Drink from 2027

Corton Grand Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2017 : Fine (90-91)

The Corton Maréchaudes is a ripe and rounded wine – generous and quite vivid. In the end perhaps the slight weak spot here is the energy and focus – although some cellaring certainly would help. It's quite intense with plenty of sweet fruit; nicely balanced and a charming expression of the 2017 vintage. 60-70% whole cluster is offering some floral elements. Maréchaudes is just on the boarder between Ladoix and Aloxe-Corton (but in Ladoix) and is close to the RN974, with only a small plot of 1er cru between it and the road.

Drink from 2027

Corton Grand Cru « Le Rognet » 2017 : Very Fine (92-94)

The Corton Rognet is a bigger and more energetic wine clearly reflecting a better and more intense terroir than Maréchaudes. Rognet is in the Ladoix part of the appellation at the top end of the hill – and a part of Le Rognet can in fact be labeled Corton-Charlemagne. It's an intense and mineral wine with hints of violet, blueberries, blackberries, blackcurrant and some peppery notes. It's a big wine with fine energy and intensity.

Drink from 2029

DOMAINE
MICHEL MALLARD *et Fils*

Winehog - Steen Öhman

Ladoix Blanc Village 2017 : Good (86-87)

The Ladoix 2017 is on the darkish side with plum and some earthy notes – giving the wine a nice mineral expression. It's medium weight and quite cool for the vintage – showing a window even for short-term drinking. It will be approachable after 3 years and will be drinkable after 6 years. This has fine Ladoix balance with vivid acidity and charming 2017 fruit. Drink from 2023