



Written by
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Wine Source - a concierge service?



Wine Source, an international company founded by tech specialist Philippe Kalmbach, is rather different from other wine companies. Somewhat ambitiously billing itself as 'the world's "Fine Wine Concierge" service', it has cells in London, Paris, New York, southern California, Singapore and Macau. It specialises in relatively hard-to-get wines from small-scale producers - especially but by no means exclusively in Burgundy. The photograph on the right by [Jon Wyand](#) is of Anne, daughter of Pierre Morey. Wine Source sell wines from the outré likes of Prieuré-Roch and Philippe Pacalet. Their champagnes and Rhône's are interesting.

By complete coincidence, the wines described below include three from Central Coast producer Tyler, who features in today's article [Burgundians branch out](#). At this London tasting, Wine Source was showing wines from some other interesting California producers such as the intriguingly named Dirty & Rowdy (such arresting multi-names seem in vogue on the west coast currently). But most of the 25 tasting notes (only 25 since the tasting took place on the same

day as the knock-out [sake tasting](#) I have already described, and a blind tasting of 2002 vintage champagnes that I will describe very early next month) are on wines from Burgundy domaines, supplemented by a particularly interesting Languedoc producer. I do wish more importers would take advantage of the riches of this extensive southern French region.

They are very thick with sommeliers and specialise to a certain extent in smart hotels and restaurants although they also seem keen on well-heeled private clients. The B-word (bespoke) also somewhat predictably features in the spiel on [their website](#).

These 25 wines are grouped by producer then listed in the order tasted as our default order, but you can change it using the menu below.

Order by ▼

PATRICK PIUZE

- [Patrick Piuze 2015 Petit Chablis](#) Pale straw. Mealy note on the nose - very pure Chablis character! Easily as fine as a supermarket Chablis. Really exciting. **GV** Drink 2016-2018
£14.50 Wine Source 16.5
- [Patrick Piuze, Terroir de Courgis 2015 Chablis](#) Very youthful and edgy. Almost ready but with lots still to give and a slightly honeyed note as well as all that green fruit. Drink 2017-2022
£16 Wine Source 17
- [Patrick Piuze, Vaurorent Premier Cru 2015 Chablis](#) Very youthful and crystalline. Buy this for the cellar, not to drink now. Drink 2019-2030
£33 Wine Source 17
- [Patrick Piuze, Blanchot 2015 Chablis Grand Cru](#) Very introvert and chiselled in terms of texture. Drink 2020-2032
£43 Wine Source 17

VAL DE MER

- [Val de Mer 2015 Bourgogne](#) *Val de Mer is a joint venture between Patrice Piuze of Chablis and the Moutard family of Champagne. The fruit comes from Tonnerre.*
Pale straw. Edgy and leesy. Lots of acidity and definition. But tastes broader than Chablis.
Drink 2016-2019
£13 Wine Source 16
- [Val de Mer 2015 Chablis](#) Green and fresh. Already open and enjoyable in a very open Chablis register. Lots to chew on on the end. Drink 2016-2020
£15 Wine Source 16.5
- [Val de Mer, Valmur 2015 Chablis Grand Cru](#) Deep straw. Really quite evolved on the nose! Solid, dense with green-apple flavours. I think for value I'd go for the Piuze Blanchot 2015! Drink 2016-2025
£42 Wine Source 16.5

DOM PIERRE MOREY

- [Dom Pierre Morey, Les Terres Blanches 2013 Meursault](#) Greenish straw. Very savoury and solid.

Not ethereal but with lots hidden underneath. A very slightly rustic note on the end. Drink 2017-2022
£50 Wine Source 16

MOREY BLANC

- Morey Blanc, Charmes Premier Cru 2013 Meursault Really quite rich and dense. But no lift. Very solid. Lots still to chew on. Drink 2019-2027
£75 Wine Source 16.5
- Morey Blanc, Clos du Chapitre Premier Cru 2013 Aloxe-Corton Pale crimson. Very pure nose. Etched and edgy. Lots of fine tannin on the edge. Bone dry and pure. Drink 2018-2025
£50 Wine Source 16.5

DOM AMIOT-SERVELLE

- Dom Amiot-Servelle 2014 Chambolle-Musigny Pale bright crimson. Quite intense fruit. Pretty tough end at the moment – even a little bitter. Drink 2020-2025
£43 Wine Source 16+
- Dom Amiot-Servelle, Les Charmes Premier Cru 2014 Chambolle-Musigny Some richness on the nose – really quite alluring. Smooth texture and some bitter cherry fruit. Should deliver pretty nicely eventually. Drink 2020-2030
£67 Wine Source 16.5

DOM RECRUE DES SENS

- Dom Recrue des Sens, Les Premiers Ponts 2013 Vin de France *From the Hautes-Côtes de Nuits and made by Yann Durieux who worked, like Philippe Pacalet, for 10 years at Dom Prieuré-Roch.*
Rich, sweet, mushroomy nose but too austere and natural for me on the palate. Shame! Drink 2018-2020
£43 Wine Source 15.5

DOM PRIEURÉ-ROCH

- Dom Prieuré-Roch, Pinoterie 2011 Bourgogne *A mix of all the berries that have detached themselves from the stems on the sorting table, no matter what the AOC.*
Rather cloudy ruby. Very headily alluring! Racy and chiselled on the palate. Some apparent 'minerality'. Very interesting wine with great sweetness on the front palate. Something quite DRC-like about the liqueur-like appeal. Drink 2015-2020
£75 Wine Source 17
- Dom Prieuré-Roch, Vieilles Vignes Premier Cru 2011 Nuits-St-Georges Slightly cloudy ruby. Savoury and vegy. A bit too extreme and funky for me – hint of hamster cages. Drink 2017-2023
£115 Wine Source 15.5+
- Dom Prieuré-Roch, Les Hautes Maizières 2011 Vosne-Romanée Mid ruby. Not too cloudy. Rich and sweet on the nose. But on the palate it's pretty tough and austere. Maybe it will get there.

But it's not much fun at the moment. Drink 2019-2025
£185 Wine Source 16

PHILIPPE PACALET

- Philippe Pacalet 2011 Gevrey-Chambertin Pale ruby. Very pure and headily alluring nose. Round and fresh with real savour and energy. Good stuff! Drink 2015-2022
£55 Wine Source 17
- Philippe Pacalet, Les Perrières Premier Cru 2008 Beaune Fully mature and just a little lacking fruit in the middle. A bit austere – but perhaps it's the vintage? Drink 2015-2024
£70 Wine Source 16
- Philippe Pacalet, Les Perrières Premier Cru 2014 Beaune Pale crimson. Very fresh and pure. Racy. Sleek. Superior with fresh plums and no suggestion of following the crowd. Drink 2017-2023
£27 Wine Source 16.5
- Philippe Pacalet 2014 Cornas Mid crimson. Direct, fruity, peppery. Very pure and friendly. Clean and straight. Drink 2018-2025
£39 Wine Source 17

DOM ZÉLIGE-CARAVENT

- Zélige-Caravent, Ellipse 2013 Languedoc, Pic-St Loup 40% *Mourvèdre*, 30% *Carignan* and 30% *Cinsault*.
Animal note and lots of confident fruit. Lots of chew and some burgundian delicacy. Well done! Hint of liquorice. Drink 2016-2020
£13.50 Wine Source 16.5

TYLER

- Tyler Chardonnay 2012 Santa Barbara County Blend of five blocks. Pungent and very cool! Really almost austere. But presumably in California it looks wonderfully distinctive. Drink 2017-2020
£22 Wine Source 16
- Tyler, Zotovich Vineyard Chardonnay 2013 Sta Rita Hills Broad and winning compared with the regular Santa Barbara County bottling. Correct. Precise. Drink 2016-2021
£30 Wine Source 16.5
- Tyler, Dierberg Vineyard Block 5 Pinot Noir 2013 Santa Maria Valley Earthy and transparent. Very lively and sinewy with a gentle touch. **GV** Drink 2016-2020
£30 Wine Source 16.5
- Tyler, Sanford & Benedict Vineyard Pinot Noir 2013 Sta Rita Hills Real spine and depth. Wonderfully subtle and appetising. Really makes you want to have another mouthful. Not too sweet. Sinewy and much more open and appealing than most red burgundies. Drink 2016-2024
£50 Wine Source 17