

Decanter®

OFF-PISTE BURGUNDY:

Values alternatives

Coteaux Bourguignons and Bourgogne Passe-tout-grains :
Under-the-radar styles and why they could become the more reasonably priced of Burgundy...

Michael Apstein

Louis Latour Les Pierres Dorées, Coteaux Bourguignons, Burgundy, France 2018 – 88 pts



The limestone in the soil of southern Beaujolais gives the name Pierres Dorées ('golden rocks') to the Area. A company that knows a thing or two about Pinot Noir, Maison Louis Latour has planted about 20ha of the grape there, and the wine it produces gets better with every vintage. The 2018, the best to date, displays a bright minerality, ripe yet firm, it also paradoxically conveys a lovely austerity and even welcome hint of bitterness in the finish. It's another excellent choice for steak and chips or similarly simple fare.

Louis Latour Bourgogne Passetoutgrain, Burgundy, France 2017 – 88 pts

The traditional blend of two-thirds Gamay, one-third Pinot Noir makes this classically framed and easy-to-like Passetoutgrain. The Pinot Noir comes from the Mâconnais and provides backbone, while the Gamay from the Beaujolais delivers upfront fruitiness. The lack of oak allows the fruit to shine, resulting in a ready to drink, mid-weight wine with charming rusticity and vivacity. It's French version of a pizza wine.