

BLIND-TASTING #1,528: THE *GRANDS CRUS* OF CLOS DE VOUGEOT

vs.

**THE *GRANDS CRUS* OF CORTON
(VINTAGE 1996 RE-VISITED)**

followed by

OPTIONAL DINNER WITH LIBRARY *GRANDS CRUS* BURGUNDIES

[2:30p.m., Sunday, November 22](#)

1996 produced red wines of magnificent concentration and balance in the hallowed Côte de Nuits and Côte de Beaune wine regions of Burgundy, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Home to some of the finest and tiniest vineyards in the world, and birthplace of some of the most expensive wines in the world, producers in this jewel of terroir are legendary for favoring quality over quantity. Among the most sought-after are the wines that are produced in the Clos de Vougeot, a large wall-enclosed vineyard ("clos"), in the Côte de Nuits. Equally favored by many palates are the wines produced in adjoining Corton, Côte de Beaune. Although part and parcel of the same limestone escarpment (the Côte d'Or), the vineyard soils in the Côte de Nuits and the Côte de Beaune are different, yet equally profound. While they all contain a base of limestone and marl, it is the varying amounts of these materials, together with the varying amounts of gravel and sand, that explains, to a large extent, why a wine originating in Vougeot can taste so different from a wine originating in neighboring Corton.

Since initial release, the 1996 vintage has received high praise on both sides of the Atlantic. A few were first tasted at the Vintners Club in 1999 (Tasting #1,294). Eight years later, in 2007 (Tasting #1,463), our members exalted them once again. Now, with an additional eight years of optimal cellaring, which has further refined the nuances, and with almost 20 years of maturation, we are pleased to bring you 9 of the finest *grands crus* from the world's only viticultural UNESCO World Heritage Site (Côte de Nuits and Côte de Beaune). No *premier cru* or *villages* wines! No "Burgundies" from the *Maconnais*, *Chalonnais* or *Chablis*! And, all with impeccable provenance and cellaring; none have been purchased at auction.

Clos de Vougeot, Esmonin
Clos de Vougeot, Ambroise
Clos de Vougeot, Dominique Laurent
Clos de Vougeot, René Engel
Corton Grancey, Latour
Corton, Le Rognet, Laleure-Piot
Corton, Les Grandes Lolières, Bertagna
Corton, Hospices de Beaune, Cuvée Dr. Peste, Dominique Laurent
Corton, Hospices de Beaune, Cuvée Dr. Peste, Morey-Blanc

Prior to your arrival, a generous amount of each wine will have been poured into a separate *Riedel* crystal glass (9 glasses for 9 wines for each attendee) and placed at individual seats. You can relax and take your time sniffing, swirling, chewing, savoring, and, yes, sipping each and every one of these magnificent *grands crus*. Gourmet biscuits and crackers will be available to refresh the palate.

VENUE: Tiburon Lodge, 1651 Tiburon Boulevard, Tiburon.

TO RESERVE A SEAT: E-mail the Vintners Club, info@vintnersclub.com