

2020 VALLE D'AOSTA PETITE ARVINE CHÂTEAU FEUILLET \$34







If Maurizio Fiorano became a vineyard owner by chance, he was lucky in the placement of his plots—he will humbly tell you that it's not hard to make good wine here. The vines sit in shallow sandy soil, but their feet wriggle into crevices in the solid granite bedrock. The vineyards are planted on an ancient riverbed, where the Dora Baltea River cut through, creating the current river valley and leaving behind mineral deposits that the wines happily lap up. The trump card, however, may be high altitude and diurnal temperature shifts providing long hours of gentle sunlight. This gives the grapes a long, slow ripening, and cold nights amplify their aromatic expression while preserving zingy acidity—a recipe for delicate, perfumed wines that dance energetically across the palate.



© Château Feuille

Sipping Feuille's Petite Arvine evokes the euphoria of running through a field of Alpine wildflowers—admittedly a cliché, until you feel the exacting mineral purity of this floral *bianco* wash over your senses.

*Pair with fonduta (fondue made with Fontina cheese),
pork dumplings, or chicory and citrus salad.*

					
2018 SAINT-ROMAIN BLANC Domaine Taupenot-Merme Burgundy	Chardonnay	Vines planted in 1957, 2005, 2017 Clay, limestone	Serve cool 50–54° F Decant optional	Lemon, hazelnuts, honey, white flowers Rich, elegant, mineral	Drink now through 2026
2020 VALLE D'AOSTA PETITE ARVINE Château Feuille Valle d'Aosta	Petite Arvine	10-year-old vines Alluvial sand over granite bedrock	Serve cold 48–52° F Decant optional	Alpine wildflowers, grapefruit, lime zest Crisp, lively, saline	Drink now



Romain Taupenot © Domaine Taupenot-Merme

2018 SAINT-ROMAIN BLANC DOMAINE TAUPENOT-MERME \$57

Romain Taupenot is the ninth generation to run this family domaine in Morey-Saint-Denis. While records show his ancestors practiced viticulture as far back as the 17th century, the domaine as we know it today truly came to be after the marriage of Romain's parents, Denise Merme and Jean Taupenot, in 1963. Romain recalls helping out at the domaine as a child, assisting with harvest and selling his grandfather's wines along the side of the *route nationale* to vacationers passing through Burgundy on their summer journey south.

In 1998, he returned home to assume management of the domaine, which he now runs alongside his sister, Virginie. Romain considers the house style to be one of richness with freshness, relying on the innate quality of the sites they farm to deliver wines that are balanced and complete, with elegant tannins. With such an amazing assortment of *climats* to their name, the down-to-earth and hard-working Romain and Virginie are perfect ambassadors for this diverse collection of esteemed Burgundian terroirs. This full-bodied, golden, old-school Chardonnay is an excellent introduction to this stellar domaine.



Vineyards at Domaine Taupenot-Merme © Gail Skoff

*Pair with cream of mushroom soup, grilled sea bass, poached eggs,
or vegetable pot pie.*