

Domaine Billaud-Simon Chablis 1er Cru Mont de Milieu 2010

Burghound.com issue #44



90-93 Points

As it usually does, this possesses a slight exoticism that manifests itself in notes of dried orange peel and tangerine along with sea breeze and oyster shell nuances. There is excellent richness to the full-bodied and powerful flavors that possess good mid-palate concentration and plenty of palate staining extract on the saline, long and quite serious finish. In brief, this would appear to offer terrific potential.

Producer note: Bernard Billaud called the 2010 vintage "a complete classic. If the wine school textbooks had a description of what a classic Chablis is supposed to smell and taste like, then 2010 produced it. The wines are exceptionally mineral-driven and the fruit is less evident than it was in 2008 or 2009. We waited to pick until the 27th of September and the small boost in maturities that the fruit enjoyed played an important role in preventing the wines from being excessively austere, which they easily could have been. If I had to compare 2010 to another vintage, I would say that it is closest to the 2004s in terms of their precision and classicism." Last year Billaud told me that while his 2009s were very good, they weren't at the same level as his 2008s. Now that the '09s are in bottle, I am not so sure. While it is certainly true that the '09s are stylistically different from the '08s, they are seriously impressive wines all the same.

