Exploring Burgundy: Nuits-Saint-Georges

Both red and white wines are produced in the famous Nuits-Saint-Georges appellation. This is one of Burgundy's larger wine-producing areas and it possesses 41 Premier Cru *climats* with several soil types, including limestone with marl, pebbly alluvium, clay, and silt. Pinot Noirs from here are renowned for their tannic structure and deep concentration.

Wines from the northern section can often be more floral and complex, while wines from the south can be more tannic and powerful. Overall, the entire appellation is known for producing wines that display an excellent longevity.

The St. George Crater on Earth's Moon was named in honor of a scene from the Jules Verne sci-fi novel "Around the Moon" where a bottle of Nuits is enjoyed whilst on the satellite!

Bertrand Ambroise Nuits-Saint-Georges Premier Cru Les Vaucrains 2010 \$99.99

The Les Vaucrains vineyard can be found in the geographic backbone of Nuits-Saint-Georges. Look for decent tannins and alluring notes of leather, truffle, and spice with a darker fruit profile.

Bouchard Pere & Fils Nuits-Saint-Georges 2015 \$49.99

Your faithful GWC correspondent knows from experience that this is a big, bold wine that needs time to breathe before enjoying. Open, decant, start cooking, and in an hour or two it will be ready. Once the tannins soften a bit, lovely floral aromas of rose and red fruit flavors will emerge.

Aurelien Verdet Nuits-Saint-Georges 2015 \$79.99

Verdet is a talented young winemaker (he turns 40 next month), and he takes pride in raising organically and biodynamically farmed grapes and harvesting by hand. Wine Spectator awarded this wine 92 points and posted the following review: "This is ripe and well-marked by toasty, vanilla-laced oak over a core of macerated cherry. Notes of burning vine cuttings, autumn leaves and berry linger on the lengthy aftertaste. Best from 2020 through 2032. 75 cases imported."