

## Howard's 35 of the best Chablis 2019s

④ **TOP QUALITY** **Domaine Samuel Billaud, Vieilles Vignes Chablis 1er Cru Séchet** 95

Berry Bros & Rudd, Davy's,

Fine & Rare, Jeroboams, Lay & Wheeler,

Montrachet, The Wine Society

When Samuel Billaud split from Billaud-Simon, he retained his favourite plot of Séchet, one of the eight premier cru climats within the greater Vaillons premier cru. Lovely colour here. Crystalline fruit character with great finesse. Stone fruit on the palate, some floral notes and great concentration. An ultra-fine expression of Séchet. **Drink** 2021-2026 **Alc** 13%

**Domaine Samuel Billaud, Chablis 1er Cru Montée de Tonnerre** 93

Averys, Davy's, Berry

Bros & Rudd, Harrods, Jeroboams, Montrachet,

The Vineking, The Wine Society

Made by leading producer Samuel Billaud using entirely his own fruit, this is a fine expression of the benchmark Montée de Tonnerre premier cru. Elegant yet relatively forward, this shows a great combination of purity, depth and classic Montée de Tonnerre stony notes. 20% oak adds to the complexity on the palate. **Drink** 2022-2028



## DECANTER

Dégustation à l'aveugle - Andy Howard - mill 2019 – oct 2020

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# Decanter

### **Samuel Billaud, Vieilles Vignes, Chablis, 1er Cru Sechets, 2019 : 95**

Blind tasted by Andy Howard MW(at London, 09 Oct 2020)

Part of Chablis 2019: Full vintage report and top-scoring wines

When Samuel Billaud split from Billaud-Simon, he managed to retain his favourite plot within Vaillons. Lovely colour here - just a touch of brilliant gold flashes in the glass. So pure!

Crystalline, stone fruit character and some floral notes on the palate with great finesse and concentration. An ultra-fine expression of Sechet.

Drinking Window 2021 - 2026

### **Samuel Billaud, Chablis, Vaudésir Grand Cru, Burgundy, 2019 : 93**

Blind tasted by Andy Howard MW(at London, 09 Oct 2020)

A blend of two sites, one east- and one west-facing, this Vaudésir has been fermented in oak before ageing in demi-muid for a year. The oak still needs a little longer to settle down with spices - nutmeg and cinnamon - still very evident. Fresh, salty characters provide enticing, balancing, freshness. Give it some time in bottle and this will be a very fine Grand Cru.

Drinking Window 2023 – 2030

### **Samuel Billaud, Chablis, 1er Cru Montée de Tonnerre, 2019 : 93**

Blind tasted by Andy Howard MW(at London, 09 Oct 2020)

Wholly owned by leading producer Samuel Billaud, this is a fine expression of the benchmark Montée de Tonnerre Premier Cru. Elegant yet relatively forward, this shows a great combination of purity, depth and classic terroir stony notes. 20% oak adds to the complexity on the palate.

Drinking Window 2022 – 2028

### **Samuel Billaud, Chablis, 1er Cru Vaillons, Burgundy, 2019 : 92**

Blind tasted by Andy Howard MW(at London, 09 Oct 2020)

Billaud makes this from a blend of both his own and brought-in grapes. From a number of different sites around Vaillons, this shows some of the classic floral, perfumed notes of the appellation. It has a fine line of acidity and very pure, crystalline character to the fruit. A generous Premier Cru which is drinking well now but has the structure to last.

Drinking Window 2021 – 2027

**Samuel Billaud, Chablis, Petit Chablis, Burgundy, 2019 : 92**

Blind tasted by Andy Howard MW(at London, 09 Oct 2020)

Tank sample. Billaud refers to this as 'sur les Clos' as the 15 -25 year-old vines are situated just above the Grand Cru. A great insiders wine which shows the potential for Petit Chablis in 2019. Quite deep in colour, there is so much depth and character for a Petit Chablis here. Not really an AOP Chablis competitor - more comparable to Premier Cru.

Drinking Window 2021 - 2025

**Samuel Billaud, Chablis, 1er Cru Les Fourneaux, 2019 : 91**

Blind tasted by Andy Howard MW(at London, 09 Oct 2020)

From a warmer vineyard sited on south-facing slopes in Fley this is, surprisingly, less generous at the moment. Almost more 'old-school' in style with notes of green apple fruit on the palate. Lacking a little of the 2019 plushness, this is one-dimensional now but has plenty in reserve to develop much more complexity as it ages. For the longer-term.

Drinking Window 2022 – 2028

**Samuel Billaud, Chablis, 1er Cru Les Fourneaux, 2019 : 91**

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Drinking Window 2022 – 2028