

# Robb Report

## 7 STELLAR WHITE WINES FROM MONTRACHET, WHERE THE WORLD'S BEST CHARDONNAY IS GROWN

By By Mike DeSimone and Jeff Jensen | March 14, 2025

We have cycled between the vineyards of Puligny-Montrachet and Chassagne-Montrachet many times and although they're only a few miles apart, once you get a flat tire and realize the rental shop didn't provide you with a spare tube or a patch kit walking the distance in clunky bike shoes can be an unpleasant task. Thankfully on one unfortunate visit Puligny had a town cooperative with plenty of wine to drink and a phone number for a man with a van to return us and our bicycles to our hotel in Beaune.

We believe, as do many of our colleagues, that the most perfect expression of the Chardonnay grape occurs in these two Burgundian villages. The vines are planted in limestone, marl, and clay soils and are situated with eastern and southeastern exposures at altitudes of 750 to 1,000 feet so grapes mature perfectly with the right balance of sugars, acid, and minerality.

While the growing conditions are very similar, we find that wines made from grapes grown in Chassagne-Montrachet can have more tropical flavors such as mango, guava, and pineapple while those made from Puligny-Montrachet fruit tend to be crisper, with bolder acidity and minerality. Both are located in Burgundy's Côte de Beaune with Puligny just slightly north of Chassagne. Puligny is known only for its Chardonnay plantings while Chassagne has a fair number of Pinot Noir vines planted alongside Chardonnay. We've visited (and cycled) through these towns dozens of times and recently opened current bottlings to pick seven we found exemplary from the region.



### DOMAINE LOUIS LATOUR 2022 CHASSAGNE-MONTRACHET BLANC COTE DE BEAUNE BURGUNDY

Louis Latour is one of the best known negociant growers in Burgundy and all of the wines made from their own grapes are made in their Chateau Corton Grancey winery in Aloxe-Corton. Besides being one of the oldest purpose-built wineries it also houses an amazing railway system complete with elevators to facilitate gravity assisted winemaking. Louis Latour's 2022 Chassagne-Montrachet is pale straw colored with aromas of acacia flowers, honeycomb, and pineapple with bright acidity and flavors of almond paste, vanilla, and Anjou pear.

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## THE 7 BEST CHILLABLE REDS TO DRINK THIS SUMMER

June 5, 2025 / By Mike Desimone and Jeff Jensen



*Beaune*

VIGNES FRANCHES  
APPELLATION BEAUNE 1<sup>ER</sup> CRU CONTRÔLÉE

*Louis Latour*

MIS EN BOUTEILLE PAR LOUIS LATOUR NÉGOCIANT-ÉLEVEUR  
A BEAUNE - CÔTE-D'OR - FRANCE

### LOUIS LATOUR BEAUNE 1ER CRU “VIGNES FRANCHES 2022

One of the best-known negociant growers in Burgundy, Louis Latour has vineyard holdings that cover more than 100 acres, including one of the largest collections of Grand Cru vineyards in the region. All the wines made from their own grapes are made at the Chateau Corton Grancey winery in Aloxe-Corton. This elegant and light Pinot Noir has aromas of cherry, strawberry, and freshly ground cinnamon with flavors of pomegranate, candied orange peel, and a touch of nutmeg in the finish.