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BESOTTED RAMBLINGS AND OTHER DRIVEL
PERTAINING LARGELY TO CHAMPAGNE, ALTHOUGH HARDLY
GUARANTEED TO STAY ON TOPIC

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2008

Retailers: Les Caves du Forum, Reims



[Les Caves du Forum](#) is my favorite wine shop in Reims, and if you come to Champagne you ought to stop in. I was introduced to this store by my friend [Jon-David Headrick](#) — tucked away in an underground cellar off of the Place du Forum, it's a treasure trove of artisanal, authentic wines from all over France. Naturally I gravitate towards the Champagne section, which, although it does contain some well-chosen big brands and famous houses, is always full of small, high-quality grower-producers. Proprietor Fabrice Parisot is scrupulous and attentive in his selection — if I see a new champagne there that I don't know, I will generally buy it without question. In both champagnes and wines from elsewhere, Parisot has a strong preference for natural viticulture, and he stocks some of Champagne's best organic growers, including [Franck Pascal](#), [Agrapart](#), [Benoît Lahaye](#) and [Françoise Bedel](#).

Beyond bubbles, you'll encounter such things as François Cotat Sancerre, Emmanuel Houillon Arbois Pupillin, [Lafarge](#) Volnay, Roulot Meursault, [Domaine du Vissoux](#) Moulin-à-Vent and many other delectable wines from like-minded growers. Today he poured me a chardonnay from Domaine Labet that makes me think that the Jura should be added to the list of the Great Homes of Chardonnay, along with Champagne, Chablis and the Côte d'Or. But that's a story for another day....

Les Caves du Forum, 10, rue Courmeaux, 51100 Reims

About Peter Liem:

I am an American wine writer living in the Champagne region of France, and this is my personal blog. Professionally, I write and publish [ChampagneGuide.net](#), an online guide to the wines and wine producers of Champagne. I am also a senior correspondent and wine critic for [Wine & Spirits](#) magazine, and I write about wine for various other publications as well.

