

## **Exploring Burgundy: Volnay**

Moving a bit south of Pommard we encounter Volnay, an appellation focusing solely on Pinot Noir and possessing 29 Premier Cru designations, but no Grand Cru vineyards.

Situated high upon the Chaignot hill, Volnay has limestone-based soils that become more chalky as we move further south and become deeper and more gravelly at the foot of the hill.

Wines from Volnay are much celebrated for their elegance and complex aromatics, and can in fact be quite spicy and lacy.

### **Joseph Drouhin Volnay 2016 \$69.99**

This was a tough vintage with early frosts and low yields at harvest, but Drouhin managed to create a lovely wine with tones of violets, spice, and dark fruit.

### **Mischief and Mayhem Volnay 2012 \$77.99**

Ripe red fruits abound in this delicate beauty from 2012 made from grapes grown on "vieilles vignes," or, old vines, with an average age of more than 60 years.

### **Domaine Bouchard Pere et Fils Premier Cru Volnay Caillerets Ancienne Cuvee Carnot 2015 \$92.99**

Caillerets is one of Volnay's more well-known Premier Cru vineyards and can be found in its southern section, just below Taille Pieds. The 2015 vintage is famous for delivering wines with a bit more ripe, round fruit.

### **Domaine Bouchard Pere et Fils Chateau de Beaune Premier Cru Volnay Taille Pieds 2016 \$85.99**

Taille Pieds is another highly regarded Premier Cru vineyard, which measures about 17 acres in size. Its name, "cut feet," could be a reference to the sharp stones found in the soil, or, more humorously, to the steepness of the slope where a grape picker could slip, fall, and proceed to cut their own feet instead of harvesting grapes.

### **Domaine Bouchard Pere et Fils Premier Cru Volnay Caillerets Ancienne Cuvee Carnot 2012 1.5L Magnum \$188.99**

The 1.5L size, called a magnum, holds two standard bottles of wine. It is an ideal format for aging, and perfect for summer events and dinner parties.