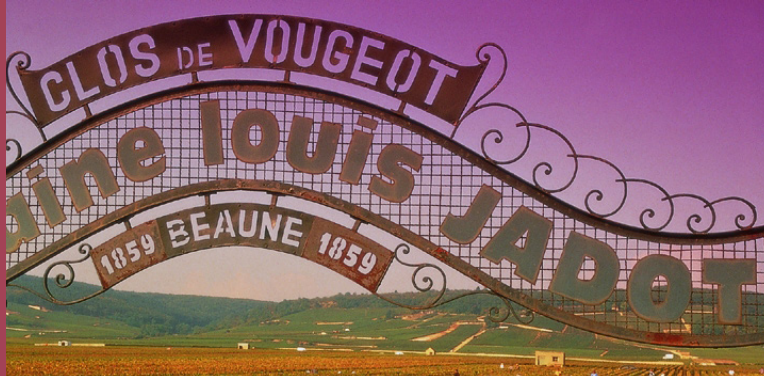


# 2006

Vintage Report



Philip Tuck MW reports from the vineyards of Maison Louis Jadot on what he describes as a vintage of extremes.

After some challenging growing conditions, the 2006 harvest has landed safely. The Ban des Vendages for whites was on the 18th September, and for reds this was on the 20th - although special dispensation was given to certain sites in the Côte de Beaune where there was a degree of rot. Sugar levels across both varieties are acceptable.

The volumes for 2006 will be slightly down on those in 2005 because of the extreme dryness and heat in July of this year. Record temperatures in this month reduced volumes, and a fairly severe triage was carried out on fruit from a few vineyards in the Côte de Beaune where rot had begun to set in as the harvest date approached. Conversely, August was unseasonably wet and cool, which led to an extended veraison and, as a consequence, uneven ripeness within some grape clusters, especially in the Pinot Noir. Fortunately however, the fine weather preceding this - and indeed during the entire harvest - meant that many excellent wines will be made.

At this early stage it is possibly looking more like being a white wine vintage than red, although there will undoubtedly be many characterful red wines - from the Côte de Nuits in particular. Some early comparisons are being made with 1992. The vintage in Beaujolais is also looking very successful, being both generous and typical in style.

By Philip Tuck M.W.



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