






North Hampshire Wine Society Celebrating Chablis



28 September 2016

Presenters: Ann James & Julia Shaw

	The wines	Price and source
<p>Wine 1</p> 	<p>Petit Chablis 2014, Domains Brocard</p> <p>Producer: Domains Brocard is one of Chablis' biggest producers with a reputation for quality right through from Petit Chablis to Grand Cru. The Wine Society's own label and 'Exhibition' Chablis are Brocard wines. The estate wines are labelled J-M Brocard or Domains Brocard and may also be marketed under supermarket labels in France and the UK (look for S.A.R.L. Brocard in the small print)</p> <p>Classification: AC Petit Chablis. Some of it can be quite 'petit' so a good producer is the key to value at this entry level. Petit Chablis was created in 1944 to cover communes around Chablis, and its vines are generally planted on Portlandian rather than Kimmeridgian soils.</p> <p>Vintage: 2014. <i>A much-trumpeted vintage that should be ripe and balanced with good acidity and typical Chablis precision. Weather was hot during flowering but a damper summer prevented too-early ripening and the warm September weather was ideal. The better wines should keep well. (JS)</i></p>	<p>Auchan €7.95</p>
<p>Wine 2</p> 	<p>Chablis Vieilles Vignes 2014, Closierie des Alisiers</p> <p>Producer: Closierie des Alisiers is owned by Stephane Brocard (of that ilk!) who's based in the Côte d'Or making Pinot Noir (Pommard) as well as Chardonnay (incl Meursault, Pouilly-Fuisse and Chablis). He's a 'micro-negociant' working with a number of younger growers who share his environmental outlook. This Chablis looks to be available only in France, but other wines may be found in the UK (his Pouilly-Fuisse 2014 is stocked by Yapp Bros at 19.95).</p> <p>Classification: AC Chablis. Historic town in northern Burgundy surrounded by vineyards almost exclusively planted to Chardonnay. The best sites are on Kimmeridgian soils - a mixture of limestone and clay shot through with billions of tiny fossilized sea shells. This terroir and the cool climate produce the classic lean, steely, mineral Chardonnay that's unique to Chablis.</p> <p>Vintage: 2014 - <i>see wine 1</i></p>	<p>Auchan €10.00</p>

<p>Wine 3</p> 	<p>Chablis Premier Cru Vaillons 2008, Domaine Seguinot-Bordet</p> <p>Producer: Seguinot-Bordet is a family domaine from Maligny with a history back to 1590 and 16 hectares of genuinely old vines in Premier Crus Vaillons and Fourchaume and Grand Cru Vaudesir - they also make a Petit Chablis and a Vieilles Vignes Chablis. Steely mineral ultra-traditional Chablis.</p> <p>Classification: AC Premier Cru Chablis. There are 40 named Chablis Premier Crus with numerous sub vineyards (lieux-dits) making about 80 Premier Cru sites altogether. The AC rules about naming are complex (surely not!) but 'Premier Cru' together with a vineyard or sub vineyard name on the label defines a very specific terroir with characteristics unique to that vineyard.</p> <p>Vineyard: Vaillons. At 110ha one of the larger Premier Cru vineyards, south-east facing on the left bank of the river. Plenty of morning sun but not as intense in the afternoon so the wines are lighter and more delicate than those from south-west facing slopes. Floral notes and plenty of characteristic stoniness.</p> <p>Vintage: 2008. <i>Good summer with average sunshine and temperatures. Expressive aromatic wines; a classic Chablis vintage combining substance and vivacity. (Wine Scholar Guild)</i></p>	<p>Julia's garage Purchased BBR in Jan 2011, £19.95</p>
<p>Wine 4</p> 	<p>Chablis Premier Cru Beauregard 2011, La Chablisienne</p> <p>Producer: La Chablisienne. Founded in 1923 as a cooperative of individual growers. Before 1952 the growers brought in their own wines for blending by the co-op who then sold them wholesale, but since 1952 La Chablisienne has made all the wines. La Chablisienne represents nearly 25% of all Chablis production and produces wine from many top vineyards. It's a big player in Chablis with a strong reputation for consistency.</p> <p>Classification: AC Premier Cru Chablis - see wine 3.</p> <p>Vineyard: Beauregard. This 18ha vineyard is a distance south west of Chablis (see map below) in a sheltered spot in the hills. The warm south facing slope and shelter from the wind makes riper grapes more achievable here in lesser years. Beauregard is consequently a nuttier more rounded style than wines from less sheltered sites.</p> <p>Vintage: 2011. <i>Lighter, often delicate wines of lower alcohol and moderate acidity, many with early appeal. Considerable variability. (Wine Scholar Guild)</i></p>	<p>La Chablisienne €27.50</p>
<p>Wine 5</p> 	<p>Chablis Premier Cru 'Les Fourneaux' 2014, Domaine Alain Gautheron</p> <p>Producer: Domaine Alain Gautheron is a fifth generation family winery based in Fleys, a small village close to the 2 hectare Premier Cru "Les Fourneaux" vineyard. His Chablis undergoes lees contact for about nine months - this maturing of the wine before bottling is the traditional Chablis way to bring out complexity.</p> <p>Classification: AC Premier Cru Chablis - see wine 3.</p> <p>Vineyard: Les Fourneaux - means 'Furnace'. It's a warm vineyard so the wines tend to be fuller and often weightier than other Premier Crus, with ripe almost tropical flavours but still that intense minerality. Steep slopes with different aspects but mainly south-facing.</p> <p>Vintage: 2014 - see wine 1</p>	<p>Auchan €16.00</p>

Wine 6

Chablis Grand Cru 'Valmur' 2009, Domaines Brocard

Auchan
€33.00



Producer: Domaines Brocard - see wine 1

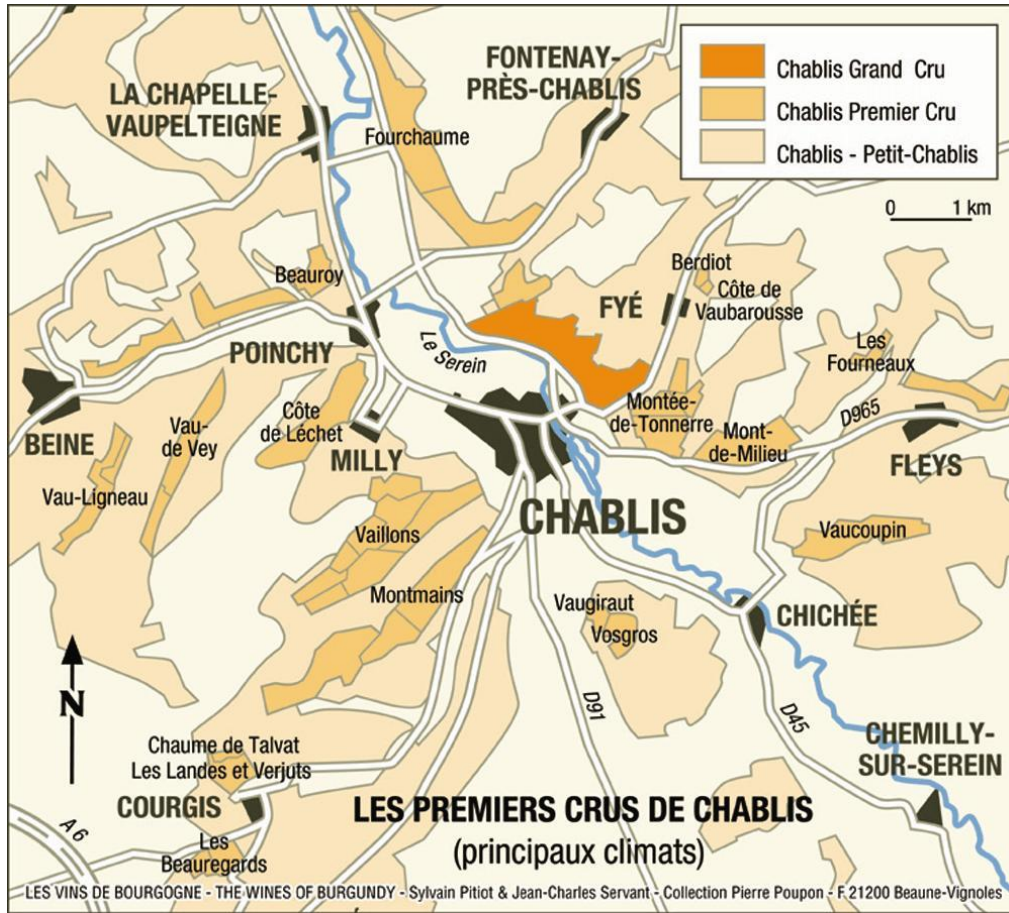
Classification: AC Grand Cru Chablis. 100ha of exceptional vineyards from seven plots on a single south-west-facing slope to the east of the town along the right bank of the river. See map below. Chablis Grand Cru wines can't be released for sale until 30 March in the year after the vintage, and the balance between acidity, honeyed aromas and distinctive mineral flavours lends itself to bottle-age - 10+ years and the very best can develop for 20 years.

Vineyard: Valmur. 11ha next to Grenouilles and Vaudesir to the north and Les Clos to the south (see map below). It's angular with some slopes facing northwest and some southeast. These different aspects create significant variations in Valmur wines, but all are described as racy and elegant - quintessential Chablis. Valmur is said to be one of the most classic expressions of Grand Cru Chablis.

Vintage: 2009. *Full, ripe wines with generous flavors rather than a textbook Chablis profile. Some forward and soft; drink early. (Wine Scholar Guild)*



Chablis Premier Cru



Chablis Grand Cru

