



## France: Burgundy 2014 – Gevrey-Chamberin, Fixin & Marsannay

by Neal Martin

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### Jean Fournier 2014

**Marsannay Blanc “Saint-Urbain”** - The 2014 Marsannay Cuvée Saint-Urbain is a blend of 80% Chardonnay and 20% Pinot Blanc aged in 500- and 600-liter Stockinger barrels for 12 months before being transferred into stainless steel. It has a crisp and taut bouquet with light flinty scents emanating from the Chardonnay, and a touch of hazelnut developing with time. The palate is clean and fresh on the entry, slightly waxy in texture with a hint of orange rind and white pepper towards the finish. (89-91 points)

**Fixin “Les Petit Crais”** - The 2014 Fixin les Petits Crais has a delightful bouquet with raspberry preserve and cassis aromas, very well defined, graceful and seductive. The palate is medium-bodied with supple tannin, very well judged acidity, harmonious and poised with fine tension on the quite structured finish. This is an excellent Fixin from Laurent Fournier and highly recommended. (90-92 points)

**Marsannay “Echezots”** - The 2014 Marsannay Es Chezots is the first vintage that Laurent has used a higher percentage of whole bunch (one-third and it will be 50% in 2015). It has a very perfumed, very floral bouquet with red roses infusing the vibrant redcurrant and wild strawberry fruit, the whole bunch neatly subsumed. The palate is medium-bodied with crisp, slightly chalky with great tension and edginess on the finish. I think it was a positive move to use the whole bunch and this wine should turn into a cerebral beauty. (90-92 points)

**Marsannay “Les Longeroies”** - The 2014 Marsannay les Longeroies has a very seductive and sensual bouquet, a little richer and more fruit-driven than the 2014 Es Chezots with sumptuous red berry fruit. The palate is medium-bodied with fine, gently grippy tannin and impressive salinity on the sappy finish. This is another delicious, complex Marsannay from one of its best producers. (90-92 points)

**Marsannay “Pur Pôt”** - The 2014 Pur Pot is a special selection of vines from Clos du Roy grown on particularly calcereous soils, and is matured 50% new oak; it includes 80% whole bunch fruit. It has superb fruit intensity on the nose with black cherries, cassis and raspberry coulis, with wonderful definition with an undertow of minerals emanating from the earth. The palate is medium-bodied, rounded and vivacious, with smoke-tinged black fruit with a very dense, concentrated finish that maintains superb delineation from start to finish. (91-93 points)

**Marsannay “Trois Terres” Vieilles Vignes** - The 2014 Marsannay Trois Terres Vieilles Vignes comes from La Charmes aux Prêtres, Les Grasses Têtes and Les Grandes Vignes, the vines planted in 1933, 1937 and 1943. This vintage includes around 75% whole bunches (not that this is particularly discernible). Laurent Fournier described this as the "dark

side of Marsannay." It has a very pure, slightly sultry bouquet with red cherries, raspberry preserve and blackcurrant scents; it is delineated and focused, gaining in intensity as it opens in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with succulent tannin, a crisp line of acidity and a gentle grip here with the mouth tingling with limestone on the structured, masculine finish. (90-92 points)

**Marsannay "P'tite Grumotte** - The 2014 P'tite Grumotte, which comes from a selection from vines that are regularly affected by millerandage, and this is the first vintage where Laurent used a little whole bunch in the blend. It has a very vivacious, seductive bouquet with kirsch, blueberry and cassis fruit, beautifully defined with hints of violet that develop in the glass. The palate is medium-bodied with rounded tannin. There is some new oak (50%) to be subsumed, but there is already the harmony and depth here to suggest that it is a long term proposition. Gorgeous, opulent Marsannay for long term aging. Just 600 bottles only. (90-92 points)



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