

Vinous – By Neal Martin

Savigny-lès-Beaune 1^{er} Cru « Les Serpentières » 2021 : 90-92/100

The 2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune Les Serpentières 1er Cru has a fragrant bouquet with raspberry, wild strawberry and light rose petal scents that are very alluring. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins. The 2021 is quite fresh, and the 50% whole clusters are neatly integrated with a complex, mineral and earthy finish. This is a delightful Savigny. (2024 – 2034)

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « Les Joyeuses » 2021 : 90-92/100

The 2021 Ladoix Les Joyeuses 1er Cru has a perfumed nose with shimmering red fruit, rose petals and orange blossoms. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-boned tannins. It's crisp and fresh with a vivid and vibrant finish. Simple, but quite delicious ! (2024 – 2032)

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « La Corvée » 2021 : 90-92/100

The 2021 Ladoix La Corvée 1er Cru has a perfumed nose with redcurrant, wild strawberry and crushed stone scents that soar from the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with crisp tannins, a dash of white pepper and a linear, almost Pommard like finish. Worth seeking out. (2024 – 2032)

Corton Grand Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2021 : 92-94/100

The 2021 Corton Les Maréchaudes Grand Cru has a ripe nose with blackberry, raspberry coulis and light blood orange scents that are cohesive. The 70% whole bunches and two-thirds new oak are deftly enmeshed. The palate is medium-bodied with lithe tannins and is delicately spiced with white pepper and thyme. This is very focused with a slightly brittle and persistent finish. Superb. (2025 – 2045)

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Corton Grand Cru « *Le Rognet* » 2021 : 93-95/100

The 2021 Corton Le Rognet Grand Cru, which contains 70% whole clusters, has a very backward bouquet at the moment. It unfurls gradually with dark cherries, hints of cassis and crushed stone aromas. The palate is medium-bodied with fine-grain tannins and lovely balance. The most cohesion appears towards the finish, which has a little more persistence. Very classic in style, I think this will age with style in bottle. (2026 – 2047)

Corton Grand Cru « *Les Renardes* » 2021 : 92-94/100

The 2021 Corton Les Renardes Grand Cru, frosted so that there are just five barrels from 0,75 hectares, has an expressive bouquet with a little more fruit expression than the Maréchaudes. The nose presents red plum and Morello cherries and is quite minerally overall. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannins and fine delineation. This wine is taut and fresh, though it just doesn't fully deliver the complexity on the finish. Nevertheless, this is a very likeable Corton. (2025 – 2042)

Ladoix « *Le Clos Royer* » Blanc 2021 : 88-90/100

The 2021 Ladoix Le Clos Royer Blanc has a pleasant apricot blossom and nectarine scented nose. It's quite delineated with disarming purity. The palate is well-balanced with fine acidity. The 2021 is pretty ripe on the mid-palate with hints of tropical fruit that you would not expect in this kind of vintage. What you might term a "useful" white Ladoix. (2023 – 2030)

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « *Les Gréchons* » 2021 : 89-91/100

The 2021 Ladoix Les Gréchons Blanc 1er Cru has a delineated, attractive nose, displaying orange blossom, yellow plum and light jasmine scents. The palate is well-balanced and quite tensile, with a touch of lemongrass and sour lemon. This is quite energetic on the finish and will be difficult to resist young ! (2024 – 2032)

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Corton Charlemagne Grand Cru 2021 : 94-96/100

There is just a single barrel of the 2021 Corton-Charlemagne Grand Cru due to frost. It has a delightful bouquet with white peach, apricot blossom, marzipan and hints of almond – very alluring. The palate is beautifully balanced with a lovely waxy texture and a killer line of acidity. The 2021 is pretty outgoing with irresistible grapefruit, white peach and pear notes on the persistent finish. Superb. (2025 – 2045)

Burghound.com – By Allen Meadows

Ladoix « *Les Buis* » 2021 : 88-90/2026+

A cool and airy nose speaks mostly various red berries and newly turned earth. There is excellent intensity to the overtly mineral-driven flavors that conclude in a youthfully austere and highly refreshing finale where a touch of bitter cherry pit character emerges.

Côte de Nuits-Villages « *Le Fourneau* » 2021 : 88-91/2027+

A slightly more deeply pitched nose blends notes of both red and dark currant with those of wood and earth. There is a lovely texture and solid mid-palate density to the middleweight flavors that deliver good persistence on the equally austere finale. This could use better depth but more should reasonably develop.

Chorey-lès-Beaune « *Les Beaumonts* » 2021 : 88-90/2026+

A very pretty, even lightly perfumed nose reveals touches of spice and floral nuances to the layered red cherry scents. The caressing but punch medium weight flavors possess good if not special depth and persistence on the dusty and mildly austere finale that is just ever-so-mildly rustic.

Ladoix « *Le Clos Royer* » 2021 : 88-91/2028+

A much more deeply pitched nose presents notes of plum, dark cherry, forest floor and soft earth. There is once again fine mid-palate density to the vibrant and relatively powerful flavors that terminate in a dusty and focused if not really austere finale that could also use better depth.

Burghound.com – By Allen Meadows

Savigny-Lès-Beaune 1^{er} Cru « *Les Serpentières* » 2021 : 89-91/2027+

A much more floral-inflected nose is composed by notes of cool and pure wild cherry along with hints of wood, the sauvage and violet. The rich and attractively textured middleweight flavors are noticeably finer with a subtle minerality adding a sense of lift to the lingering and refreshing finish where the wood telegraphed by the nose reemerges. This is on the woody side at present and it will need a few years of fully integrate it.

Aloxe-Corton « *Les Crapousuets* » 2021 : 88-91/2028+

A relatively high-toned nose is comprised by notes of cool red raspberry, earth and a background hint of the sauvage. There is even better density to the medium-bodied flavors that possess a succulent and palate coating mouthfeel while the lingering finish is rustic and quite serious. This isn't refined but then again, refinement isn't why one buys Aloxe villages wines.

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « *Les Joyeuses* » 2021 : 87-90/2028+

Here too the expressive nose is quite floral with notes of lilac, violet and rose petal adding elegance to the cool and earthy aromas of red and dark pinot fruit. I very much like the texture of the detailed and lightly mineral- suffused medium weight flavors that are not especially dense while the nicely persistent finish leans out somewhat as it sits on the palate. I would note however that this was carrying quite a bit of gas, which may explain the leanness.

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « *La Corvée* » 2021 : 89-92/2031+

This is aromatically similar to the Valozières if not quite so sauvage in character. There is again impressive density and solid power to the broad-shouldered flavors that possess good richness that carries over the rustic and linear finish flits with leanness. This should benefit from at least some cellaring to add depth and further flesh out.

Burghound.com – By Allen Meadows

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « Les Valozières » 2021 : 89-92/2031+

Moderate wood frames markedly earth and sauvage aromas of dark currant and a floral top note. As one would expect, there is notably more volume to the solidly dense and powerful larger-bodied flavors that conclude in a rustic, serious and built-to-age finish. At least some patience strongly advised.

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « La Toppe au Vert » 2021 : 89-91/2031+

Moderately generous wood sets off the cooler and reserved nose that blends notes of both red and dark currant aromas that are liberally cut with earth and forest floor elements. There is fine richness and concentration to the powerful and muscular big-bodied flavors that coat the palate with sappy dry extract that contrasts somewhat with the long but somewhat lean finish.

Corton Grand Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2021 : 91-93/2033+

A pungent nose reflects notes of firm reduction and wood toast. Here too there is fine richness and volume to the notably more refined flavors that are at once sleek yet succulent, all wrapped in moderately austere bitter pit fruit-inflected finale. This is firm and serious and should age accordingly.

Corton Grand Cru « Le Rognet » 2021 : 91-93/2033+

Subtle but easily perceptible wood nuances lurk in the background of the aromas of herbal tea, black cherry and plethora of floral wisps, and in particular violet. The sleek and beautifully textured medium-bodied flavors also exude a bracing minerality before terminating in a moderately austere, balanced and built-to-age finale.

Burghound.com – By Allen Meadows

Corton Grand Cru « *Les Renardes* » 2021 : 91-93/2033+

(from a .75 ha parcel). An attractively floral and spice-suffused nose offers up an array of red currant, plum and sauvage nuances. There is even better detail to the seductively textured and very punchy larger-bodied flavors that are also relatively refined on the youthfully austere, balanced and sneaky long finale. While this lovely effort will repay a decade plus of cellaring, it should also be reasonably approachable after only 5 to 7 years.

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « *Les Gréchons* » 2021 : 91/2028+

Cool, airy and pretty aromas include those. There is excellent intensity to the overtly mineral-inflected medium weight flavors that possess good delineation on the youthfully austere, balanced and agreeably dry finale. This pretty effort could use better depth but that should reasonably develop if given a chance. Worth a look.

Decanter – By Charles Curtis MW

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « Les Joyeuses » 2021 : 92/100

“This is my Chambolle from Ladoix” was how Mallard introduced the 2021 vintage of Les Joyeuses. In truth, there was a lovely raspberry fruit with an expressive floral side. The texture on the palate was rich and supple. Although there was little astringency, the wine was not lacking in tannin. The parcel is found at the same level as Le Corton and exposed due east. The grapes were partially destemmed after careful sorting and are currently ageing in cask (40% new).

Drinking Window 2025 – 2045

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « La Corvée » 2021 : 92/100

With its deep colour, dark blackberry fruit, massive body, and robust tannins, this is a very different wine from Les Joyeuses. The 0.78-hectare parcel faces due south in the valley called La Combe Jeannin that leads to Magny-lès-Villers in rocky soils, producing a wine with tannin, lively acidity, and good length. The grapes are partly destemmed before careful fermentation and will age approximately 15 months in cask, half new.

Drinking Window 2025 – 2045

Savigny-lès-Beaune 1^{er} Cru « Les Serpentières » 2021 : 92/100

The forward, accessible aroma has elements of plum, spice, and smoke. The texture is rich and surprisingly dense for the appellation, with a velvety feel that is very luxurious. On the finish, the tannin becomes evident. While this should drink reasonably early, it is a wine that will improve with cellaring. It is produced from more than a hectare of south-facing vines planted in clay soils with limestone scree from the combe d’Orange. Half of the grapes are fermented as whole clusters, and the wine is ageing now in cask (half new).

Drinking Window 2025 – 2035

Decanter – By Charles Curtis MW

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « Les Valozières » 2021 : 92/100

This substantial wine is initially a bit reticent, but warm plummy fruit aromas with a firm mineral, earthy edge begin to open on the palate. The texture is firm and dense, with grippy tannins and moderate length. The 0.39-hectare parcel downslope from Bressandes is planted with sustainably-farmed, mature vines. Mallard partially destems the fruit and ferments with a minimum of punching down to produce this silky wine that should show better in a few years and last for at least a decade.

Drinking Window 2027 – 2050

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « La Toppe au Vert » 2021 : 92/100

This 'baby Corton' is a perfect expression of the terroir of the hill of Corton with its deep colour, grippy tannins, and expressive blackberry fruit with savoury, almost animal notes and a hint of earthy minerality. The 0.43-hectare parcel is located down-slope from grand cru Corton Vergennes. Despite the Aloxe appellation, it is located in the finage of Ladoix. The thin, rocky soils deliver a structured, firm wine; Mallard destems partially before a gentle fermentation and ageing in cask (one-third new this year).

Drinking Window 2027 – 2050

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2021 : 93/100

The dark colour announces lovely, rich plum and mulberry fruit aromas with floral and menthol notes and a firm mineral underpinning. The texture is solid and grippy but not astringent, and the silky feel continues across the densely rich finish. The 0.30-hectare parcel is just down from the grand cru parcel of the same name. In 2021, Mallard fermented with 70% whole clusters before ageing in cask (half new). This wine should open relatively early and age well over the midterm – an excellent success.

Drinking Window 2027 – 2050

Decanter – By Charles Curtis MW

Corton Grand Cru « *Les Maréchaudes* » 2021 : 94/100

This delicious wine impresses on many levels. The deeply-hued wine is redolent of ripe blackberry and cassis with an overlay of smoke, leather, and salty minerality. The texture is firm and muscular, with plenty of firm, finely-grained tannins and impressive density that is carried by crisp acidity to a satisfying finish. The 0.30-hectare parcel near the base of the slope is planted with old vines in clay soils that deliver small berries and concentrated fruit. In 2021, Mallard fermented 70% of the grapes as whole bunches and aged two of the three casks in new wood.

Drinking Window 2027 – 2055

Corton Grand Cru « *Les Renardes* » 2021 : 93/100

This wine is the silky, expressive companion to the more angular and structured Maréchaudes in the Mallard cellar. The wine is sophisticated and supple, but there is no lack of structure. The dense plum fruit aromas with a peppery, spicy edge give way to a bit of oak spice on the palate that lingers invitingly on the finish. Mallard farms two-thirds of a hectare of mature vines here at mid-slope, and in 2021, he fermented 70% of the grapes as whole clusters. Three of the five barrels used for ageing are new. His efforts have produced a superb wine.

Drinking Window 2025 – 2040

Corton Grand Cru « *Le Rognet* » 2021 : 95/100

This wine is among the great surprises in Corton for this vintage. The nose displays a distinct mix of plum and mulberry fruit with a suggestion of fig and coffee that is very robust. There is also a bit of oak spice on the nose, since five of the seven barrels were new. The texture is complete, round and supple, accessible, but also very tannic and long. Mallard farms two parcels here totalling just over 1.2ha. The Rognet seems particularly successful in 2021.

Drinking Window 2027 – 2040

Decanter – By Charles Curtis MW

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « Les Gréchons » 2021 : 95/100

This lovely, concentrated wine is another example of a perfect alliance between the 2021 vintage and a terroir that can produce a somewhat ponderous style. Here the wine is powerful, long, and spicy, with notes of quince, ripe pear, marzipan, and subtle mineral shading. The texture is dense and concentrated yet avoids heaviness by dint of the lovely fresh acidity that pulls everything into balance. Mallard's tiny 0.11-hectare, south-facing parcel in Le Charlemagne has produced only one cask this year, and fermentation and ageing are in a single (new) cask. "Don't be too enthusiastic", he told me "I don't have very much!".

Drinking Window 2025 – 2055

Inside Burgundy – By Jasper Morris

Ladoix « *Le Clos Royer* » 2021 : 88-90/100

Quite a full crimson purple. Significant density here even on the nose and certainly on the palate which is where you can see the whole bunches which enliven an otherwise rather plummy fruit, brings out some strawberries, just a little pepper. Tannins are in balance and acidity not obtrusive. Rounded rather than angular.

Drink from 2025-2028. Tasted : October 2022.

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « *Les Valozières* » 2021 : 88-90/100

Not much slope but a good stony soil. Two new barrels in five. More of a raspberry fruit with a touch of sandalwood. Relatively fine-grained tannins, medium plus body for the vintage, on the softer side behind.

Drink from 2025-2028. Tasted : October 2022.

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « *La Toppe au Vert* » 2021 : 88-91/100

This plot was sold as Corton previously, but was not included in the grand cru appellation in 1936. A darker colour with riper fruit. Two new barrels in four, with 60% whole bunch vinification but needed a touch of sulphur. This is voluminous for the vintage at first sight but more round the edges and less at the heart of the wine. A tannin or two to finish and a trace of bitterness.

Drink from 2025-2028. Tasted : October 2022.

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « *Les Maréchaudes* » 2021 : 90-92/100

Made since 2017 when SICOCERT pointed out that a bit of their plot was not grand cru. So one barrel is made a year, shared between three customers. A full youthful crimson purple, the fruit is more elegant (by some way) than Toppe au Vert with a real finesse from the whole bunches behind, with very good length. 60% whole bunch vinification.

Drink from 2025-2030. Tasted : October 2022.

Inside Burgundy – By Jasper Morris

Corton Grand Cru « *Les Maréchaudes* » 2021 : 91-93/100

Two new barrels in three and 70% whole bunch vinification, all from their southern plot. Fairly intense crimson purple. There is not much nose as yet but nothing awkward. More complete, greater density, a darker fruit, not the same elegant lift at the back, a feeling of small dark berries, and more tannins too. Will make a notably more substantial wine in due course, but the 1er cru will make a lovely wine earlier on. Drink from 2026-2032. Tasted : October 2022.

Corton Grand Cru « *Le Rognet* » 2021 : 93-95/100

5 new barrels in 7 from nearly a hectare, made up of two plots from the 1950s. A deeper richer purple than Les Renardes. The nose is ripe with a slight chocolate note which will disappear when prepared for the bottling. Then the crushed strawberries from the whole bunch. The structure is a little tougher now in its youth, but there is no question about its balance. Needs the time and this will be extremely fine and with subtlety. Drink from 2027-2033. Tasted : October 2022.

Corton Grand Cru « *Les Renardes* » 2021 : 90-93/100

3 new barrels in 5. 70% whole bunch vinification. A fairly deep crimson. The whole bunches start to assert themselves on the nose with alpine strawberries and roses. Slightly drier finish as the tannins and the stems work together but they will harness nicely with the fruit in due course. No more than medium bodied but should be rather fine. Drink from 2026-2032. Tasted : October 2022.

Inside Burgundy – By Jasper Morris

Ladoix Blanc Village 2021 : 88-90/100

15 year old vines in two lieux-dits. A fuller yellow with a light green tint. Pretty fruit, with a suggestion of density. Impressive density indeed on the palate in a muscular style with generous but integrated oaking, a good lick of acidity behind, and some length. Drink from 2024-2027. Tasted : October 2022.

Ladoix « Le Clos Royer » Blanc 2021 : 89-91/100

This vineyard is shared with Pierre Ravaut who has red grapes here. A similar pale primrose colour but this time the nose is a little more reductive. More crystalline, apples and greengage with a slighter fuller white fruit behind. Again the oak is apparent but well harnessed, with excellent length. A step above.

Drink from 2025-2028. Tasted : October 2022.

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « Les Gréchons » 2021 : 90-92/100

Grown on the steep slope on the stones at the top of the vineyard. Full primrose yellow with an undoubted green glint. Not offering much bouquet at this point. Now in tank with quite a lot of gas which helps provide the energy behind a considerable volume of fruit, stones and ripe lemons, and persistent again.

Drink from 2025-2028. Tasted : October 2022.

Corton Charlemagne Grand Cru 2021 : 93-96/100

A tiny plot in the upper part of Le Charlemagne. Just over 2 ouvrées and this year only one barrel, not new though you can pick up some coconut oak. “There is a flowery touch to my Corton-Charlemagne” suggests Michel. The freshness is helped by a touch of spritz. This is a big wine especially for a 2021, stretching out to the back of the palate. Will need time to consume its oak but the intensity is certainly there. Impressive waves of flavour, more fruit weight than mineral at the moment.

Drink from 2026-2032. Tasted : October 2022.

Robert Parker – By William Kelley

Chorey-lès-Beaune « *Les Beaumonts* » 2021 : 87-89/100

Exhibiting aromas of cherries, berries, spices, orange zest and loamy soil, the 2021 Chorey-lès-Beaune Les Beaumonts is medium to full-bodied, ample and layered, with melting tannins and a saline finish.

Ladoix « *Clos Royer* » Rouge 2021 : 89-91/100

The 2021 Ladoix Le Clos Royer Rouge opens in the glass with aromas of red berries, cherries and sweet spices. Medium to full-bodied, ample, fleshy and seamless, it's a charming, gourmand red from this underrated appellation.

Aloxe-Corton Village 2021 : 88-90/100

From a site characterized by deep, clay-rich soils, which Mallard attempts (successfully) to render more elegant, the 2021 Aloxe-Corton Village is medium-bodied, fleshy and textural, evocative of red berries, plums and peonies.

Savigny-lès-Beaune 1^{er} Cru « *Les Serpentières* » 2021 : 90-92/100

Aromas of raspberries, orange zest, sweet spices and petals preface the 2021 Savigny-lès-Beaune 1er Cru Les Serpentières, a medium to full-bodied, fleshy and charming wine with melting tannins and a suave, open-knit profile.

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « *Les Joyeuses* » 2021 : 89-91/100

The 2021 Ladoix 1er Cru Les Joyeuses offers up aromas of incense, rose petals, cherries and sweet red berries, followed by a fleshy attack that segues into a round, satiny mid-palate, concluding with a saline finish.

Robert Parker – By William Kelley

Ladoix 1^{er} Cru « La Corvée » 2021 : 90-92/100

The 2021 Ladoix 1er Cru La Corvée is a highlight of the range this year, bursting with aromas of sweet red berries and peonies. Medium to full-bodied, satiny and pure, with a fleshy core of fruit, racy acids and melting tannins, it's a bright, charming wine from Mallard.

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « La Toppe au Vert » 2021 : 90-92/100

The 2021 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru La Toppe Au Vert, a cuvée derived from very old vines, offers up aromas of dark berries, rose petals and exotic spices. Medium to full-bodied, ample and fleshy, with powdery tannins and lively acids, it stands out this year.

Aloxe-Corton 1^{er} Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2021 : 91-93/100

Readers will remember that Mallard's 2021 Aloxe-Corton 1er Cru Les Maréchaudes derives from a tiny parcel that falls outside the part of this climat delimited as grand cru. Wafting from the glass with aromas of sweet berries, cherries and plums mingled with orange zest and spices, it's medium to full-bodied, ample and fleshy, with a supple, enveloping, seamless, perfumed profile.

Corton Grand Cru « Les Maréchaudes » 2021 : 91-93+/100

Aromas of cherries, blackberries, petals and sweet spices introduce the 2021 Corton Les Maréchaudes Grand Cru, a medium to full-bodied, round and fleshy wine that's lively and gourmand, its ample core of fruit framed by melting tannins and succulent acids.

Corton Grand Cru « Le Rognet » 2021 : 92-94+/100

The 2021 Corton Le Rognet Grand Cru is the king of the cellar this year, unwinding in the glass with aromas of cassis, dark berries and sweet spices, followed by a full-bodied, ample and layered palate that's fleshy and broad-shouldered, with impressive depth and density for the vintage but also all of the year's inherent charm and finesse.

Robert Parker – By William Kelley

Corton Grand Cru « *Les Renardes* » 2021 : 92-94/100

The 2021 Corton Les Renardes Grand Cru bursts with aromas of exotic spices, red berries, plums, rose petals and raw cocoa. Medium to full-bodied, ample and fleshy, it's seamless and vibrant, with beautifully refined tannins and an expansive finish.