



Above: the grand cru monopole of Clos de Tart in Morey-St-Denis; Sylvain Pitiot said his wines have surprising concentration and that he would compare them to 2001 or 2010

highlighted to me the fact that 2013 was indeed a very late and small harvest for Burgundy.

Stéphane Follin-Arbelet, managing director of Château de Meursault, highlighted the importance of the great care needed both in the vineyard throughout the growing season as well as on the sorting table on the grapes' arrival at the winery. Château de Meursault uses an electronic sorting table to separate and retain ripe grapes from unwanted ones before they are vinified.

In spite of the difficulties encountered during the growing season, many producers I spoke with were in the end satisfied with the quality of the harvest. Sylvain Pitiot of Clos de Tart in Morey-St-Denis said: 'The grapes harvested were perfectly healthy, without botrytis.' He added that the resulting wines (which had had a year of ageing at the time of my tasting), have a surprising concentration. 'I'd compare them to 2001 or 2010,' he observed, 'even though we still need to wait to have a more precise appreciation.'

David Croix of the negociant Camille Giroud shared that optimism, but noted: 'Some of the wines might need a long period of maturation because of their acidity level.'

François Labet, owner of Château de la Tour in Vougeot, said great concentration was already noticeable in his red wines when tasting them in November 2014, thanks to the fact that the harvest gave low yields of healthy, small-berried grapes. He also thought that '2013 would be a classic Burgundy vintage for the white wines'.

Optimism in Chablis

In Chablis, conditions were fairly similar to those experienced in the Côte d'Or, with a difficult flowering and a late harvest. However, because of the stronger threat of botrytis here, the window



'Some of the wines might need a long period of maturation because of their acidity level' David Croix of Camille Giroud (above)

on the harmonious palate and a delicate cherry finish. Great finesse; truly magnificent. **Drink** 2020-2034



Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, Richebourg Grand Cru 18.5 (95)

Delicious nose of ripe cherry, delicate wild strawberry and some cinnamon in the background. This is all very

harmonious with a delicious floral finish. Already beautiful to drink – but try not to! **Drink** 2018-2030

Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, Romanée-St-Vivant Grand Cru 18.5 (95)

Very perfumed cherry fruit and gamey spicy notes giving a great complexity. Great finesse with beautiful silky tannins and a lovely floral finish.

Drink 2018-2028

Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, Echézeaux Grand Cru 18.25 (94)

Intense savoury aromas and plummy nuances – extremely elegant. Superb concentration with velvety tannins and a long, spicy finish. **Drink** 2017-2028

Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, Grands-Echézeaux Grand Cru 18.25 (94)

Powerful young berry fruit and floral nose. Massive structure but harmonious with very ripe tannins and a long, sweetly spiced finish. **Drink** 2019-2030

Louis Jadot, Echézeaux Grand Cru 18.25 (94)

Ripe, rich black and red fruit: concentrated with a superb velvety texture and a long, spicy finish. Great character overall. **Drink** 2018-2028

Domaine Confuron-Gindre, Vosne-Romanée 18 (93)

Superb savoury aromas of wild mushroom. Well-structured palate with a smooth texture and a savoury finish. Classy example. **Drink** 2016-2024

Maison Albert Bichot, Aux Malconsorts 1er Cru, Vosne-Romanée 18 (93)

Fragrant nose of raspberry and wild berry. Very supple palate with silky tannins and a long, cinnamon finish. Shows great finesse. **Drink** 2016-2024

Corton

Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, Grand Cru 17.75 (92)

Lovely gamey notes with ripe berry fruit at the back. Firm and ripe with long, fruity finish. **Drink** 2017-2025

Domaine Gaston et Pierre Ravaut, Grand Cru 17.75 (92)

Beautiful strawberry characters are well supported by cherry and cinnamon notes. Lively on the palate with a red berry finish. **Drink** 2016-2024

Maison Camille Giroud, Clos du Roi, Grand Cru 17.75 (92)

Rich nose boasting a mixture of ripe, dark cherry fruit and hints of liquorice. Velvety and round on the palate with a mocha finish. **Drink** 2016-2024