



### PRODUCER PROFILE

Estate owned by: Laurent Cognard  
Winemaker: Laurent Cognard  
Total acreage under vine: 26  
Estate founded: 1997  
Region: Burgundy  
Country: France

## Mercurey Clos du Paradis 1er Cru 2017

### WINE DESCRIPTION

Laurent Cognard began domaine bottling his family's wines in 1997 and today farms 26 acres of vines in the appellations of Montagny, Mercurey, and Pouilly-Loché. The specialty of the domaine is white wine, though he also produces a small amount of Mercurey rouge. The farming is *lutte raisonnée* ("reasoned struggle").

The region of Côte Chalonnaise extends 15.5 miles from the southern end of the Côte d'Or to the Mâconnais in the south. Soils are like the Côte d'Or with weathered limestone and clay. Laurent Cognard's 26 acres are in Montagny, Mercurey, and Pouilly-Loché in the Mâconnais.

Mercurey is one of five main villages in the Côte Chalonnaise with its own AOC and is permitted to produce red, white, and rosé. It is one of the best-known appellations in the Côte Chalonnaise and is famous for its Pinot Noir which at its best can rival the reds of the Côte de Beaune. Clos du Paradis 1er Cru sits just outside of the small commune of St-Martin-sous-Montaigu. Aging is in used 228-liter Burgundian pièce.

### TASTING NOTES

Mercurey Rouge tends to be firmly structured, a bit rough when young, with firm tannins and an ability to age well. Like the reds from the Côte de Beaune, Mercurey Rouge is often red-fruit oriented, with aromas and flavors of red cherries, raspberries, flowers, and herbs.

### FOOD PAIRING

Red Burgundy might be the world's most flexible food wine. The wine's high acidity, medium body, medium alcohol, and low tannins make it very food friendly. Red Burgundy, with its earthy and sometimes gamey character, is a classic partner to roasted game birds, grilled duck breast, and dishes that feature mushrooms, black truffles, or are rich in umami.

### VINEYARD & PRODUCTION INFO

Production area/appellation: Côte Chalonnaise  
Bottles produced of this wine: 1,800

### WINEMAKING & AGING

Varietal composition: 100% Pinot Noir  
Type of aging container: Pièce  
Size of aging container: 228 liters  
Age of aging container: Used  
Type of oak: French