



Circuit 3

Tour of Corton Hill

Pleasant circuit from Pernand-Vergelesses, one of the most picturesque villages in Côte de Beaune, with typical monuments and producing subtle fruity white wines and ruby red wines with exquisite scents of red fruits.

Covered wash-house © P Gateau

- **Start:** Pernand-Vergelesses, 7 km from Beaune by the D18
- **Parking:** At the bottom of the village, on the D18, after the roundabout, Place de la Gare (the old boneshaker)
- **Distance:** about 6 km
- **Duration:** about 2 hours
- **Height gained:** 140 m
- **Level:** family
- **Markers:** directional posts and paint marks on various objects (walls, trees, ground etc).
- **Restrictions:** Avoid in hot weather.
- **TAKE CARE** during the hunting season (September till end-February) and official culls.

- Leaving the car park **1**, take the road left (towards the village) and then, in about 50 m, the road on the right (no entry for cars). At the cafe, turn left on the paved road (no vehicles allowed).

- At the substation, follow on the right the path which is barely marked at the start, heading down along a stone wall.

- At the bottom, go right past the settling ponds on the right of the path, then, to the left, a water intake. On reaching the road, turn left.

- At the cross (**post P70**), leave the Chemin des Grands Crus and turn left onto a small tarmac road (uphill: great view of Pernand-Vergelesses) **2**.

- After approximately 300 m, turn right on the metalled path skirting Corton Hill. You're in the middle of Corton-Charlemagne. At the cross, there's a beautiful view of the whole vineyard: to the left, nestling in the trees, Aloxe-Corton and, opposite, in the background, Beaune **3**.

- At the first trees, take the small lane to the left and continue straight on **4**.

- At the end of the climb **5**, before an old lime tree, go right on the road. Still following this road, enter Corton Wood.

- On leaving the forest, heading towards the vineyards (Hautes Côtes de Beaune), you arrive at a paved road that you continue along on the left (**post P69**). After approximately 150 m, turn left along a path heading into the wood **6**.

Continue straight ahead, ignoring the logging tracks, and emerge in a vineyard (note: not the first one, but the second larger vineyard).

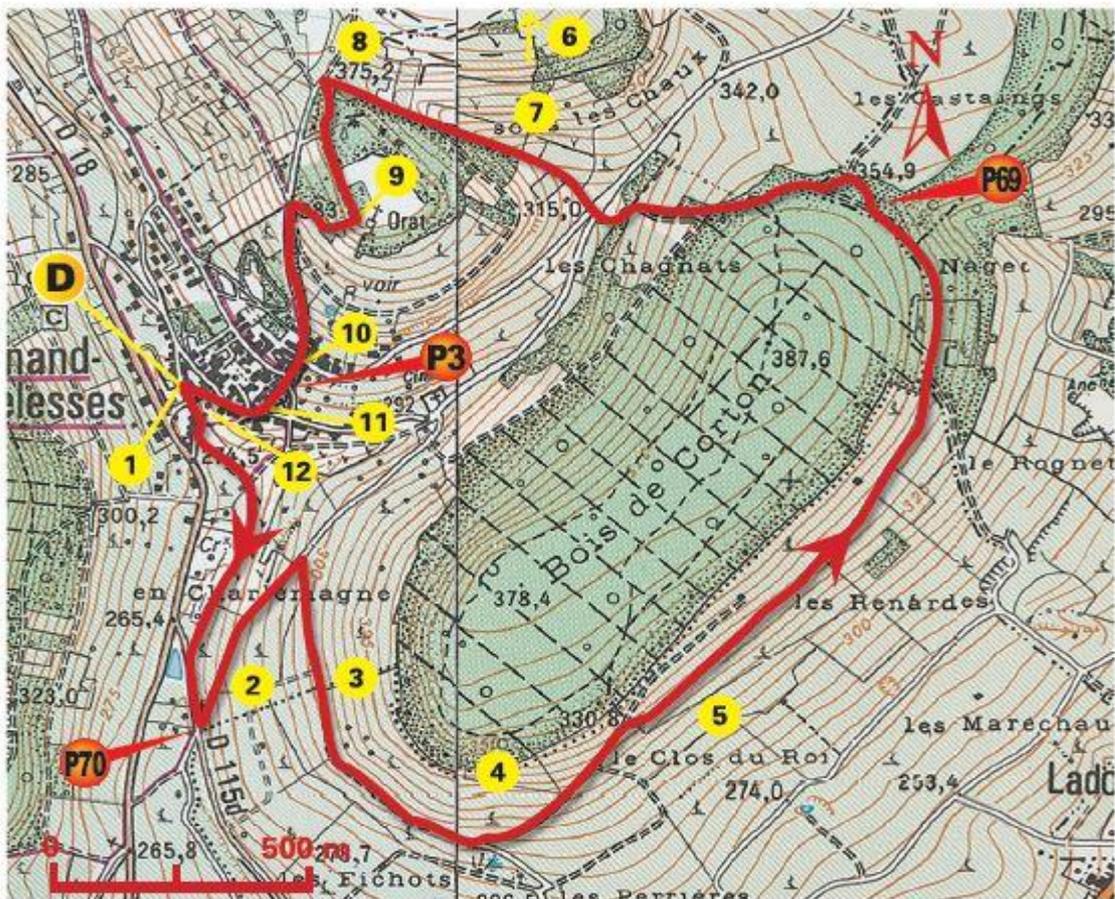
- Head down to the right of it along a fairly furrowed path. At the bottom, cross two tarmac roads (take care) and go straight ahead on a road with a sign "Interdit 5 t" (no vehicles over 5 tons).

- Head up the valley and continue straight ahead, ignoring the path on the left **7**.
- Reaching the top **8**, head down the tarmac road, then head left up the little tarmac road. After the barrier, cross the meadows to reach the oratory of Notre Dame de Bonne Espérance (Our Lady of Good Hope) **9**.
- At the monument, to the right when looking towards Beaune and Pernand-Vergelesses, take the small path towards the edge of the woods. Keep to this path as far as the edge of the woods.
- Then turn right and come out at the tarmac road which you take to the left. Head down this road which leads to Pernand-Vergelesses.
- On entering the village, at the cross and the Magny Les Villers road, on the left, source and statue of the "Mother Fountain" **10** (post **P3**). Soon after, still heading down, you will see a first wash-house.
- Continue straight ahead, passing the church **11** and continue along the same road which turns slightly to the right **12**.
- At the second wash-house, turn left and then immediately right. You're back at the starting point.



Church of Saint Germain ©A. Muzard

Map :



Don't Miss :

- 1** - Station on the narrow gauge railway line (boneshaker) from Dijon to Beaune via the Hautes Côtes: opened in 1921 but closed 15 years later.



The famous "Butte de Corton" with its Grands Crus ©A. Muzard

2 - Appellation d'Origine Contrôlée (AOC) Grand Cru (white): Corton-Charlemagne, to the right and left of the climb.

3 - Note, towards the top of the hill, the steep slope of the vineyard (nearly 20%) and the soil washed away in places.

4 - AOC Grand Cru (white): Corton-Charlemagne on either side of the road.

5 - AOC Grand Cru (red): Corton on either side of the road.

6 - Looking at the other side of the valley, you can see the ruins of a large stone boundary wall. This was the Bully estate, a medieval barn, created in the 12th century by the monks of the Abbaye de Maizières. The latter, founded in the 12th century, south of Saint Loup de la Salle, is now gone.

7 - AOC appellation communale: Pernand-Vergelesses.

8 - High vines of regional appellation (Hautes Côtes de Beaune), then, further down, AOC Village (Pernand-Vergelesses).

9 - Oratory of Frétille overlooking the vineyard (Notre Dame de Bonne Espérance from the 19th century).

10 - Ancestral spring murmuring away under the "Mother Fountain" (the oldest house in the village, from the 18th century).

11 - Romano-Byzantine church of the late 12th century, with its bell tower of glazed tiles.

12 - Heading down on the left, there's the home of "Jacques Copeau", awash with theatrical memories.



Notre Dame de la Bonne Espérance with viewpoint indicator ("site de Frétille") © A. Muzard

RESPECT THE HARVEST AND PLANTING.
DO NOT LEAVE LITTER.

Technical advisers: D. and R. MUTIN, Philippe GATEAU – November 2012

All rights reserved. Reproduction prohibited.

Produced, edited and distributed by the Beaune & Pays Beaunois Tourist Office