Press release
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ALBERT BICHOT
MAISON FONDÉE EN 1831

# 150 years of loyalty: Maison Albert Bichot renews its commitment at the 166th Hospices de Beaune Wine Auction

Celebrating 150 years of support for the Hospices de Beaune Wine Auction, Maison Albert Bichot acquired 84 barrels for €3,142,500. The anniversary was celebrated on Sunday in Beaune's historic market hall, at the heart of a 166th edition that raised €13,592,700 for the Beaune hospital, along with €1 million donated to ARSLA and DEBRA France through the Presidents' Barrel.

## 1876–2026: a century and a half of raised paddles

It was in 1876 that Maison Albert Bichot first bid on the wines of the Hospices. One hundred and fifty years later, the family remains a loyal participant and has been the auction's leading buyer for more than 25 years.
To mark this anniversary, the Maison made an unprecedented gesture: ahead of the auction weekend, it put up for sale large formats of Beaune Premier Cru "Cuvée Dames Hospitalières", the cuvée that traditionally opens the auction, presented in engraved and signed wooden cases.

## The Maison's 2026 purchases at a glance

- 84 barrels acquired, for a total of €3,100,000.
- 23.20% of the auction's total value and 19.44% of its volume.
- 17 barrels of Grand Cru, including one of Clos de la Roche Grand Cru "Cuvée Cyrot-Chaudron", sold for €165,000.
- Maison Albert Bichot acquired two barrels of Mazis-Chambertin Grand Cru "Cuvée Madeleine Collignon" at €175,000 each, the highest price of the auction excluding the Presidents' Barrel.

*"You don't come to Beaune to buy wine the way you would anywhere else. Since 1876, every generation of our family has raised its hand in this room, for the wines and for the hospital they help sustain. For this anniversary, we wanted to pay tribute to the Cuvée Dames Hospitalières, which opens the auction,"* says Albéric Bichot.
In the coming days, the barrels acquired will join the Albert Bichot cellars in Beaune, where they will complete their ageing before being delivered to the Maison's customers in France and abroad.

## A 166th auction dedicated to rare diseases

Under the Sotheby's hammer, the 432 barrels from the Domaine des Hospices totalled €13,592,700, with an average price of €31,284 per barrel (a decrease of 7.99% compared with 2025). A result that reflects a more cautious market, without diminishing buyers' attachment to the institution.
The most eagerly awaited moment of the afternoon, the Presidents' Barrel, a Clos de Vougeot Grand Cru, sold for €1 million. The French actress Mélanie Doutey and the French comedy duo Éric Judor and Ramzy Bedia led the bidding in support of two causes: research into amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), championed by ARSLA, and DEBRA France, which supports patients living with epidermolysis bullosa.






**ARSLA** (the French association for research on ALS and other motor neuron diseases) has been France's leading organisation in the fight against ALS, also known as Charcot's disease, since 1985. Founded by a patient, Guy Serra, who was soon joined by his neurologist, Professor Vincent Meininger, it has been recognised as a public-interest organisation since 1991.
ALS is a rare and incurable neurodegenerative disease that affects the motor neurons, the nerve cells controlling voluntary movement, and gradually leads to paralysis. ARSLA acts on three fronts: funding research, with more than €40 million invested since its creation and around a dozen projects supported each year; supporting more than 2,000 patients and their families every year, notably by lending some 1,500 assistive devices; and speaking up for patients before public authorities.
www.arsla.org



**DEBRA France** is an association of patients and parent's patients living with epidermolysis bullosa (EB), founded in 1985 by a family affected by the disease to improve children's daily lives and break the isolation of families. Today it brings together some 350 member families, including 242 people living with the condition, and is part of the worldwide DEBRA International network which the actress Mélanie Doutey serves as the patron.
Epidermolysis bullosa is a group of rare, incurable genetic diseases that make the skin and mucous membranes extremely fragile: the slightest friction causes painful blisters and wounds, which is why young patients are known as "butterfly children". The daily care required is long and demanding, weighing heavily on patients and their loved ones alike.
The association's work is built around four missions: helping, by supporting families day to day; curing, by funding research; informing, by raising awareness among the public and healthcare professionals, notably through its annual meeting of EB professionals; and reaching out, to make the disease better known and improve patient care.
www.debra.fr

## 2026, a vintage of character

Tasted ahead of the auction, the wines of the Domaine des Hospices revealed a sun-drenched vintage that has nonetheless remained precise and balanced, shaped by a harvest of unprecedented earliness in Burgundy since the 16th century, and by yields reduced by heat and drought.
More than a purchase, these barrels are a link between generations. The Maison will age them to the same exacting standards as the wines from its six estates and vineyards, five of which are certified organic: a conviction it shares with the Domaine des Hospices, which in 2024 formalised the conversion of its 60-hectare vineyard to organic farming.

**About Maison Albert Bichot :**
Albert Bichot owns more than 100 hectares of vines spread across six exceptional estates and vineyards, five of them certified organic, in Burgundy's most prestigious appellations. Drawing on this winegrowing expertise, Albert Bichot also selects and purchases grapes and musts from loyal partners and vinifies them with the same care within its own estates and vineyards. This philosophy ensures the creation of great wines that express their terroir of origin and convey emotion, making the Maison one of the great names of Burgundy.



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