

CHATEAU DE LAVERNETTE	2009	BEAUJOLAIS BLANC LES VIGNES DE LA ROCHE	(\$20.00)	WHITE	88
CHATEAU DE LAVERNETTE	2009	BEAUJOLAIS-VILLAGES	(\$16.00)	RED	88
CHATEAU DE LAVERNETTE	2009	BEAUJOLAIS-LEYNES	(\$24.00)	RED	90

If the impression left by their latest releases does not deceive, the new custodial generation of Château de Lavernette – Xavier and (ex-pat American) Kerrie Boissieu are taking this long reliable source in Leynes to new heights. Their evocatively-named **2009 Beaujolais Blanc Les Vignes de la Roche** is ripely scented with apple and pear; offers an impeccable balance between vintage-typical fullness and refreshing buoyancy; and finishes with subtle but persistent interplay of fruit with salt, chalk, and nut oils. The Lavernette (like so many **2009s** even of village appellation) darkly-hued **2009 Beaujolais-Villages** smells of fresh red currant, purple plum, and toasted nuts. Bright and firm on the palate, it finishes full of refreshingly tart, bitter-

edged fruit and with underlying salinity, almond extract, and marrow-like, clean meatiness. This will be a delight for at least the next 12-18 months. The Boissieus' **2009 Beaujolais-Leynes** seems to reflect this village's straddling of both chalk-clay (Saint-Veran) and granite in its combination of tart, exuberant cherry, red currant, and pomegranate with salt, chalk, and bitter hints of fruit pit. Bright and succulent, this might not harbor the complexity of a top cru, but it would be hard to ask for much greater purity, energy, or sheer lip smacking savor. Expect this to refresh and complement cuisine for at least the next couple of years. Importer: Vintage 59, Washington, DC; tel. (202) 966 9218