



The Imperial Wine Company

FINE WINE MERCHANTS

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A superb offer of 2011 white Burgundies.

Decanter magazine (amongst others) noted 'purity of expression' as one of the characteristics of the vintage, throwing differences between each vineyard into sharper relief. This along with charm, balance, seductive flavours and delightful aromatics make this a vintage to help explore this region which is surprisingly diverse in styles and flavours.

Of course, if you just want some bargain white Burgundy then you have that too. The inexorable upward march of Burgundy prices continues apace following several frost- and hail-affected vintages recently, so these are bargains to grab for festive pleasures for the next few years, produced by people who are passionate about their winemaking.

White Burgundies work with dishes such as grilled lobster, langoustines, scallops, halibut, monkfish and trout (with almonds is good) and the creamy sauces that often accompany some of these. Mushrooms go well and pumpkin risotto is a good match as are washed rind cheeses like Taleggio, Epoisses, Reblochon, Gruyère and Stinking Bishop. Smoked haddock and smoked duck are also recommended as are the classic Burgundian cheesy pastry balls called gougères.

Sofie Bohrmann started her domain in 2002 and now has over 12 hectares, which is some achievement in itself. Winemaker Dmitri Blanc runs the vineyards as near to organic as he can without endangering the crop, and in the winery his light touch allows the qualities of grape and terroir to show through. Wines are chilled and settled before fermentation in barrel with up to 20% new French and Austrian oak. There is some stirring of lees after fermentation, but not too much, and wines are bottled without fining and only a light filtration after 12 months.

Meursault 'Les Vireuils' 2011, Domaine Bohrmann	£32.25	£27.25
<i>The vineyard lies high above the village, which gives a tight mineral edge to the white flowers, cloves and lemony citrus fruit. The oak serves to support and enhance the fruit and terroir elements. 2017 - 2022.</i>		
Meursault 'Meix Chavaux' 2011, Domaine Bohrmann	£32.75	£27.75
<i>Flowery aromas from this well-drained vineyard with lots of richness but balanced with a good mineral element that comes from the quantity of chalk in the thin clay soil. There is a hint of boiled sweets and a creamy finish. 2017 - 2022.</i>		
Meursault 'Clos du Cromin' 2011, Domaine Bohrmann	£35.95	£29.95
<i>80 year-old vines make this the flagship Meursault for Sofie who treats it like a premier cru with numbered bottles. This is rich with quince and acacia notes that are balanced by mixed citrus peel and supported by subtle oak. 2017 - 2023.</i>		
Puligny Montrachet 'Grands Champs' 2011, Domaine Bohrmann	£38.40	£31.75
<i>These vines butt onto the Premier Cru 'Clavoillon' vineyard next door. Intense mandarin and grapefruit notes mixed with some butteriness and a touch of honey. Good concentration and a long finish. 2017 - 2022.</i>		
Puligny Montrachet 1er Cru 'La Garenne' 2011, Domaine Bohrmann	£49.95	£39.95
<i>50 year-old vines at the top of the slope give grapefruit and orange flower aromas that, along with some toasty notes, show with the full richness of the palate. The long finish shows the mineral element we expect from this cru. 2018 - 2024.</i>		
Saint Aubin 1er Cru 'En Remilly' 2011, Domaine Bohrmann	£26.25	£22.25
<i>This chalk plateau above 'Le Montrachet' gives a soft flowery nose with pear and citrus zest. The softness extends to the palate where the fresh acidity keeps it clean. 2017 - 2020.</i>		

Gérard Thomas runs 12 hectares of fine vineyards with daughters Anne-Sophie and Isabelle. The bulk of the estate is in Saint Aubin, which lies west of, and slightly higher than, Puligny and Chassagne Montrachet. Wines are made traditionally – hand-picked and carefully handled to avoid oxidation, barrel-fermented using up to 30% new oak on natural yeasts with regular lees stirring for added depth of flavour, and 10 months aging.

Saint Aubin ‘Champ Tirant’ 2011, Gérard Thomas **£19.90** **£16.90**

Nicely integrated smoke and spice from the oak enhances the stone fruit flavours. 2017 – 2019.

Saint Aubin 1er Cru ‘Les Murgers des Dents de Chien’ 2011, Gérard Thomas **£26.30** **£22.30**

Named after the dogtooth white stones that edge the vineyard. Quite a lush stone fruit and honey nose with apricots, melon and spicy cinnamon on the palate. Good concentration and firm lemon acidity keep a good balance. 2017 – 2021.

Meursault 1er Cru ‘Blagny’ 2011, Gérard Thomas **£38.85** **£33.00**

Spicy minerality with pears, honeysuckle and acacia. Nicely integrated oak adds extra dimensions. 2017 -2022.

Puligny Montrachet 1er Cru ‘La Garenne’ 2011, Gérard Thomas **£39.70** **£33.75**

Exotic fruits and citrus zest with toasty notes make the nose and palate. There is plenty of finesse and mineral freshness. 2017 – 2023.

Hubert and Romaric Chavy are respectively 6th and 7th generation winegrowers. They try to respect the environment as best they can, while being pragmatic about getting a crop and as such they are in the mainstream of winemaking. Harvest is by hand and the must is cooled and settled before fermentation begins in barrels of up to 5 years old. Aging is for 8 to 12 months before fining and bottling.

Meursault ‘Les Casse Tetes’ 2011, Domaine Chavy Chouet **£32.90** **£27.90**

Chalk and gravel make for a restrained style that ages well. This has lime zest, pear and apples with good length. 2017 – 2020.

Puligny Montrachet ‘Les Enseignères’ 2011, Domaine Chavy Chouet **£34.60** **£29.60**

From below the ‘Batard Montrachet’ Grand Cru, this has apple minerality with gentle oak that makes for a rounded yet elegant wine with pure fruit and good balance. 2018 – 2022.

Puligny Montrachet 1er Cru ‘Les Folatières’ 2011, Domaine Chavy Chouet **£42.80** **£36.30**

Complex, sophisticated and nicely weighted, a rich creaminess runs through to balance lemons and apples giving a lovely fullness that comes in part from the well integrated oak. 2017 - 2024

Meursault 1er Cru ‘Les Genevrières’ 2011, Domaine Chavy Chouet **£42.80** **£36.30**

This slope was once covered with juniper bushes, hence the name. Here finesse and power are combined. There is lovely concentration, some croissants, some minerality, some citrus, some nuttiness and maybe a hint of juniper tang? 2018 - 2024

All wines are currently available in bond. Please call us to order.

Subject to remaining unsold.

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