

Goisot is a place that remains off the radar of label-conscious and points-hungry buyers.

However, the French wine press and in-the-know American wine lovers know that these wines are in the top quality echelon, in spite of (or maybe because of) being in a land left behind by modern wine. Since it isn't a high yield estate, the owners also had to make sure their wines go to the right places.



Ghislaine and Jean-Hugues Goisot, and now their son Guilhem, are tireless workers and perfectionists. Their viticulture is certified biodynamic by Demeter. Yields are also kept very low by Saint Bris standards, in an effort to produce world class wines that defy the dictates of the late nineteenth century officials who downgraded Saint Bris and cast it from the Chablisienne constellation. The results are a bevy of beautifully made wines that have a very strong following in France and offer absolutely brilliant price-quality rapport. The wines across the board are deep, racy and soil-driven, with as transparent an expression of underlying chalky terroir as any in Chablis proper.

The Goisots make two distinct bottlings of Bourgogne Blanc, one from aligoté and one from chardonnay, with the chardonnay bottling a dead-ringer for fine Chablis. The wines are fermented and raised in stainless steel tanks, and bottled carefully to retain as much of their purity and precision. The Bourgogne Blanc Chardonnay is one of the best values to be found in the world for soil-driven, complex and full-bodied chardonnay. As good as the chardonnay is, the sauvignon blanc bottlings that are labeled as Sauvignon de Saint Bris may even be better, as they share many attributes with top bottlings of Sancerre from terres blanches soils, and are generally cropped at lower yields than all but the very best estates in Sancerre. In top vintages the domaine makes a reserve bottling of their wines, which they call "Corps de Garde", which are made from the family's' finest parcels of old vines in their top vineyards. They are meant to age for a few years and are exemplary expressions of their underlying terroirs and varietal composition.

Domaine Goisot Bourgogne Aligote 2008

Goisot's **Aligoté** is powerful and crisp with the rich minerality that marks all of his whites. It is extremely clean, round and long in the mouth. Goisot attributes the quality of his **Aligoté** to a very rare soil type called Barrémien, which is an exceptionally dense clay. The wine is vinified and aged in vat in order to conserve freshness and fruit. Finally, his yields, off old vines (45-90 years old) are very low. *Wine Advocate 90 points (Oct 2010)*

\$150 posted to \$132 or \$11.00 a bottle

Domaine Goisot Saint Bris "Exogyra Virgula" 2008

Saint-Bris lies just west of Chablis, and shares the famous chalky soil and the cool northerly climate that is typical of Chablis. This *terroir* gives its wines a very distinctive character: it is more refined, firmer and more mineral than wines from further south in Burgundy. Saint Bris is the only appellation in Burgundy that allows Sauvignon Blanc.

Wine Advocate 91 points (Oct 2010)

\$165 posted to \$150 or \$12.50 a bottle

Domaine Goisot Bourgogne Cotes d'Auxerre "Corps de Garde" 2008

The winery itself is based around an old medieval wall; the cellar of the domaine is the old prison of the town (hence the name "Corps de Garde" for their reserve wines). *Wine Advocate 90 points (Oct 2010)*

\$240 posted to \$204 or \$17.00 a bottle

A.H.D. VINTNERS, LTD.

"The more you know about wine, the more you'll want to know about us."

www.ahdvintners.com

Michelle DeHayes 313-231-1353; michelle.dehayes@ahdvintners.com