



Burgundy's Best

There is a saying among wine aficionados that on the journey to wine understanding, all roads eventually lead to Burgundy. There is no denying the impact that Burgundy has had on the wine world and that some of the most ethereal wine experiences one can have come from Burgundy wines.

LOCATION

Burgundy is a historical territory and a former administrative region of east-central France. Since 1 January 2016, it is part of the new region Bourgogne-Franche-Comté. Burgundy comprises the following four departments: Côte-d'Or, Saône-et-Loire, Yonne and Nièvre.



THE GRAPE VARIETIES

Burgundy wine is usually produced from a single grape variety (called mono-cépage) and is with very few exceptions:

Chardonnay for white wine; **Pinot Noir** for reds; **Aligoté** a white grape variety found mainly in Burgundy; **Gamay**, while the predominate variety for Beaujolais, is also grown here.

61% of Burgundy wine is white, 30% red, 8% is the sparkling wine of Burgundy, Crémant de Bourgogne and 1%

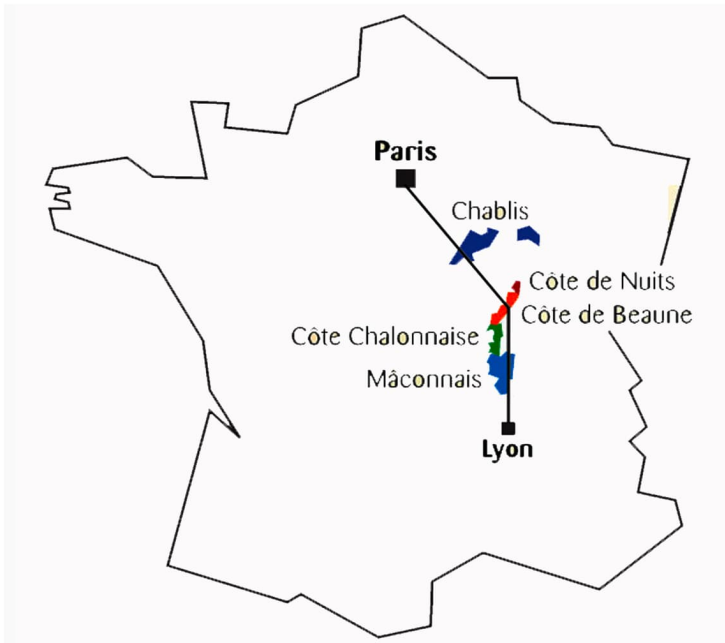




THE WINE REGION

The French Wine region of Burgundy (aka "Bourgogne") may be small in size but its influence is huge in the world of vino.

Burgundy is divided into five wine regions: Chablis and Auxerrois - mainly white wines around the village of Chablis with reds near the town of Auxerre.



II. Côte de Nuits (in Côte d'Or)

The Côte d'Or is divided into two parts. The northern half is called the **Cotes de Nuits** which starts just south of the city of Dijon and runs a few kilometers past the village of Nuits-Saint-Georges. The best red wines are made in the Cotes de Nuits, in fact, 90% of the grapes grown here are Pinot Noir. Mainly reds from world-renowned villages such as **Gevrey Chambertin, Chambolle Musigny, Vosne Romanée and Nuits St Georges**.



III. Côte de Beaune (in Côte d'Or)

The southern half of the Cotes d'Or is called the Cotes du Beaune. This is home to the best white wines (with the exception of Chablis). A mixture of exceptional white wine from villages such as **Meursault, Puligny-Montrachet and Chassagne-Montrachet**. Here are some of the greatest white wines.



I. Chablis and Grand Auxerrois (in Yonne)

The region of **Chablis** is the northernmost of these. This is home to some of the crispest Chardonnay wines in the world. Mainly white wines around the village of Chablis with reds near the town of **Auxerre**.



IV. Côte Chalonnaise

Continuing south is the Cotes du Chalonnaise which produces some very good wines and some of the best bargains in Burgundy from villages such as **Rully**, **Givry** and **Mercurey**.



V. Maconnais

Even further south is the Maconnais which is known for easy to drink wines and good prices. Mainly white wine such as **Pouilly Fuissé**, **St. Veran** and **Macon villages**.

BURGUNDY AS THE MOST EXPENSIVE WINE REGION

What makes both Burgundian wines so special, is that Burgundy, more than probably any other wine region in the world, is completely influenced by its terroir. Terroir is a sense of place, it means that when you drink a wine, you completely taste the region where the wine was made. Most simply, terroir is the concept that the land from which the grapes are

grown imparts a unique quality that is specific to that single vineyard.

Over the centuries, Burgundy has become known for being the best land in the world for producing both Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, and it is for this reason that Burgundy wines have received such acclaim. In fact, the quality of the land is considered to be so important to the creation of red and white Burgundy, that inside the Burgundy region, vineyards are classified by four levels, depending on how exceptional it is believed one's plot of land is for growing the grapes.

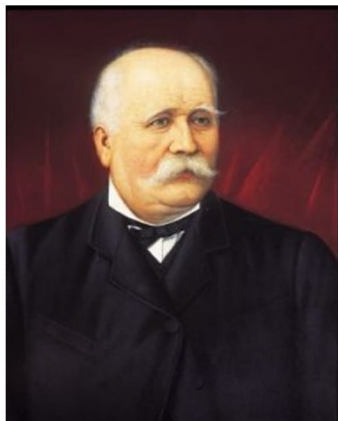
When buying a bottle of Burgundy, one of these four classifications will be labeled on the bottle:

- **Gran Cru**- This classification is reserved for the best vineyards. Only about 2% of all vineyards in Burgundy receive this classification. Wines with this classification receive the highest prices and are aggressively pursued by wine collectors.
- **Premier Cru**- These wines are produced from vineyards that are still considered to be of stellar quality, but just a small step down from Grand Cru. These vineyards make up about 12% of all vineyards in Burgundy and can also produce wines that are quite expensive.
- **Village Wines**- These are Burgundies that are produced from grapes sourced from several vineyards in 1 of the 42 villages in Burgundy. You will know it is a village wine because the name of the village where the grapes were sourced will be labeled on the bottle.
- **Regional Wines**- Finally regional wines are considered to be the lowest level of classification. These are wines that are created from a combination of vineyards from a variety of villages within Burgundy, as opposed to a single village, like village wines. As such, wines of this classification will simply be labeled as a wine Bourgogne. These wines represent 50% of all wines produced in Burgundy and in this classification you will find excellent wines meant to be drunk.



Joseph Drouhin

BURGUNDY'S BEST: MAISON JOSEPH DROUHIN



Founded in Beaune in 1880, **Joseph Drouhin** was an enterprising young man who came from the Chablis region at the age of 22, and settled in Beaune. His son **Maurice** succeeded him in 1918 and began to establish a vineyard domaine for the House, purchasing land in some outstanding appellations such as Clos des Mouches and Clos de Vougeot.

as Clos des Mouches and Clos de Vougeot.

It was important to the Drouhin's to keep the company in their family name. So in 1957, the next generation took over as Maurice's nephew and adopted heir, **Robert Jeausse-Drouhin**, took control of the domaine. Robert was driving force in developing the house into how we view it today. Once in control, Robert expanded rapidly, acquiring many vineyards in Chablis, introducing more sustainable farming methods, and hiring Laurence Jobard, the first woman enologist in Burgundy, to develop the domaine's vineyards.

The fourth generation is now in control at the domaine; each of Robert's children are contributing a skill that has led to their great success. **Philippe, Veronique, Laurent** and **Frederic** are **Joseph Drouhin's grandchildren** who grew up in the vineyards and cellar. Philippe, the oldest child, contributed his skills in the vineyards, and introduced a more biologi-



cal and biodynamic approach. He selects vinestocks, chooses the methods of caring for the soil and cultivating the vines. **Veronique Drouhin-Boss** is the Head Winemaker and the "guardian" of the Joseph Drouhin style.

Supervising the vinification of the wines, she works with enologist **Laurence Jobard** until 2005 and now with enologist **Jerome Faure-Brac**, focusing on continuity of style. **Frederic Drouhin** is President of the Executive Board and directs the development of the company and **Laurent** manages the development of the market and image of the brand in the United States and the Caribbean.

Txanton carries the exclusivity of Joseph Drouhin wines such as: **Laforet Bourgogne Pinot Noir 2013, Rully Rouge 2012, Cote du Nuits Villages 2013, Cotes De Beaune Rouge 2011, Gevrey-Chambertin 2012, Chambolle-Musigny 2012, and Chablis Premier Cru Vaillos 2012.** With these jewels, it only goes to show that From vintage to vintage, they perpetuate the tradition and do not shy away from innovation in their search for elegance and perfection, the hallmark of Maison Joseph Drouhin.

Credits: Christine Faith L. Lopez | © 2016 Txanton Torre Wine & Olive Oil Co., Inc.

TXANTON.COM.PH

2294 CHINO ROCES AVE. EXTENSION, 2ND FLOOR, ALEGRIA ALTA BUILDING, MAKATI CITY, PHILIPPINES
Telephone No.: +63 3 812 2040 local 112