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Domaine Latour-Giraud (Meursault)

2017	Bourgogne Chardonnay	white	86
2017	➤ Meursault "Bouchères" 1er	white	92
2017	➤ Meursault "Charmes" 1er	white	92
2017	Meursault – Cuvée Charles Maxime	white	88
2017	➤ Meursault "Genevrières" 1er	white	93
2017	➤ Meursault "Genevrières - Cuvée des Pierres" 1er	* white	92
2017	➤ Meursault "Les Narvaux"	white	89
2017	Meursault "Poruzots" 1er	white	91
2017	→ Meursault "Perrières" 1er	white	93
2017	⇒ Puligny-Montrachet "Champs Canet" 1er	white	92

Jean-Pierre Latour was exceptionally positive about the 2017 vintage, noting that "we finally obtained some yield but it's not necessarily the way that you might think. What I mean is that we had better yields in 2017 than we did in 2016 in the regional and *villages* wines but about the same in the 1ers. And in Genevrières, we actually realized a bit less so contrary to what has been widely reported as an abundant vintage is not true for us. As to the wines, I view the 2017s as appealing to two different audiences, which is not always the case. Casual consumers will like the fact that the whites will be both approachable and enjoyable young as there is good mid-palate fat and the acidities are adequate but not really high. By contrast, connoisseurs will admire the wines for their elegance, finesse and transparency to the underlying *terroir*. Either way, to me they are concentrated, serious and ageworthy." I entirely agree with Latour's take on his wines as they are indeed lovely. Latour further noted that his 2017s were bottled between December 2018 and February 2019. (Atherton Wine Imports, www.awiwine.com, CA, Chemin des Vins, www.awiwine.com, MA, both USA; Bibendum Wine Ltd., www.bibendum-wine.co.uk, Thorman Hunt & Co., www.thormanhunt.co.uk and Atlas Fine Wines, www.atlasfinewines.com, all UK).

2017 Bourgogne Chardonnay: (from vines in Meursault). An interesting nose is composed by notes of matchstick, lemon rind and a whiff of petrol. There is excellent volume and punch to the delicious middle weight flavors that conclude in a lingering if ever-so-mildly sweet finish. To enjoy young. 86/2020+

2017 Meursault – Cuvée Charles Maxime: (from the Domaine founders of Charles Giraud and Maxime Latour – the fruit derives from multiple lieux-dits that include Les Corbins, Le Cromin, Les Chevalières, Les Crotots, Les Vireuils, Les Pelles, Le Limozin and Les Malpoiriers). Here too there is a whiff of petrol to the pretty aromas of acacia blossom, hazelnut and essence of pear. On the palate there is also fine volume to the caressing and attractively textured medium-bodied flavors that possess good fat while exhibiting fine length on the balanced finale. 88/2022+

2017 Meursault "Les Narvaux": A less expressive if more complex nose features notes of lemon-lime, white peach, floral and a hint of grilled nuts. The succulent but racy medium weight flavors exude evident minerality while delivering very fine length. This needs to develop a bit more depth with time in bottle but the underlying material appears to be present for that to occur. 89/2023+

2017 Meursault "Bouchères": A pure, elegant and highly restrained nose combines notes of acacia, citrus, green apple and a hint of spice. The wonderfully refined, even lilting middle weight flavors possess a subtle bead of minerality that carries over to the long, balanced and harmonious finish. This is a classic Bouchères of delicacy and finesse. 92/2024+

2017 Meursault "Poruzots": (from a small .14 ha parcel that will be bottled by hand; Latour calls this "old style *terroit*" because it usually produces a rustic wine). Relatively prominent notes of matchstick and petrol don't completely mask the aromas of green fruit, citrus peel and a gentle application of wood. As one would expect, the medium weight plus flavors possess notably more power and muscle while displaying excellent drive on the robust and mildly rustic finish. This is clearly built-to-age yet should be approachable after 5-ish or so years. 91/2029+

2017 Meursault "Charmes": (from 35+ year old vines in Charmes Dessus). A ripe and quite spicy nose offers up notes of honeysuckle, white peach, roasted nut and a hint of acacia. The exceptionally rich, even opulent flavors coat the palate with dry extract before terminating in a clean, intense and discreetly mineral-suffused finale. I really like the sappy, even seductive, texture thanks to the abundant extract and this should age effortlessly. 92/2025+

2017 Meursault "Genevrières": (from 40+ year old vines from a huge 2.5 ha parcel in Genevrières Dessus). A softly wooded and slightly more elegant nose displays a subtle exoticism on the cool acacia blossom, lemon, Asian-style tea and white fruit aromas. There is a lovely sense of underlying tension to the more evidently mineral-driven flavors that don't possess the same richness or volume but are markedly finer on the highly persistent if ever-so-mildly warm bone dry finish. This isn't quite as fine as the Bouchères but offers slightly better overall depth and persistence. 93/2025+

2017 Meursault "Perrières": This too is wonderfully elegant with its airy and distinctly cool blend of mineral reduction, green apple, spiced pear and jasmine tea. The sleek, sophisticated and focused middle weight flavors brim with both dry extract and an almost pungent minerality on the textured and exceptionally intense finish that goes on and on. This is really lovely though note well that at least some patience will be required. 93/2027+

2017 Puligny-Montrachet "Champs Canet": This too is very pretty if slightly riper and a bit more expressive as well with its array of essence of poached pear and apple scents that are trimmed in soft spice and white flower nuances. There is fine volume to the solidly concentrated medium-bodied flavors that are at once caressing yet punchy, all wrapped in a lingering if slightly warm finish. This too is really quite good and wine that should reward up to a decade of cellaring. 92/2025+

2017 Meursault "Genevrières – Cuvée des Pierres": (from 50+ year old vines). Touches of matchstick character and the exotic add breadth to the cool and overtly spicy green fruit and citrus peel-scented aromas. There is more volume to the almost painfully intense middle weight flavors that possess excellent cut before terminating in a mineral-driven, bitter lemoninflected and slightly warm finish that delivers fine length. The old vines are in evidence as this is a big and unusually powerful Genevrières. 92/2025+

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June 2019