



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Issue No 38 – October 2017

Mosel Fine Wines

The aim of Mosel Fine Wines is to provide a comprehensive and independent review of Riesling wines produced in the Mosel, Saar and Ruwer region, and regularly offer a wider perspective on Riesling produced in Europe.

Mosel Fine Wines appears on a regular basis and covers:

- Reports on the current vintage (including the annual Auctions held in Trier).
- Updates on how the wines mature.
- Perspectives on specific topics such as vineyards, Estates, vintages, etc.

All wines reviewed in the Mosel Fine Wines issues are exclusively tasted by us (at the Estates, trade shows or private tastings) under our sole responsibility.

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Understand Our Tasting Notes

The core of Mosel Fine Wines is to publish independent tasting notes. The particularity of Mosel and German wines made us adopt a specific structure in order to capture all the information needed for wine lovers to make informed choices based on our tasting notes which we explain below.

2015er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese	13 16	Auction	97
<p>This wine immediately stands out as the airy precision of its elegant nose of white peach, a hint of cassis, herbs and spices is simply mind-boggling. The wine then delivers a gorgeous array of orchard and delicately exotic fruits on the zesty palate and leaves one with an explosion of minerals and herbs in a hauntingly deep and elegant finish. This is an epic effort on par with the best at this Estate. 2025-2055</p>					

1. NOMENCLATURE: For simplicity, consistency and clarity, we rely on the following to define a wine:

- We stick to the traditional "Village + Vineyard" denomination even for wines from VDP classified vineyards (where only the vineyard name appears on the consumer side of the label).
- We provide the grape variety, except for the few cases of a blend, in which case the blend details will be given in the tasting note.
- No Prädikat in the name means that the wine was bottled as QbA.
- GG stands for "Grosses Gewächs" and EG for "Erstes Gewächs."

You can find more information on how to decipher German wine labels in the article "Deciphering the modern German wine label" [here](#).

2. AP NUMBER: The AP Number is the unique number associated with any lot of German quality wine. We systematically provide this information (actually the last 4 or 5 "meaningful" digits of the AP) as wine growers sometimes differentiate between wines only through this AP Number. You can learn more about AP numbers [here](#). "N.A." means that the AP number was not yet available at the moment of publication.

3. AUCTION: We add the mention "Auction" for wines sold via the annual Auctions held in September as they are different from the ones sold via traditional channels. You can learn more about the annual Trier wine Auctions and these particularly fine expressions of Riesling [here](#).

4. DRINKING WINDOW: Riesling has a long development cycle and can be enjoyable for 20 years and more. Like other great wines from this world, Mosel and German Riesling usually go through a muted phase before reaching maturity. At the end of each tasting note, we therefore provide a drinking window, which refers to our estimation of the maturity period for the wine. This maturity period is based on the following principles:

- It consists of the "fruit" and "terroir" phases as defined in our review of Maturing Mosel.
- It does not explicitly mention the additional drinking window for fruity-styled wines which typically lasts for 1-3 years after the vintage.

You can find more about the different maturing phases of Mosel Riesling [here](#).

5. SCORE: The use of scores to evaluate wines has advantages (clearly communicating a perspective) and disadvantages (over-simplifying such a complex matter as wine). We believe the advantages prevail as long as a rating is put into the perspective of a tasting note. Here our principles:

- Scale:** We rely on a 100-point scale with the following overall principles:

95-100	Classic: A true classic that sets the standards for its style and terroir. Only few wines make it into this "super-class" of Riesling and no stone should be left unturned to find them.
90-94	Outstanding: Stands out as distinctive example of its style and terroir. It will offer immense pleasure and should be actively looked out for.
85-89	Good to very good: Is a good to very good wine with special qualities. It will be delicious and is worthy of any cellar, especially if the price is right.
80-84	Solid to good: Is technically correctly made and will be enjoyable in its simple solid way. Price is the key driver for the decision to buy.
Below 80	Not worth it: Does not show any distinction and may even have some flaws. Given the currently still quite reasonable price level for Mosel Riesling, there is no reason to bother.

- Assessment:** We evaluate complexity, balance and elegance ("more is not better") as well as respect of terroir and style (a great Kabinett will get a higher score than an average Spätlese). If the actual style does not match that on the label (say a Spätlese bottled as Kabinett), we will review the wine according to its intrinsic style (in the example as "the Spätlese it is") and add a remark about its true style in the tasting note.
- Timing:** Our ratings for young wines refer to the expected quality of the wine at maturity (i.e. during its drinking window) and not at moment of tasting.
- Firm Scores vs. Score Ranges:** Bottled wines get firm scores. Score ranges indicate tasting notes based on cask samples.

The principles above cover the basics. We remain at your disposal under info@moselfinewines.com should there be a question.



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Background Information

Each country has its own specificities regarding naming, labelling, style, etc. This is no different in Germany. In this country also, there are specific subjects such as vineyard classification or AP numbers, which any lover of German Riesling needs to understand to get the most of their wines and our reviews. We regularly publish articles on topics which may help readers get a first grasp at or deepen their knowledge in a particular aspect of German wine or winemaking. As these articles have appeared in different Issues and / or on our website since 2008, we insert here a **comprehensive list of background articles published to date** with the topic and where it can be found:

Theme	Topic	Issue	Website
Wines	Deciphering the Modern German Wine Label	Issue No 34 (Apr 2017)	Click Here
Region	Mosel Visiting Guide	Mosel Visiting Guide 2017	-
Estates	Bert Selbach 40 Years at the Service of Riesling	Issue No 33 (Jan 2017)	-
Winemaking	Karl Erbes Precursor of the Flying Winemaker	Issue No 33 (Jan 2017)	-
Estates	The Merkelbach Brothers Living Legends celebrating their 65th vintage	Issue No 33 (Jan 2017)	-
Estates	State Estates in Trier, Ockfen and Serrig Historic Estates Given a New Life	Issue No 33 (Jan 2017)	Avelsbach Estate Serrig Estate
Region	German Wine A Look at a Century Ago	Issue No 33 (Jan 2017)	-
Region	Grosser Ring The Mosel Branch of the VDP	-	Click Here
Wines	Let's Talk About Sekt – The Sparkling Joy of Riesling	Issue No 30 (Mar 2016)	Click Here
Vineyards	Vineyard Revivals - Lamberts Kirch by Peter Lauer - Neumagener Sonnenuhr is back - Trabener Zollturm, revival of a forgotten glory	Issue No 29 (Oct 2015)	Click Here Click Here Click Here Click Here
Wines	Winemaking in the Age of Climate Change	Issue No 28 (Jun 2015)	Click Here
Vineyards	Geisberg - The Revival of a Forgotten Saar Glory	Issue No 28 (Jun 2015)	Click Here
Wines	Maturing Mosel and drinking windows	Issue No 27 (Mar 2015)	Click Here
Wines	AP Number	Issue No 27 (Mar 2015)	Click Here
Wines	Eiswein	-	Click Here
Wines	Understanding German classification and associated labelling (Grosses Gewächs, Erstes Gewächs, Grosse Lage, Erste Lage, etc.)	Issue No 26 (Oct 2014)	-
Wines	Dry Mosel Riesling	Issue No 14 (Jan 2011)	-
Vineyards	Erdener Prälat	Issue No 10 (Jan 2010)	Click Here
Estates	Jos. Christoffel jr.	Issue No 7 (May 2009)	-

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The Vintage 2016 – Victory from the Jaws of Defeat

While the highly acclaimed 2015 vintage hit the market in spring 2016, the 2016 vintage was facing with a spring from hell. However, as you will see, the vintage turned miraculously for the better, literally snatching victory from the jaws of defeat. The result is a classic even if slightly ripe vintage with great early charm ... and, hidden among its midst, some of the most stunning pieces of Mosel classicism we have tasted in 10 years of Mosel Fine Wines.

How come? Here the key fact in a nutshell.

The Vintage in a Nutshell

Vintage Conditions	<p>The vintage started normally, with bud break in line with long-term average. Then things turned for the bad. The Mosel, as much of Northern Europe, experienced a spring from hell with caterpillars eating the young shoots, 6 weeks of rain which led to widespread outbreaks of peronospora and also some localized hailstorm, in particular around Graach. Lastly, flowering happened late, at the end of June, and proved rather uneven. All this had an impact on yields, sometimes dramatically so.</p> <p>As if by miracle, things turned for the better as of early July. Dry sunny weather essentially settled in until the harvest. There was however localized impact of sunburn at the end of August, which affected also yields. September proved one of the hottest on record, further accelerating the ripening process.</p> <p>Growers were blessed with cool and dry weather during harvest, allowing them to make the right (and often necessary) selections. The lack of botrytis limited the opportunities for noble-sweet wines but several spells of frost allowed the production of Eiswein. Acidity and sugar levels proved overall moderate, in line with 2014 and 2012, but there are huge differences between wines.</p>
The Wines	<p>Overall, 2016 is a charmer of a vintage with much immediate ripe and fruity appeal, not unlike 2011 (in fresher) or 2007 (in lighter). However, 2016 is far from being homogeneous, in fact it is composed of a mosaic of vintages, a result of the freakish growing conditions. Hidden inside the vintage, there are true gems with the balance of 1997, one of the best vintages ever, 2002 or even 2008. The bulk of the harvest was brought in with refreshingly moderate sugar levels. Overall, the Saar and Ruwer produced slightly fresher wines than the Middle Mosel but there are great differences between Estates. The good harvest conditions allowed for some Auslese, little BA and even TBA wines, but some remarkably pure and fruity Eiswein. With a few exceptions, yields are often on the low side, the inevitable result of the poor spring.</p>
Buyer's Guide	<p>In general, 2016 offers the opportunity to acquire Riesling with great immediate ripe appeal: The vintage is a true charmer. At the top, 2016 is one of the most exciting and elegantly balanced vintage since the 1990s and well-worth stocking up for cellaring! In particular, we urge our readers to literally plunge onto the finest Kabinett and Spätlese: These are some of the most exciting and classic we have ever tasted. 2016 looks also set to become a major vintage for dry Riesling, provided the aromatics are not overripe. Lovers of dessert wines will find much to love in 2016 as the Auslese are pure and the Eiswein are gorgeously fruity. They should however also keep an eye open for the remaining stunning noble-sweet wines from 2015 which are still available here and there.</p>

Note: A comprehensive report on the 2016 growing conditions, wines and buying guide was published in Issue No 35 (June 2017)



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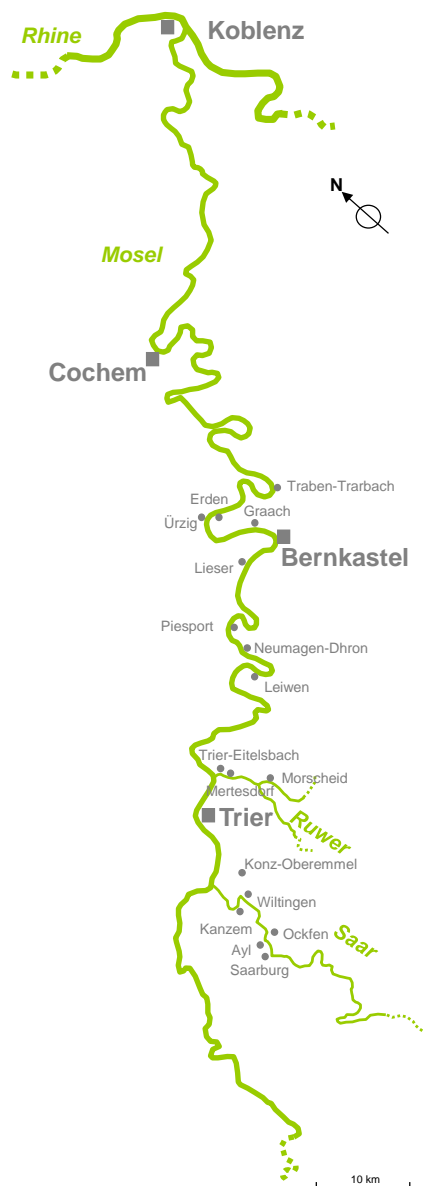
By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

2016 Mosel Vintage – Estate Reviews (Part III)

We provide here Part III of our comprehensive 2016 Estate Reviews. Most top wines were tasted several times over the last months in order to avoid that particular tasting conditions (a standard risk when tasting wines early) affect our opinions. In addition older vintages were also reviewed if these have just been released or are still commercially available at the Estate.

Clemens Busch
 Heymann-Löwenstein
 Immich-Batterieberg
 Knebel
 Dr. Loosen
 Lubentiusshof
 Materne & Schmitt
 Melsheimer
 Markus Molitor
 Martin Müllen
 "O."
 Joh. Jos. Prüm
 Van Volxem
 Vollenweider

Pünderich
 Winningen
 Enkirch
 Winningen
 Bernkastel-Kues
 Niederfell
 Winningen
 Reil
 Wehlen
 Traben-Trarbach
 Traben-Trarbach
 Wehlen
 Wiltingen
 Traben-Trarbach



Part I and II of our Estate Reviews were covered in the Mosel Fine Wines Issues No 35 and 36
The Auction wines were covered in Issue No 37
These Issues are all available to subscribers on simple request



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Weingut Clemens Busch

(Pünderich – Terrassenmosel)

Rita Busch proves at ease with the Estate's 2016 vintage: "We have been growing organically since quite a while now and have developed a little bit of experience with outbreaks of peronospora. The one in May and June of 2016 was however particularly intense and we had to work as hard as ever to keep the disease under control. In the end, it did not prove to be of any issue. The remainder of the growing season proved remarkably good, so that the harvest proved an easy affair as the fruit remained clean. We started on September 27 with a negative selection and finished on November 3. Everything was possible on the dry side. Unfortunately, the lack of botrytis did not allow us to make any Auslese. Overall, we love the vintage very much. The wines show much early charm. They are very pure and elegant. While lower in acidity than the 2015s, they still have great vibrancy."

The Estate produced its usual range of wines right up to a full range of 2016er GG on the dry side and right up to Spätlese GK on the fruity side. It also recently released its first dry Riesling Réserve from 2014 (which are aged for 24 months on their lees before being bottled) as well as its 2015er set-up of late bottled GGs from the Fahrlay Terrassen, Felsterrassen and Raffes. It also recently released two experimental wines, an orange wine called "O" and a "vin nature" styled wine called (Alter) Native, bottled un-filtered with only minimal added SO₂.

There is no beating around the bush. Clemens Busch produced its possibly best collection of wines ever. The basic dry Riesling are of outstanding quality, the 2016er GGs prove remarkably stylish with moderate alcohol levels and the fruity wines show great playfulness as well as depth and complexity. In particular the beautifully elegant 2016er Marienburg Rothenpfad GG and the stunning Marienburg Kabinett would be our pick from the collection. In addition, the Estate released some amazing 2015er late-bottled GGs: The 2015er Fahrlay Terrassen may well be the finest dry Mosel Riesling of the vintage. Moreover, the Estate 2014er Réserve bottlings show as amazing presence and depth as the Dr. Loosen GG Réserve. Lastly, the "vin nature" and orange wine will please lovers of these respective styles. There is almost too much to choose from at Clemens Busch this year. Bravo!

NB: The 2016er Riesling Trocken vom blauen Schiefer as well as the three 2016er late bottled GGs (Fahrlay Terrassen, Felsterrassen and Raffes) and the Réserve bottlings were not ready for tasting. They will be reviewed in the coming year.

2015er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Fahrlay Terrassen Riesling Trocken GG	01 17	95
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The 2015er Pündericher Fahrlay Terrassen Trocken GG is made from late-harvested fruit in a prime terraced part of the blue-slate Fahrlay sector. It underwent an extended maturation on its lees and is only commercially released now (fall 2017), i.e. two years after the harvest. This offers a gorgeous nose of candied grapefruit, lemon and aniseed herbs. The wine is superbly elegant and refined on the palate and leaves a stunning feel of herbs and fine spices in the long, refined and delicately silky finish. The elegance and finesse of this wine are simply remarkable. This is without doubt one of the very finest dry Riesling made in the Mosel in 2015. It is that impressive! 2020-2030

2015er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Raffes Riesling Trocken GG	03 17	94+
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The 2015er Pündericher Marienburg Raffes GG is made from late-harvested fruit in a prime terraced part of the grey-slated Falkenlay sector. It underwent an extended maturation on its lees and is only commercially now (fall 2017), i.e. two years after the harvest. This develops a stunning nose of candied grapefruit, laurel, chalky minerals and fine spices. The wine is beautifully zesty, focused and precise on the palate and leaves a stunningly clean and tart feel in the long and elegant finish. This is a stunning dry Riesling in the making. 2020-2035

2014er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Fahrlay Riesling Trocken Réserve	22 16	94
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The 2014er Pündericher Marienburg Fahrlay Trocken Réserve was left on its gross lees for 24 months before being bottled (hence the AP number from 2016). It develops a stunning nose of pear, mirabelle, greengage, fine herbs and spices. The wine proves wonderfully silky yet nicely zesty on the palate and leaves an intense and mineral feel in the long and suave finish. This hugely impressive Riesling merges finesse, some power and depth. What a great wine in the making! Lovers of bigger dry Riesling with however great finesse should plunge upon this effort! Now-2024

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Riesling Spätlese GK	12 17	94
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The 2016er Marienburg Spätlese GK is made from a selection of partially botrytized fruit. The wine develops a beautifully pure and juicy feel of white peach, grapefruit, apricot blossom and chalky minerals. The wine is beautifully balanced and leaves a stunningly fruity feel with herbs and spices in the long and superbly vibrant and focused finish. This is a gorgeous, light-weighted Auslese GK styled Riesling in the making. 2026-2046



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(Pünderich – Terrassenmosel)

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Rothenpfad Riesling Trocken GG	19 17	94
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The 2016er Pündericher Marienburg Rothenpfad Trocken GG develops a beautiful nose of grapefruit, mirabelle, white and yellow peach and fine spices. The wine is stunningly well balanced on the palate and leaves a superb feel of grapefruit zest, herbs and spices in the hugely long finish. The elegance and finesse of the after-taste is paired with a high level of aromatic intensity and great presence. This is simply stunning. 2026-2046

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Riesling Trocken GG	18 17	93
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The 2016er Pündericher Marienburg Trocken GG delivers a gorgeous nose of mirabelle, grapefruit, cinnamon and earthy spices. The wine is beautifully balanced, with good grip, but also elegant and not overpowering presence on the palate. The finish is superbly long and lives from a great tension between zesty grapefruit, creamy pear and herbs. This is a beautiful dry Riesling in the making! 2026-2046

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Falkenlay Riesling Trocken GG	17 17	93
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The 2016er Pündericher Marienburg Falkenlay Trocken GG delivers a ripe nose of grapefruit, quince, infused pear and herbs. The wine develops a satisfyingly creamy feel on the palate, where fresh grapefruit mingles with fine spices and juicy pear. The finish is intense and almost powerful but retains stunning balance. This is a great dry Riesling in the making. 2021-2036

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Riesling Kabinett	10 17	93
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The 2016er Pündericher Marienburg Kabinett develops a stunning and delicately creamy nose of fresh herbs and spices. The wine offers the presence of a Spätlese on the palate, and is beautifully well balanced and zesty. It leaves a racy and very pure feel in the long and creamy finish. This is a gorgeous delicately Spätlese-styled Riesling with great aromatic purity and raciness. 2021-2036

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Riesling Spätlese	11 17	93
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The 2016er Pündericher Marienburg Spätlese develops a complex nose of grapefruit, mirabelle, herbs, laurel and slate. The wine is delicately creamy and superbly pure on the palate and leaves a hugely aromatic and nicely zesty feel in the long and juicy finish. 2026-2046

2014er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Rothenpfad Riesling Trocken Réserve	21 16	93
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The 2014er Pündericher Marienburg Rothenpfad Trocken Réserve was left on its gross lees for 24 months before being bottled (hence the AP number from 2016). The wine develops a beautiful nose made of mirabelle, juniper berry and white minerals. It proves nicely balanced and gorgeously silky and animating on the palate and leaves a pure feel in the long, intense and delicately warm finish. The delicately zesty and creamy after-taste is driven by fine spices and herbs. Now-2024

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Fahrlay Riesling Trocken GG	20 17	92+
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The 2016er Pündericher Marienburg Fahrlay Trocken GG develops a gorgeous nose of grapefruit curd, pear, earthy spices and dried herbs. The wine proves full-bodied on the palate, with creamy fruits and herbs leading to an intense and powerful feel in the long finish. This big, bold and hugely impressive wine only needs a few years to fully shine. 2021-2036

2015er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Felsterrassen Riesling Trocken GG	02 17	92
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The 2015er Pündericher Marienburg Felsterrassen GG is made from late-harvested fruit in a prime terraced part of the grey-slate Falkenlay sector. It underwent an extended maturation on its lees and is only commercially released now (fall 2017), i.e. two years after the harvest. This offers a beautiful nose of candied grapefruit, mirabelle, fine herbs and spices. The wine develops great silky yet zesty presence on the palate and leaves a clean juicy feel in the long and refined finish. This is beautifully made with big presence and aromatic depth. 2020-2030

2015er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Nonnengarten Riesling Fass 29		92
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The 2015er Pündericher Nonnengarten Fass 29 is a dry Riesling (with 4 g/l of residual sugar) from this classified vineyard on a terroir of iron-rich slate. The wine develops a beautiful nose of white peach, grapefruit, mango, pineapple and herbs. It is superbly elegant and playful on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of fine herbs in the long and delicately spicy finish. The balance is simply superb here. 2025-2040



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2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Riesling Kabinett	09 17	91
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The 2016er Pündericher Kabinett comes from the west-facing part of the Marienburg situated behind the village (and not classified as Grosse Lage). It develops a gorgeous nose of gooseberry, grapefruit, mirabelle and herbs. The wine proves nicely zesty and crisp on the palate and leaves a pure and clean feel in the long and juicy finish. This is a gorgeously zesty and playful rendition of Kabinett. 2021-2036

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Riesling Trocken vom grauen Schiefer	14 17	91
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The 2016er Pündericher Trocken vom grauen Schiefer comes from the grey-slate sectors in the Pündericher Marienburg. This offers a beautifully complex nose of white peach, mirabelle, coconut and fine herbs. The wine proves gorgeously pure, refined and delicately creamy on the palate and leaves a smooth and nicely tickly feel in the long and elegant finish. This is a gorgeous wine with true "grand vin" character in the making. 2019-2026

<u>2015er</u>	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Riesling Trocken vom blauen Schiefer	25 16	90
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The 2015er Pündericher Trocken vom blauen Schiefer comes from early pickings in the blue-slate sector (Fahrlay) of the Pündericher Marienburg and was bottled late, at the end of 2016. It offers a beautiful nose of pear, melon, herbs and spices. Despite a moderate 11.5% of alcohol, the wine develops good presence on the palate and leaves a beautiful feel of grapefruit, pear and fine herbs in the long and zesty finish. There is still quite some tartness coming through in the after-taste, making us opt to only start drinking this wine in a year or two, when the tartness will have mellowed away. 2019-2025

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Riesling Trocken vom roten Schiefer	15 17	90
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The 2016er Pündericher Trocken vom roten Schiefer comes from the iron-rich sectors of the Pündericher Nonnengarten and Pündericher Marienburg. It proves rather reduced and only gradually reveals its beautiful scents of grapefruit, mirabelle, yellow peach, star fruit, pear and fine spices. The wine is nicely smooth and delicately juicy on the palate and leaves a juicy and nicely integrated, tart feel in the finish. This only needs a year or two to shine. 2019-2026

<u>2015er</u>	Clemens Busch	Riesling Trocken O	(No AP)	90
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The 2015er Riesling Trocken O (O stands for orange) is an un-filtered dry Riesling from the grey-slate sectors of the Marienburg, which saw three months of skin-maceration and extended aging in cask (it was only bottled in late 2016). A whiff of volatile acidity quickly gives way to fascinating scents of apricot blossom, fine herbs and spices on the nose. The wine is nicely firm and delicately tannic (as one would expect) on the pleasant palate and leaves a nice and remarkably juicy feel in the long finish. 2020-2025+

2016er	Clemens Busch	Riesling Trocken	16 17	89
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The 2016er Estate Riesling Trocken comes from the Estate's secondary vineyards (Pündericher Goldlay, Pündericher Rosenberg and the east-facing part of the Pündericher Marienburg) as well as declassified fruit from its "Grand Cru" vineyards. This offers a beautiful nose of pear, mirabelle, grapefruit and white peach. The wine is nicely smooth and delicately zesty on the palate and leaves a great feel of herbs and spices in the long finish. This is a gorgeous effort with real "grand vin" character despite being only a "mere" Estate Riesling. Now-2023

<u>2015er</u>	Clemens Busch	Riesling Trocken (Alter) Native	(No AP)	89
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The 2015er (Alter) Native is a dry Riesling from grey-slate sectors of the Marienburg which was bottled un-filtered and with only minimal added SO₂. It offers a beautiful nose of grapefruit curd, fresh cooking apple, mint and herbs. The wine proves slightly sharp and tart on the palate but leaves a clean and direct feel in the long, nicely precise and delicately smooth finish. Precise flavors of almond, star fruit, grapefruit and cooking apple leave one with an elegant and balanced feel in the after-taste. Now-2020+



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Weingut Heymann-Löwenstein

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

Reinhard Löwenstein was positively surprised by the 2016 vintage: "We faced challenging times as everybody else due to the pressure from peronospora in the late spring. We also got unfortunately hit by hail in our vineyards in Hatzenport. But what hit us most was the small heat wave at the end of August, when 3 days with 37°C [98-99°F] led to quite some sunburnt grapes, despite the fact that we do not defoliate the sun-side of the grape zone. All in all, we did have reduced yields, but they still remained comparatively fair, with 45 hl/ha, and in line with those of the 2015 vintage. Usually the Terrassenmosel only trails the Middle Mosel by a few days in terms of ripeness. This difference was larger this year, because part of the flowering occurred before the difficult weather of the late spring, creating a wider gap. As a result, we started our harvest early, on September 28 and ended it already on October 20. The quality of the fruit was superb, with much being brought in at our usual 80-95° Oechsle range. All in all, I find the 2016 vintage yielded incredibly easy-drinking wines, much like our 2012s. The wines have more early appeal than our 2015s or 2014s for instance."

On the news front, Reinhard mentioned to us, not without proudness, that his daughter Sarah, who had been working at the Estate since a few years, has officially joined the team as an equal member.

The Estate was able to produce its usual portfolio of wines (albeit with lower quantities, especially in Hatzenport), which is complemented by a special wine, the 2016er Röttgen Réserve Cuvée Viola, which was made 100% by Sarah and named after her first daughter. No sweet wine was eventually produced: "There was not enough botrytis and the little botrytized grapes we had did not have enough acidity," said Reinhard.

Reinhard and Sarah Löwenstein have crafted another beautiful collection of wines which pair great aromatic charm with elegance and good underlying presence and structure. The stars of the collection are, as so often, the Uhlen L and a hugely impressive Uhlen R, joined this year by a remarkable Röttgen. All in all, there is much to like in these spicy and flavorful wines from the Terrassenmosel. Also the 2016er Röttgen Réserve, still in cask, is full of promise and looks like quite a successful effort by young Sarah.

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Uhlen R Riesling Trocken GG	N.A.	(92-95)
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This cask sample of Uhlen R reveals a delicately reduced nose of fresh pear, a hint of mango, grapefruit, cassis, licorice, violet, star fruit and ginger. The wine is beautifully focused and loaded with grip on the palate and leaves a stunningly reduced feel in the long finish. This oozes elegance, finesse and filigreed refinement, with quite some underlying power to add presence to the wine at maturity. This could be a superb Uhlen R in the making if the bottled wine delivers on its early promises. 2021-2028+

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Röttgen Riesling Trocken GG	09 17	92+
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This proves still rather reduced and only gradually reveals a beautiful nose made of grapefruit zest under-pined by a hint of passion fruit and fruit salad on the nose, all nicely wrapped into mineral and herby elements. The wine dances on the palate and leaves a medium-bodied and beautifully elegant and persistent feel of smoke and minerals in the delicately fruity even if slightly powerful finish. Despite the touch of power, the wine remains delightfully balanced right into the long after-taste. There is quite some upside here as the wine further gains in elegance and harnesses its power with bottle age. 2021-2036

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Uhlen L Riesling Trocken GG	11 17	92+
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This offers a stunning even if still rather reduced nose of pear, grapefruit, start fruit, ginger and smoky elements. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate, where creamy fruits are nicely wrapped into a hint of acidity and some superb mineral and herby elements. The delicately powerful after-taste oozes refinement, under-toned freshness and multi-layered complexity. This is a gorgeous Uhlen L in the making and one with great upside potential as the wine further gains in elegance and harnesses its power with bottle age. 2021-2028+

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Uhlen B Riesling Trocken GG	10 17	92
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This offers a gorgeous nose of candied grapefruit zest, some star fruit, ripe pear and apple, all wrapped into the telltale classy touch of fine spices and herbs so typical of the Estate. The wine is medium-bodied on the palate and leaves a beautifully pure, spicy and mineral-loaded feel in the long and delicately powerful finish. This is a gorgeous wine in the making with a hint of power and nice saltiness in the after-taste. 2021-2036



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Heymann-Löwenstein

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Röttgen Riesling Réserve Cuvée Viola	N.A.	(91-94)
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The 2016er Winner Röttgen Réserve Cuvée Viola was made by Sarah Löwenstein and named after her first daughter. It is a special cask of Röttgen made with some botrytized grapes, and it finished its fermentation at just off-dry levels (approx. 14 g/l of residual sugar). This offers a complex nose of pineapple, passion fruit and fruit salad wrapped into smoke and herbs. The wine proves comparatively full-bodied on the attack of the palate but remains nicely focused and refined in the complex and delicately baroque finish. Far from being over-powering, this remains beautifully playful in the after-taste. Lovers of the aromatics of the Heymann-Löwenstein wines from the 2000s without their baroque power should keep an eye on this little beauty in the making. 2021-2036

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Hatzenporter Stolzenberg Riesling Trocken GG	08 17	91
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This offers a beautiful nose of pear, greengage, frangipane, grapefruit, minerals and herbs. The wine proves gorgeously playful and elegant on the palate and leaves a complex and multi-layered feel in the long, smooth and slightly ample finish. This spicy, medium-bodied expression of dry Riesling leaves one with a beautifully playful and elegant fruity and mineral feel in the after-taste. 2019-2031

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Hatzenporter Kirchberg Riesling Trocken GG	07 17	90
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This offers a beautifully aromatic nose of fresh herbs, fine spices and smoke. The wine proves nicely balanced and elegant, with a great creamy feel of herbs and fine spices coming through on the palate. The finish is beautifully long and elegant, with nice presence and elegance in the delicately full-bodied finish. 2019-2028

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Riesling Trocken vom blauen Schiefer	06 17	89
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The 2016er Riesling Trocken vom blauen Schiefer is made from fruit out of the Koberner Weissenberg, Koberner Fahrberg and Klottener Brauneberg. This offers a beautifully elegant nose of pear, ripe yellow peach, brown sugar and fine herbs. The wine proves herb-infused yet nicely playful and elegant on the medium-bodied palate and leaves a very balanced feel in the long and still slightly structured finish. 2019-2026

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Riesling Trocken Schieferterrassen	05 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Trocken Schieferterrassen is made from the Estate's holdings in Winningen (Domgarten, Brückstück and Hamm) and Kobern (Fahrberg and Weissenberg) as well as from declassified fruit from its "cru" vineyards. This offers a rather reduced nose of herbs at first and only gradually reveals finer notes of greengage, aniseed herbs (oregano) and smoke. The wine is beautifully elegant and nicely creamy on the medium-bodied palate and in the long, playful and quite intense finish. 2019-2026



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Weingut Immich-Batterieberg

(Enkirch – Middle Mosel)

Gernot likes his 2016 vintage: "It is an outstanding vintage at our Estate, albeit our yields did not exceed 20 hl/ha. We suffered losses due to peronospora in June. Fortunately, the weather turned out to be almost ideal afterwards, and we had no issue with sunburn at the end of August as we hardly defoliate. We could carry out our harvest from October 12 until October 30, making the right selections for our different bottlings. Overall, the fermentations went through and the wines are remarkably dry, with often less than 4 g/l of residual sugar. I like the wines very much, they have charm and are complex."

In addition to its usual portfolio of wines, the Estate also produced two new wines in this vintage. The Detonation is a top selection of casks destined for the C.A.I. and made from at least 40 year-old vines. The Batterieberg "R" is a special cask from the finest part of the Batterieberg and which proved simply too special to blend into the overall Batterieberg. It also released its 2014er Spätburgunder Rosé Sekt Brut Nature, made from Estate holdings in the Enkircher Monteneubel and disgorged without dosage or added SO₂.

The Estate produced a smashing collection of wines, and this without even having tasted its flagship Batterieberg wines yet. The wines are more approachable than in 2015 or 2014 but retain a great underlying touch of freshness and finesse. The Zeppwingert and the Ellergrub are superb successes, as is the new addition to the portfolio, the Riesling Detonation. The Steffensberg is easily the finest wine from this vineyard to date. Overall, despite the early approachability, these are real wines for cellaring as they gain significantly from airing. Waiting for these beauties to mature will be well worth it. Lovers of Rosé Sekt should have a closer look at the Rosé Jour Fixe, a serious Sekt screaming for food.

NB: The 2016er Batterieberg and Batterieberg "R" were still fermenting in September 2017 and not ready for tasting.

2016er	Immich-Batterieberg	Enkircher Ellergrub Riesling	05 17	93+
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The 2016er Enkircher Ellergrub comes from parcels with very old un-grafted vines planted at comparatively high density (6,000 vines / ha) and was fermented to off-dry levels (it has 17 g/l of residual sugar). It offers a beautifully backward nose driven by minerals and spices at this early stage. But make no mistake, there are gorgeous fruity elements driven by grapefruit and pear, but these are firmly in the background. The wine is quite fruity, with mirabelle, grapefruit and fine spices providing for a great silky feel in the long and delicately tickly finish. The after-taste then lets the mineral and herby side come through again. This is a gorgeous wine in the making but one which needs quite some bottle aging to fully reveal its inner focus. It should then prove a smashing dry-tasting Riesling. 2023-2036

2016er	Immich-Batterieberg	Enkircher Zeppwingert Riesling	04 17	93
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The 2016er Enkircher Zeppwingert comes from over 60 year-old vines in the terraced part of the vineyard next to the Ellergrub which has not gone any Flurbereinigung and was fermented to fully dry levels (it has 2 g/l of residual sugar). This offers a nicely ample yet delicate nose made of grapefruit zest, pear, aniseed herbs, spices and smoke. The wine is packed with minerals and herbs wrapped into ripe fruits. It leaves a gorgeously spicy feel in the long finish with quite some creamy-zesty tension at play. While on the shy side at this early stage, this will be a smasher at maturity. 2021-2036

2016er	Immich-Batterieberg	Enkircher Steffensberg Riesling	03 17	92
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The 2016er Enkircher Steffensberg comes from prime parcels still planted with over 60 year-old un-grafted vines and was fermented to dry levels (it has 8 g/l of residual sugar). This offers a gorgeous even if still reduced nose of cassis, grapefruit, earthy spices and a fleeting hint of orange zest in the background. The wine is still slightly raw on the delicately zesty palate but a stunningly complex and creamy feel in the finish already more than hints at greatness to come, especially as the wine integrates aromatically on the palate. This only needs some patience to shine. 2021-2036

2016er	Immich-Batterieberg	Trabener Zollturm Riesling	07 17	91
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The 2016er Trabener Zollturm comes from the south facing terraced part of this vineyard planted with 50-year-old un-grafted vines and was fermented to fully dry levels (it has 4 g/l of residual sugar). It offers an inviting nose made of grapefruit, greengage, white flowers, slate and quite some earthy herbs. The wine still proves delicately smooth but aromatically on the shy side on the palate at this early stage. The finish is beautifully smooth and elegant, with elements of anise blending with pear, slate and herbs. This really needs time in the bottle to come together. It should then prove a gorgeous expression of slate-infused Riesling. 2023-2036



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Weingut Immich-Batterieberg

(Enkirch – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Immich-Batterieberg	Enkircher Riesling Escheburg	02 17	90+
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The 2016er Enkircher Riesling Escheburg (named after the original name of the Estate) is made from over 60 year-old vines in Enkirch and Traben. It was fermented to fully dry levels (it has 2 g/l of residual sugar). The wine offers a beautiful nose cassis, grapefruit zest, pear and herbs. It is nicely juicy and playful on the palate and leaves a graceful and quite firm feel in the long finish. This is still very much work in progress but the upside here is immense, especially as it will integrate aromatically and as the tart feel will dissolve over the coming years. 2021-2031

2016er	Immich-Batterieberg	Riesling Detonation	15 17	90
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The 2016er Riesling Denotation is a fully dry Riesling (with 2 g/l of residual sugar) made from at least 40 year-old vines, either from purchased grapes (including from Wiltingen, Oberemmel, Wolf, Kinheim, Reil and Dhron) or from Estate's holdings in the lower and flatter part of the Batterieberg and in the Zollturm. This offers a delicately smooth nose made of cassis, grapefruit, quince and earthy spices. The wine is medium-bodied on the palate, where ripe pear mingles with aniseed herbs and earthy spices. The finish is nicely playful, juicy and leaves a gorgeous feel of salty pear and herbs in the long and beautifully balanced finish. 2018-2026

2014er	Immich-Batterieberg	Spätburgunder Sekt Brut Nature Rosé Jour Fixe	12 17	90
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The 2014er Spätburgunder Sekt Brut Nature Rosé Jour Fixe is made from Estate holdings in the Enkircher Monteneubel vineyard. It was disgorged without any dosage or added SO2 in August 2017 (the disgorgement date is not provided on the label). This deep pink-colored Sekt delivers a beautiful nose of strawberry, rose petal and fine herbs. The wine develops good fruity presence on the palate, with moderate acidity underlined by some still active mousse. Give it a year in the bottle and this superb Sekt, in fact the finest Rosé we ever had from the Mosel, will fully shine. This is however a serious Sekt and best served with food. 2018-2022

2016er	Immich-Batterieberg	Riesling Kabinett Trocken C.A.I.	01 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Kabinett Trocken C.A.I. is essentially made from purchased grapes (including from Wiltingen, Oberemmel, Wolf, Kinheim, Reil and Dhron) as well as from the Estate's holdings in the lower and flatter part of the Batterieberg and in the Zollturm. The wine develops a beautiful nose of gooseberry, grapefruit, herbs and fine spices. It proves light-weighted yet packed with tart fruity flavors on the palate and leaves a stunningly fresh and mint-infused feel in the long and smooth finish. This beautiful effort is packed with lively spiciness and will drink nicely for many years to come. 2018-2026



Mosel Fine Wines

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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Knebel

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

Matthias Knebel is fully relieved at how 2016 eventually turned out: "2016 was a difficult vintage, especially in late spring and early summer. We had quite some issues with peronospora and we had to complement the treatments by helicopter with manual ones. Eventually, we got this under control and only lost a little bit on yields, around 15%. What hurt us more was the heat wave at the end of August, where we lost 20% due to sunburnt grapes. In the end, we lost a good third of a normal harvest due to the growing conditions. Worst hit were my parcels in the Uhlen, where yields did not exceed 25 hl/ha. Thankfully, the weather turned for the better in the autumn and we could take our time for our harvest. We started slowly with some Vorlese at the end of September and turned to the main harvest from October 3 until October 29. Nature gave us a helping hand as the lack of water during the summer simply blocked the ripening process. As a result, sugar levels did not shoot through the roof. On the contrary, even in my best parcels, they did not go much beyond the 90° Oechsle bar. This allowed me to produce the elegant and finely sizzled wines that I want. The acidity and dry extract levels are lower in 2016 than in 2015. I find the 2016 wines more elegant and still finely playful, as they do not lack in acidic spine. The pH levels are rather high, at around 3.1-3.2, because much of the acidity is tartaric nature."

The biggest news has been that Matthias Knebel became a member of the VDP Mosel as of 2017. As a result, the Estate slightly amended its portfolio of wines. The Winninger Hamm and Brückstück are now melted into a Village wine, namely the Winninger Alte Reben. Besides this, the Estate produced its usual portfolio of wines which includes tiny amounts of Uhlen and Röttgen (which are now GG as they are fermented dry). The collection also includes a Kabinett and an Auslese in the fruity and sweet categories. As Matthias reported, BA or TBA was not possible: "We harvested a few liters of fruit at 130° Oechsle but not enough for a true BA or TBA, so we declassified this into the Auslese."

Matthias Knebel produced a hugely stylish collection in 2016. The wines are loaded with spicy flavors, freshness and graceful elegance that have made the success of the Estate over the years. The new Winninger Alte Reben cruises far above Village levels and the Uhlen and Röttgen GG give all the indications to become some cracker of dry Riesling. "As usual," the Estate produced a highly impressive Auslese. All wines are strongly recommended.

NB: The Weissburgunder was not tasted.

2016er	Knebel	Winninger Röttgen Riesling Auslese	01 17	94+
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The 2016er Winninger Röttgen Auslese was made from fruit harvested at approx. 110° Oechsle with only a small proportion of botrytis. It proves still rather closed on the nose at this early stage and only gradually hints at greengage, creamy pear, apricot, herbs and fine spices. It is on the palate where the music is playing at this stage. Here, the wine develops a stunningly elegant and remarkably playful feel of pear, melon and honeyed apricot. The precision and silkiness of the finish are simply stunning. This is still slightly round at this stage, but there is huge upside potential here, especially as the wine will gain in sharpness with age. 2026-2046

2016er	Knebel	Winninger Röttgen Riesling Trocken GG	08 17	(92-95)
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A mere 700 liters were produced of the Estate's first Röttgen GG. This wine delivers a stunning nose of candied grapefruit, passion fruit and fine aniseed herbs. The wine is nicely balanced on the palate and driven by gorgeous flavors of herbs and minerals. Far from being broad, this remains elegant and superbly balanced, with great finesse and playfulness in the finish. This is hugely impressive. 2021-2031

2016er	Knebel	Winninger Uhlen Riesling Trocken GG	09 17	(91-94)
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A mere 700 liters was produced of the Estate's first Uhlen GG. The wine offers a beautiful nose of pear, grapefruit, fine aniseed herbs and spices. It proves delicately ample and refined on the palate, where laurel is wrapped into succulent fruity flavors including pear, grapefruit and melon. The finish delivers great presence and leaves one with a great multi-layered and slightly powerful feel in the after-taste. This is a gorgeous dry Riesling in the making. 2021-2031

2016er	Knebel	Winninger Riesling Alte Reben	05 17	91
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The 2016er Winninger Riesling Alte Reben fermented to dry-tasting levels (with 12 g/l of residual sugar) from parcels planted with 50 year-old vines in terraced parts of the Winninger Hamm and Brückstück. It delivers a gorgeous even if still rather reduced nose of bergamot, greengage and fine spices. The wine proves beautifully elegant, silky and refined on the palate, where the mineral and herby side drive the pace at the moment. Ripe apple mingling with minerals then take over and make for a focused feel in the mouth-watering and quite saline finish. This is a quite stylish and elegant effort. 2021-2031



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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Knebel

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

2016er	Knebel	Winninger Röttgen Riesling Kabinett	06 17	91
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The 2016er Winninger Röttgen Kabinett was harvested at a moderate 84-85° Oechsle and fermented down to a comparatively low 35 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a delicately spicy yet ample nose made of green apple, greengage, herbs, spices, smoky elements and a hint of citrusy fruits. The wine develops a beautifully silky feel of apple, mirabelle and herbs on the palate and leaves a still comparatively sweet feel (despite a low 35 g/l of residual sugar) in the finish. While enjoyable now, this quite complex effort will significantly gain further balance and presence with aging. 2024-2036

2016er	Knebel	Riesling von den Terrassen	04 17	89
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The 2016er Riesling von den Terrassen fermented down to dry levels (with 8.4 g/l of residual sugar) from parcels in the Winninger Hamm and the terraced parts of the Winninger Domgarten as well as declassified casks from the Winninger Röttgen. The wine develops a beautiful and slightly ample nose of star fruit, mirabelle and greengage, wrapped into some earthy spices. It develops great presence and good focus on the palate and leaves a clean and elegant feel in the long and juicy finish. The salty tartness in the after-taste makes one want to go for more. 2018-2023

2016er	Knebel	Riesling	02 17	87
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The 2016er Estate Riesling comes essentially from Estate holdings in lower parts of the Winninger Domgarten. It stopped its fermentation at legally dry levels. This still proves rather reduced and only gradually reveals an attractive nose of pear, green apple, earthy spices and smoke. The wine is comparatively full-bodied and loaded with character, certainly by mere Estate wine standards. The finish is nicely fresh and juicy. 2018-2021



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Weingut Dr. Loosen

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

Erni Loosen is positively surprised by the 2016 vintage, especially thinking of the weather at the end of spring: "We had to treat our vineyards every week to prevent the outbreaks of peronospora during the continuous periods of rain in May and June. As a result we only lost 10-15% to peronospora. The remainder of the growing season was a dream, with a dry August and a superb September, the hottest ever recorded. This gave us perfect grapes with limited botrytis, also because there was quite some millerandage during flowering. The only real challenge was the high level of uneven ripeness on each vine. We had to make 2-3 passes through each vineyard to get perfectly ripe grapes. We harvested from September 30 until November 10, and were able to produce our full portfolio of wines. There was eventually a little bit of botrytis, which we used to produce a few liters of Auslese GK harvested at 95-98° Oechsle. In addition we could also harvest good quantities of Eiswein on three different days at the end of November and beginning of December. Overall, 2016 is a classic vintage, with great finesse and ripe zest. It reminds me a little bit of a crossing between 2007 and 2008."

The Estate was able to produce its full range of wines including a full set of GG (and GG Réserve to be released later) as well as several casks of Auslese. There will be no BA or TBA but the Estate produced good quantities of Eiswein. It gambled on a massive 4 ha of vineyards for Eiswein (from Bernkastel right down to Lösnich) and this paid off as it was able to harvest some on November 29, November 30 and December 5. This will generate its Estate Eiswein as well as likely single-vineyard ones from the Prälät and the Würzgarten.

On the news front, the Estate continues to expand on the upper parts of the Middle Mosel hills (mostly around Graach and Kinheim), where it re-cultivates whole stretches of the landscape in order to satisfy the growing demand for its Estate wines.

We can only agree with Erni Loosen. The Estate crafted a beautiful collection of classic Mosel wines, which show ripe acidity, great aromatics and shine, as usual, through great drinking playfulness. The highlights are clearly the utterly enjoyable Würzgarten and Prälät GG among the dry Rieslings, and the Treppchen Spätlese as well as the Würzgarten Auslese and the Prälät Auslese GK among the fruity and sweet ones. Also in 2014, the three bottlings of "GG Reserve" (dry Riesling from the Estate's prime sites with extended oak aging) prove magnificent and underline the incredible quality of this new set of Riesling. All in all there is much to like within this portfolio.

NB: The 2016er Eiswein bottlings were not yet ready for tasting. The 2016er GG Reserve will be tasted upon release.

2014er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Prälät Riesling Trocken Alte Reben Reserve GG	72 16	96
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The 2014er Erdener Prälät Reserve GG is made from very old un-grafted vines. It was fermented in oak with ambient yeasts and aged on its gross lees for 24 months before being bottled. The wine develops a stunning nose of grapefruit zest, passion fruit, star fruit, pear, tangerine and fine spices. The complexity of this wine is quite breathtaking. Layers upon layers of fine fruits and minerals hit one on the still rather suave palate. The finish is airy, long and stunningly multi-layered. What a great wine in the making! 2019-2034

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Auslese	57 17	94
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This offers a beautiful nose of wild strawberry, tangerine, herbs and fine spices on the nose. The wine is delightfully juicy and smooth on the palate, where fine exotic fruits including mango, star anise and passion fruit drive the flavors. It leaves a gorgeous feel in the long and hugely playful finish. This proves a great Auslese with superb character and elegance. 2026-2046

2014er	Dr. Loosen	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Trocken Alte Reben Reserve GG	73 16	94
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The 2014er Ürziger Würzgarten Reserve GG is made from parcels of very old un-grafted vines in the prime Urglück, Maxberg, Layenhaus and original Würzgarten sectors. It was fermented in oak with ambient yeasts and aged on its gross lees for 24 months before being bottled. This offers a rather spicy feel of coconut, pineapple, candied grapefruit, pear, minty herbs and fine spices on the nose. The wine proves beautifully balanced on the palate and leaves some powerful flavors of herbs and spices in the tart and assertive finish. This is a great dry Riesling in the making! 2021-2034

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Prälät Riesling Auslese GK	58 17	93+
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This offers a gorgeous nose of almond, pear, candied orange zest, a hint of pineapple, coconut minty herbs and spices. The wine develops a smooth and creamy feel on the palate and leaves a delicately powerful feel of herbs and spices in the long and superbly intense finish. This beautifully baroque expression of Auslese GK is still rather bold and will need a little bit of time to fully develop its inner balance. 2026-2046



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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Dr. Loosen

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Spätlese	48 17	93
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The 2016er Erdener Treppchen Spätlese offers a beautiful nose made of pineapple, tangerine, candied lemon, smoke and fine herbs. It develops a great juicy side on the palate, where zesty acidity marries with ripe fruits to deliver a great long feel in the finish. The wine is superbly long and playful. This is a beautiful Spätlese in the making! 2026-2041

2014er	Dr. Loosen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken Alte Reben Reserve GG	01 17	92+
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The 2014er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Reserve GG is made from very old un-grafted vines in the prime Laychen (central part) and Sandpichter (near Zeltingen) sectors. It was fermented in oak with ambient yeasts and aged on its gross lees for 24 months before being bottled. This offers an almost Chablis-like nose of almond, juniper berry, coconut, vanilla cream and spices on the nose. The wine delivers a great spicy feel of almond cream on the palate and leaves a gorgeously balanced feel in the still quite tart finish. 2019-2029

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Auslese	55 17	92
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The 2016er Erdener Treppchen Auslese offers a beautiful nose of infused-pear, canned yellow peach, pineapple juice, whipped cream, a hint of mint and some fine herbs. It develops a nicely smooth and comparatively elegant feel on the palate and proves finely spicy and honeyed in the long finish. 2026-2046

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	56 17	92
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The 2016er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese exhibits a beautiful nose of pear, mirabelle, orange blossom, greengage, a hint of quince and whipped cream. It proves beautifully creamy and elegant on the zesty and juicy palate. The finish is smooth and playful in the long, refined and delicately powerful finish. 2026-2046

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	47 17	92
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The 2016er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese develops a beautiful nose of pear, cassis, tangerine, apricot blossom, dried flowers, fine spices, herbs and spices. The wine is slightly smooth with the light presence of an Auslese on the palate and leaves a pear-infused feel in the long and nicely balanced finish. 2026-2041

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Trocken Alte Reben GG	41 17	(91-94)
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The 2016er Ürziger Würzgarten GG is made from parcels of very old un-grafted vines in the prime Urglück, Maxberg and Layenhaus sectors, and was fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in oak for almost 12 months. This offers a gorgeous nose of strawberry, pink grapefruit, tangerine, yellow peach, anise, fine spices and herbs. The wine is delicately creamy and superbly refined on the palate and leaves a clean and nicely fruity feel in the long finish. This lives from elegance and finesse rather than pure power. 2021-2031

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Prälät Riesling Trocken Alte Reben GG	39 17	(91-93)
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The 2016er Erdener Prälät GG is made from very old un-grafted vines, and was fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in oak for almost 12 months. This offers a gorgeous nose of pear, mango, grapefruit, passion fruit, brown sugar, apricot blossom, fine spices and flint stone from reduction. The wine is slightly bold on the palate and leaves a juicy and clean feel in the long and nicely firm and bold finish. The after-taste is nicely long and elegant. 2021-2031

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Kabinett	13 17	91
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The 2016er Erdener Treppchen Kabinett develops a gorgeous nose of whipped cream, candied grapefruit, grapefruit juice pear and herbs. It proves delicately smooth with some ripe acidity on the palate and leaves the slightly creamy feel of a light Spätlese in the finish. 2026-2036

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett	07 17	91
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The 2016er Ürziger Würzgarten Kabinett develops a beautiful nose of strawberry, pear, white peach and fine spices, all wrapped into a more exotic side driven by mango, guava and apricot. The wine still shows quite some CO₂ on the palate and only gradually reveals the creamy presence of a Spätlese on the palate. It leaves a ripe, clean and fruity feel of herbs in the finish. 2026-2046



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Dr. Loosen

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese	17 17	91
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This offers a beautiful nose of candied grapefruit, mango, quince, pear, herbs and fine spices. The wine is on the smooth, ripe and slightly exotic side on the palate. The ripe fruity elements with the presence of an Auslese emerge towards the juicy and delicately smooth finish. 2026-2046

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett	08 17	91
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The 2016er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Kabinett develops a reduced nose of almond and herbs which only gradually give way to cassis, pear, yellow peach, and almond cream after airing. It proves delicately smooth and creamy on the palate with some nice ripe acidity lifting up the aromatics in the finish. 2026-2036

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Trocken Alte Reben GG	36 17	(90-93)
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The 2016er Graacher Himmelreich GG comes from very old un-grafted vines in the prime Stablay, Tirley and Humberg sectors, and was fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in oak for almost 12 months. This offers an attractive nose of raspberry, bergamot, greengage, dried flowers, cardamom, herbs and spices. The wine is nicely juicy and delicately fruity on the palate and leaves a clean and enjoyable feel of pear, apple, green herbs and fine spices in the long and delineated finish. 2021-2036

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Trocken Alte Reben GG	38 17	(90-92)
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The 2016er Erdener Treppchen GG is made from very old un-grafted vines in the prime Onnerts and Herzlay sectors (situated just above and next to the Prälät), and was fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in oak for almost 12 months. This bright-yellow colored wine develops a gorgeous nose of grapefruit, passion fruit, pear, greengage and fine earthy spices. It proves smooth and inviting on the palate and leaves a superb feel of fine fruity flavors in the long finish. 2021-2031

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken Alte Reben GG	40 17	(90-92)
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The 2016er Wehlener Sonnenuhr GG is made from very old un-grafted vines in the prime Gewann Laychen (central part) and Sandpichter (near Zeltingen) sectors, and was fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in oak for almost 12 months. The wine develops a great nose of mirabelle, tangerine, brown sugar, mint, flowers, whipped cream, and fine spices. The wine proves rather firm and structured on the palate and leaves a fully spicy feel in the long finish. This is nicely made in a fruity and elegantly light style. 2021-2031

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Bernkasteler Lay Riesling Kabinett	26 17	90
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The 2016er Bernkasteler Lay Kabinett was harvested at 83-84° Oechsle. The wine proves beautifully elegant on the nose with mirabelle, yellow peach, elderflower, candy floss, spices and fine herbs. It is nicely playful and juicy on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of pear, zesty fruits and ripe acidity in the finish. 2021-2031

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Trocken GG	37 17	(89-92)
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The 2016er Graacher Domprobst GG is made from un-grafted vines in the prime Lilienpfad sector and was fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in oak for almost 12 months. The wine develops a ripe nose of pear, vineyard peach, aniseed herbs, whipped cream, fine spices and herbs. It is nicely juicy and fresh on the palate and leaves a nice feel of cinnamon and mirabelle in the long and still tart finish. 2021-2031

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Graacher Riesling Trocken	35 17	(89-91)
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The 2016er dry Graacher Riesling is fermented with ambient yeasts in traditional oak from fruit harvested in the Abtsberg sector of the Himmelreich planted with 25-year-old vines and aged for 12 months on its fine lees. This offers a gorgeous nose of lime, cassis, grapefruit, tangerine and some minty elements. The wine is nicely playful with nice grip on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel in the long, focused and intense finish. 2021-2031

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Riesling Dry Red Slate	29 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Dry Red Slate is fermented with ambient yeasts in traditional wooden casks from iron-rich vineyards in Zeltingen-Rachtig, Ürzig (Oberberg), Erden, Löslich and Kinheim. The wine offers a delicately fiery nose of pink grapefruit, lime, green apple, anise and fine spices. It is nicely creamy and elegant on the palate and leaves a superbly spicy and ripe feel in the quite intense finish. 2018-2021



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Weingut Dr. Loosen

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Riesling Trocken Rotschiefer	29 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Trocken Rotschiefer is fermented with ambient yeasts in traditional wooden casks from iron-rich vineyards in Zeltingen-Rachtig, Ürzig (Oberberg), Erden, Lösnich and Kinheim. The wine offers a delicately fiery nose of pink grapefruit, lime, green apple, anise and fine spices. It is nicely creamy and elegant on the palate and leaves a superbly spicy and ripe feel in the quite intense finish. 2018-2021

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Riesling Dry Blue Slate	19 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Dry Blue Slate is fermented with ambient yeasts in traditional wooden casks from the Estate's holdings in Bernkastel, Wehlen and Graach. It only gradually develops a gorgeous nose of fine spices, brown sugar, poached pear, pineapple, star fruit, toffee and fine herbs. The wine is nicely playful and delicate on the palate, and leaves a clean and crisp feel in the pear and spices infused finish. 2018-2021

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Riesling Trocken Blauschiefer	19 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Trocken Blauschiefer is fermented with ambient yeasts in traditional wooden casks from the Estate's holdings in Bernkastel, Wehlen and Graach. It only gradually develops a gorgeous nose of fine spices, brown sugar, poached pear, pineapple, star fruit, toffee and fine herbs. The wine is nicely playful and delicate on the palate, and leaves a clean and crisp feel in the pear and spices infused finish. 2018-2021

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Weissburgunder	11 17	88
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The 2016er Weissburgunder is a dry wine made in stainless steel from parcels in in the central part of the middle Mosel (Erden, Bernkastel, Wehlen, Lösnich and Maring). It offers an ample and delicately exotic nose of banana, greengage, pear, herbs and spices. The wine is nicely round and delicate on the palate and leaves a clean and inviting feel in the long finish. This is a nice example of a creamy Weissburgunder. Now-2019

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	64 17	(87-89)
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The 2016er Graacher Himmelreich Kabinett Feinherb was fermented with ambient yeasts in wooden casks down to 18 g/l of residual sugar and left on its fine lees for 12 months. It develops an inviting nose of yellow peach and earthy spices. It still prove slightly tannic on the palate but leaves a beautiful off-dry feel in the long and spicy finish. This is likely to need a year or two in order to fully develop its aromatic profile. 2019-2026

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Riesling Feinherb Grauschiefer	24 17	87
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The 2016er Riesling Feinherb Grauschiefer is made in stainless steel from the Estate's holdings in Bernkastel, Wehlen and Graach, and was fermented down to 21 g/l of residual sugar. The wine develops a reduced nose of pineapple, pear, peach, herbs and spices. The wine is nicely juicy and fruity on the palate and leaves a classy feel of herbs in the long and playful finish. 2021-2029

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Riesling Kabinett Blue Slate	06 17	87
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The 2016er Riesling Kabinett Blue Slate is a bottling made for the US market from Estate holdings and vineyards under management around Maring and Leiwen. It offers a ripe nose of grapefruit, pear, star fruit, ripe apple, ginger, herbs and spices. The wine is playful and direct on the palate and leaves a smooth and elegant, pear-infused feel in the medium-long finish. 2018-2023

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Riesling Trocken Satyriscus	22 17	87
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The 2016er Satyriscus is made from grapes grown on cooler blue slate sites (among which the Wehlener Klosterberg), with little alcohol and fermented to dry levels. This wine offers a very nice nose of canned yellow peach, grapefruit, anise, fine herbs and spices. The wine is as light as a feather on the palate and leaves an elegantly zesty feel in the long finish. 2019-2023



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Weingut Dr. Loosen

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Loosen Bros	Riesling Dry / Trocken Dr. L	08 17	86
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The 2016er Riesling Dry Dr. L is fermented and matured in stainless steel. This offers a beautiful nose of pear, mirabelle, greengage, anise and dried spices. The wine is light as a feather on the palate with juicy pear and apple, leading to a light, fruity and dry finish. This is a superb effort for a "mere" entry-level wine. Now-2019

2016er	Loosen Bros	Riesling Dr. L	10 17	86
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This bottling of 2016er Riesling Dr. L was fermented to fruity-styled levels with approx. 40-50 g/l and 8.5% of alcohol. It is the one commercially released, among others, in North America, Latin America and the UK. This offers an inviting nose of grapefruit, white peach, gooseberry, greengage, apple, fine herbs and fine spices. The wine is nicely fruity and smooth on the palate. This is nicely balanced out by a touch of ripe acidity in the engaging, greengage-driven finish. Once again, this proves a huge success for a "mere" entry-level wine. 2018-2023



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Lubentiushof

(Niederfell – Terrassenmosel)

Andreas Barth likes his 2016 vintage even if it was far from an easy one: "In 23 years of winemaking, this has been my smallest vintage so far, with yields of less than 20 hl/ha, i.e. 50% of a normal vintage. We unfortunately suffered from the rain during spring and the resulting outbreaks of peronospora. So quantity-wise, the vintage is really a challenging one. Quality-wise, things look differently. As of July, the weather turned for the better and the summer was warm. All the peronospora-affected grapes fell off, leaving us with clean grapes and, as the summer was also quite dry, with rather thick-skinned berries. We harvested from October 17 until the end of October. I like the resulting wines very much even if I don't think that it is going to be a vintage of the century. My wines will need time but this is fine, because I am convinced that 2016 will be a long-lived vintage."

Given the low yields, the Estate decided to concentrate its offering on five wines. This means that there is no separate bottling of Gäns S, the fruit being used for the Gäns X. Also, the Estate did not produce any Kabinett in 2016. The wines were bottled late, in mid-September.

The 2016 collection of Lubentiushof shows great spiciness and presence in a bigger and rounder style than in recent vintages. Contrary to most Mosel Riesling in 2016, these are not really approachable in their youth and will require many years to develop aromatically and shed some of their post-fermentation herbal and mineral structure. They should then turn into quite some characterful and delicately baroque expression of Terrassenmosel Riesling.

2016er	Lubentiushof	Gondorfer Gäns Riesling Alte Reben	04 17	91+
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The 2016er Gondorfer Gäns Alte Reben is a fully dry-tasting wine (with 9.5 g/l of residual sugar). This proves still rather reduced and loaded with residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation. It only gradually reveals its beautiful nose of greengage, mirabelle, grapefruit, cassis and fine herbs. The wine is nicely smooth and soft on the palate and leaves a subtle feel of herbs, spices and pear in the long finish. The after-taste is all about wet stones, chalky minerals, earthy spices, a hint of ginger and some melon-infused fruits. This desperately needs time to develop its mid-palate and presence in the finish. It should then prove a classy albeit softer and creamier rendition of Gäns Alte Reben than in recent years. 2021-2031

2016er	Lubentiushof	Koberner Uhlen Riesling Alte Reben	03 17	91
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The 2016er Koberner Uhlen Alte Reben is a fully dry-tasting wine (with 9.5 g/l of residual sugar). Although still marked by residual scents from spontaneous fermentation, this develops a beautiful and rather ample nose of grapefruit curd, coconut, mirabelle and oregano. The wine proves nicely smooth and juicy on the palate and leaves an elegant feel of earthy spices, herbs, melon and greengage in the long, nicely balanced and silky finish. There is power but it is beautifully integrated into the wine. This is already quite approachable now but will really show its potential in a few years' time. 2021-2031

2016er	Lubentiushof	Gondorfer Gäns Riesling Trocken X	05 17	90+
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The 2016er Gondorfer Gäns X is a cask from the Gäns Alte Reben which fermented through to bone-dry levels and is only made in vintages in which this is possible and happens naturally (the Estate relies on spontaneous fermentation which does not allow to steer the final levels of residual sugar). In 2016, the wine also includes the fruit ear-marked for the 2016er Gäns S. It proves hugely backward and dominated by lemon curd, mirabelle, dried herbs, chalky minerals, ginger and flowery elements, with possibly a touch of cassis lurking in the background. The wine is firmly structured and intense on the herbal palate and leaves a great delicately citrusy, mineral and herbal feel in the rather intense and mighty finish. It could ultimately warrant a higher rating if the fruity side manages to harness some of the intrinsic power of this fascinating but extreme wine. 2021-2031

2016er	Lubentiushof	Gondorfer Gäns Riesling Trocken	02 17	88+
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This offers a rather ripe nose of pear, mirabelle, grapefruit, mint, dried herbs and spices. The wine is quite reduced and austere on the palate and only hints more than reveals a broad yet complex aromatic profile driven by pear, lemon, passion fruit and fine herbs. The finish is fully herbal, gingery and dry on the palate. The wine really only delivers some of the fine and complex fruits and spices in the after-taste at this early stage. This will need a few years to develop and integrate aromatically. It should then prove a rather fascinating and slightly powerful expression of spicy Mosel Riesling. 2021-2028+

2016er	Lubentiushof	Riesling Trocken Gutswein	01 17	86
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The 2016er Riesling Trocken Gutswein is made from grapes harvested mostly in Gondorf and partially in Kobern and Niederfell. It offers a backward yet ample nose of ripe greengage, pear, coconut, minty herbs and smoky slate. The wine develops quite some presence on the palate. Here, creamy fruits, saffron and herbs come through which carry over into the slightly powerful finish. The after-taste lives from a creamy interplay between pear, gingery herbs and grapefruit curd. This Estate wine is one for lovers of slightly bigger wines. 2018-2021+



Mosel Fine Wines

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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Materne & Schmitt

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

Rebecca Materne and Janina Schmitt were relieved by how the vintage has turned out: "2016, already our fifth vintage, was first extremely wet but fortunately, the weather turned dry, almost too dry and gave us a beautiful golden autumn. This allowed us to harvest without any pressure, from October 1 until the end of October, and spend the time necessary for our selections. The grapes were ripe with thankfully moderate sugar levels and good acidity but less than in 13 and 14. The wines have a lot of charm and are quite typical for our Estate: mineral, not overly fruit and with moderate alcohol levels. All in all, we are very happy with the vintage!"

The Estate was able to produce its usual portfolio with a new single-vineyard wine, the Winninger Hamm, which comes from new parcels planted with well over 50 year-old vines in the traditional terraced parts of the vineyard. Unfortunately, the Estate did not produce a single-vineyard wine from the Lehmener Ausoniusstein (the quality was not deemed sufficient in 2016) and the whole production was declassified into the Lehmener.

Overall, the Estate nailed the 2016 vintage and produced a stunning array of wines which pack the unique spice and mineral side of Terrassenmosel Riesling into light, fresh, balanced wines. Most wines are bone-dry, yet they remain light and playful, with often not more than 11.5% or 12% of alcohol. The new addition, the Winninger Hamm, makes quite an impression and proves a must-buy for anybody looking for Riesling balance. There are quite some standouts but the real strength of the 2016 collection is the incredible high standards that this Estate has achieved in this far from easy vintage.

2016er	Materne & Schmitt	Lehmener Lay Riesling	08 17	92+
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The 2016er Lehmener Lay is fermented bone-dry (less than 2 g/l of residual sugar) from the finest terraced parts of the vineyard planted with over 40 year-old vines. The wine proves superbly elegant on the nose with pear, herbs and fine spices. The wine is delicately creamy on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of fine spices and licorice in the delicately full-bodied finish. This classy effort delivers great presence without undue power and presents quite some upside, especially as it will mellow away and integrate aromatically with age. 2024-2036

2016er	Materne & Schmitt	Winninger Hamm Riesling	06 17	92
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The 2016er Winninger Hamm is a full dry Riesling (4.2 g/l of residual sugar) which comes from two new parcels added in 2016 and planted with well over 50 year-old vines in the terraced parts of the vineyard. A part (one quarter) of the wine was fermented and aged in a used 300-liter cask. It offers gorgeous scents of greengage, gooseberry, cassis, ginger and flowery elements wrapped into quite some smoky elements on the nose. The wine proves elegant and medium-bodied on the palate and leaves a gracefully zesty feel of tart minerals, greengage and fine spices in the superbly airy and elegant finish. This beauty with not more than 11.5% of alcohol is still a little bit rough on the edges and will really benefit from bottle aging. 2024-2036

2016er	Materne & Schmitt	Winniger Brückstück Riesling	07 17	91
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The 2016er Winniger Brückstück comes from a small parcel in the best part of the vineyard (called Sternberg) still planted with very old vines on terraces. It offers a reduced nose of pear, licorice and herbs, all wrapped into lemon zest and greengage. The wine is comparatively full-bodied and loaded with mineral and fruity presence on the palate and leaves a delicately creamy feel of licorice, pear, ginger and star fruit in the salty and comparatively assertive finish. This will please lovers of wines with good presence and balance. 2021-2036

2016er	Materne & Schmitt	Koberner Riesling	05 17	90+
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The 2016er Koberner Riesling was fermented to legally dry levels from Estate's holdings in the steep hills of the Weissenberg und Fahrberg. It offers a beautiful and delicately creamy nose of grapefruit, gooseberry, ginger, herbs and fine spices. The wine is nicely creamy and moderately zesty on the palate. It only develops its full complexity in the multi-layered feel in the finish and after-taste at this early stage. There is quite some potential, especially as the wine gains in presence with age. 2021-2036

2016er	Materne & Schmitt	Lehmener Riesling	04 17	90
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The 2016er Lehmener Riesling is a bone dry (with only 2 g/l of residual sugar) from Estate's holdings in the steep hills of the Lay and Ausoniusstein, including the full declassified fruit from the Lehmener Ausoniusstein wine which the Estate did not produce in 2016. This wine develops a beautiful nose of greengage, ginger, minerals, grapefruit and gooseberry. It proves delicately medium-bodied on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of herbs and fine spices in the long and nicely tart finish. 2019-2026



Mosel Fine Wines

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Weingut Materne & Schmitt

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

2016er	Materne & Schmitt	Winninger Riesling	03 17	90
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The 2016er Winninger Riesling is a dry-tasting wine from Estate's holdings in the Brückstück, Röttgen, Hamm and steep hill parts of Domgarten. It offers a beautiful nose of greengage, elderflower, ginger and pear. The wine is nicely playful with medium body and great flavors mingling greengage, lemon and herbs on the palate. The finish is mineral, tart and elegantly balanced. This is a little beauty which marries spicy presence with finesse. 2019-2026

2016er	Materne & Schmitt	Riesling Wunschkind	02 17	89
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The 2016er Riesling Wunschkind is a legally dry Riesling made essentially from fruit sourced in Winningen but also right down to Müden from partners on long-term fruit-contracts as well as declassified fruit from the Estate's own vineyards. This offers a beautifully inviting nose of greengage, ginger, herbs and spices. The wine dances on the palate with a medium-bodied structure and leaves a gorgeously playful and elegant feel of ginger, grapefruit zest, greengage and mirabelle in the surprisingly complex (for an Estate wine) finish. This is a gorgeous wine for lovers of elegance which, despite having a moderately 11.5% of alcohol, is fully dry. 2019-2026



Mosel Fine Wines

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Weingut Melsheimer

(Reil – Middle Mosel)

Thorsten Melsheimer is delighted by his 2016 vintage: "The start of the growing season was anything but easy. Fortunately, I am working following biodynamic principles since years now and have quite some experience with fighting the diseases which tried to spread during the rainy months of May and June. We used every single moment of dryness to make our preventive sprayings. In the end, we were able to save much of our crop. The remainder of the growing season was a dream. My grapes hardly suffered from sunburn during the heatwave at the end of August, also due to the fact that my vineyards are mostly east-facing and hence do not get the brunt of the sunshine in the afternoon. In fact, given the relative coolness of some of my best sites, I briefly thought at the end of August that the grapes may not get fully ripe. Then came September, one of the finest ever, and everything was back to normal. We harvested from October 8 until November 4 and brought in ripe grapes with refreshingly low must levels. This is actually what I love about 2016: The wines have little alcohol yet are packed with flavors. The pH in the wine was actually quite low and so my wines did not do any form of malolactic fermentation. They are nicely crispy, low in alcohol, high in flavor and vibrant in acidity: This is exactly how I want my wines to be!"

The Estate was able to produce its full portfolio of wines except for its Langeberg and Pfefferberg bottlings from the Mullay-Hofberg. As Thorsten explained, "the yields in this vineyard were quite low and the juice did not show enough presence. I decided to declassify the fruit respectively into the Molun and the Kabinett Feinherb." The Estate did only produce a tiny quantity of Auslese (200 liters on a total of 9 ha) but compensated this with an Eiswein harvested at 138° Oechsle on November 30.

Melsheimer nailed the 2016 vintage and produced a whole set of gorgeous wines which share aromatic intensity, crispness and lightness. The remarkable thing is that the Estate produced highlights in all stylistic directions. The dry Molun, the off-dry Mullay-Hofberg Kabinett Feinherb, the fruity Mullay-Hofberg Spätlese and the sweet Mullay-Hofberg Eiswein are simply superb wines and worthy of any cellar. "Vin Nature" is your thing? Try the 2015er Vade Retro, easily the finest we have ever tasted from the Mosel. Fancy a Sekt? Also this year, Melsheimer showed that it is one of the greatest and most reliable growers of the region. What a great success. Serious Riesling lovers must have this Estate on their radar screen!

NB: The 2016er Kellerchen, Vade Retro and Rurale were not yet ready for tasting.

2016er	Melsheimer	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Eiswein	06 17	94
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The 2016er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Eiswein was harvested at 138° Oechsle on November 30. This bright-colored wine develops a beautiful nose of grapefruit, passion fruit, apricot and honey. The wine proves beautifully unctuous and delicately zesty, with creamy lemon, honey and apricot on the palate and leaves a clean feel of herbs and spices in the long finish. 2021-2036

2016er	Melsheimer	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Auslese	05 17	93
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The 2016er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Auslese is a tiny selection of 100% botrytized grapes harvested at a comparatively low 105° Oechsle. This yellow-colored wine develops an astonishing oily consistence more akin to that of a BA in the glass and underlines this by a stunning "long GK" nose made of candied grapefruit, lemon, grilled pineapple, honey and almond. The wine proves comparatively firm and structured on the palate and leaves an almond and honey infused feel in the almost sharp but hugely vibrant finish. 2021-2031

2016er	Melsheimer	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	25 17	92
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The 2016er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Kabinett Feinherb (the word Feinherb only appears on the back label but the bottle carries an emerald green label, as all Feinherb wines at this Estate) is an off-dry wine (with 14 g/l of residual sugar) which benefitted from declassified fruit from the Pfefferberg as the Estate did not produce this cuvee in 2016. Strong residual notes from spontaneous fermentation only gradually give way to beautiful scents of vineyard peach, grapefruit, oregano and smoky slate. The wine is beautifully juicy and nicely crisp on the palate and leaves a great fresh, light and tart feel in the mouth-watering finish. This racy effort is best left alone for a year or two. It should then prove an excellent piece of dry-tasting and light Riesling. 2019-2026

2016er	Melsheimer	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Spätlese Schäf	03 17	92
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The 2016er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Schäf was harvested at approx. 90° Oechsle. It offers a beautiful nose of passion fruit, pear sorbet, oregano and smoky slate. The wine is superbly vibrant and elegant on the palate and leaves a mouth-watering feel in the long and juicy finish. 2026-2041



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Weingut Melsheimer

(Reil – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Melsheimer	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Trocken Molun	18 17	92
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The 2016er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Trocken Molun is fermented with ambient yeasts in traditional large casks and benefited from the declassified fruit from the Langeberg. It develops a rather intense nose of herbs and fine spices. The wine proves delicately sharp and juicy on the palate and is still on the tart side in the finish at this early stage. The overall balance in the after-taste is hugely impressive, as it develops beautiful citrusy fruits and pear together with aniseed herbs and fine spices. This just needs some time to develop its full balance. Lovers of structured wines with character should plunge on this effort! 2019-2026+

2015er	Melsheimer	Riesling Vade Retro	(No AP)	92
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The 2015er Riesling Vade Retro is a cheeky wordplay on everything lovers of fruity wines should hate from "vin nature" as this bone-dry wine was fermented and aged in traditional wooden cask with ambient yeasts and without any sulfur added at any stage. It was consequently refused an AP number because of its lack of typicity. This offers a beautiful and delicately oxidative nose of almond, juicy apple tart, lemon curd and smoky slate. The wine develops a racy and sharp side on the palate until ripe baked apple, grapefruit and delicately vanilla pod elements emerge and accompany one right into the finish. This is a stunning effort in an oxidative yet fresh style not unlike some of the Jura wines. This is highly recommended for lovers of this style ... and for sceptics who are looking to taste an enjoyable "vin nature." Now-2025

2016er	Melsheimer	Reiler Goldlay Riesling Spätlese	04 17	90
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The 2016er Reiler Goldlay Spätlese is made from 40 year-old un-grafted vines in a more old-fashioned way, with ambient yeasts in traditional wooden casks, less residual sugar (only 40 g/l of residual sugar) and higher alcohol (9.5%). The wine develops a ripe nose of pear, herbs and fine spices pepped up by grapefruit. The feel on the palate is delicately creamy and a zesty side emerges in the well-integrated creamy and refined finish. This will prove a stunning food wine in a decade or so! 2021-2031

2016er	Melsheimer	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Kabinett	11 17	90
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The 2016er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Kabinett AP11 is the second bottling of Kabinett in 2016 (the other one – AP02 – went completely to Norway). It offers a ripe nose of pear, herbs and fine spices. The wine is nicely playful and juicy on the direct palate and leaves a clean and juicy feel in the long finish. This is beautiful in a slightly direct and easy style. 2021-2031

2013er	Melsheimer	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Sekt Brut	26 16	90
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The 2013er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Sekt Brut AP26 16 comes from a still wine which has spent almost two years in oak casks before undergoing its second fermentation in bottle. This bottle comes from a batch disgorged with a dosage of 8 g/l in April 2017 (the disgorgement date is not provided on the label). This offers a beautiful nose of candied grapefruit, ginger, aniseed herbs and smoky slate. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate where an active mousse lifts up the zesty flavors. The finish is almost fully dry tasting and tart at this early stage. This outstanding Sekt only needs a year of bottle aging after disgorgement in order to fully shine. 2018-2024

2011er	Melsheimer	Sekt Brut Nature Cuvée Prestige	01 17	90
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The 2011er Cuvée Prestige is made from equal parts of Spätburgunder and Riesling and was left on its lees for 5 years before being disgorged in January 2017 (the disgorgement date is provided on the bottle). This offers a beautiful nose of mirabelle, greengage, toffee and herbs. The wine is still slightly sharp on the palate but leaves a great touch of underbrush, pear and fine herbs in the fully dry and delicately baroque yet stylish finish. 2019-2026

2013er	Melsheimer	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Sekt Zéro Dosage	08 17	89+
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The 2013er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Sekt Zéro Dosage AP08 17 comes from a still wine which has spent almost two years in oak casks before undergoing its second fermentation in bottle. This bottle comes from a batch disgorged without any dosage in April 2017 (the disgorgement date is not provided on the label). It offers a superb nose of star fruit, grapefruit, passion fruit and minty herbs wrapped into some fine spices. The wine still develops a rather sharp and active mousse on the palate and in the finish but the overall balance and vibrancy are superb. This needs ideally two years of bottle aging after disgorgement to fully shine, and there is even quite some upside potential. 2019-2026



Mosel Fine Wines

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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Melsheimer

(Reil – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Melsheimer	Riesling Handwerk	24 17	89
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The 2016er Riesling Handwerk is a dry-tasting wine (with 12 g/l of residual sugar) commercialized on the US market. It is essentially made from fruit in the west-facing hills in Reil with, in addition, some fruit from the Mullay-Hofberg, and was fermented with ambient yeasts in traditional Fuder casks. It offers a gorgeous nose of star fruit, grapefruit, mirabelle, hay and aniseed herbs. The wine develops a gorgeous and racy elegance on the palate, with tart minerals and fine herbs paired with mirabelle making for a superbly mouth-watering feel right into the finish. This beautiful wine is precise, crisp and juicy. 2018-2024

2015er	Melsheimer	Rurale	(No AP)	89
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The 2015er Rurale is an unfiltered "pet'nat" made from an 80-20 blend of Riesling and Johanniter (a disease-resistant variety) without any added SO₂. It offers a beautiful nose of grapefruit, almond, apple tart and fine herbs. The mousse proves delicate yet active on the palate, giving the wine pep and it makes it come over as fully dry and tart in the long finish. This is a beautifully vibrant and energetic "pet'nat" wine. Now-2021

2016er	Melsheimer	Riesling Feinherb	23 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Feinherb is essentially made from fruit harvested early in the west-facing vineyards of Reil and fermented in traditional wooden casks with ambient yeasts to a low 16 g/l of residual sugar. It offers an engaging and nicely aromatic nose of grapefruit zest, herbs and smoky slate. The wine is elegant and juicy on the palate and leaves a beautiful feel of herbs and spices in the long finish. This is a gorgeous Estate wine in the making. Now-2021

2016er	Melsheimer	Riesling Trocken	17 17	87
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The 2016er Riesling Trocken is essentially made from fruit harvested early in the west-facing vineyards of Reil and fermented with ambient yeasts in traditional wooden casks. It offers a quite aromatic nose of pear, grapefruit, aniseed herbs and fine spices. The wine is delicately tart and juicy on the palate and leaves a beautiful and fruit-infused feel in the crisp finish. This is nicely made in a direct and comparatively vibrant style. Now-2021



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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Markus Molitor

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

Markus Molitor finds 2016 a very good vintage but one he had to work hard for: "The rain in May and June was extremely hard work. We were able to control the outbreaks of peronospora where we did the preventive spraying ourselves. In parts which are covered by helicopter spraying [Note: a common practice in the steep hills of the Mosel] we suffered some losses. But what did more damage were the three times we were hit by hail. However the weather proved very good after June and we did not start our harvest too early as the acidity and physiological ripeness were not fully there. We only started by early October and finished our main harvest by November 8-9. At first, I was a bit nervous because some of the grapes came in with rather low sugar levels (early 80° Oechsle). But the resulting wines are loaded with flavors and offer much early charm and are quite elegant with their not too high levels of dry extracts. On the sweet front, we were able to harvest two Eiswein in our parcel in the Brauneberger Mandelgraben on December 5 as well as make four separate selections of BA and TBA material in Wehlen and Zeltingen."

The Estate produced a full range of wines (including about 50 different bottlings of Riesling) right up to dry Auslese ***, Eiswein and TBA. On the news front, the Estate has taken on the former State Wine Estate in Serrig with over 20 ha of vineyards in 2016. The fruit of this did not yield any single-vineyard bottlings but was used for the Estate wines. Also in 2016, Markus Molitor took over a small parcel (0.1 ha) in the coveted Bernkasteler Doktor. The Estate produced two wines from this, a dry Auslese *** (White Capsule) and a noble-sweet Auslese *** (Golden Capsule). Both wines are earmarked for next year's Auction.

What Markus Molitor achieved in 2016 is nothing short of awe-inspiring. The wines have the typical depth and aromatic intensity, which, this year, are paired with absolutely beautiful elegance and finesse. The Estate hit the bull's eye in the dry category. Almost all wines are outstanding and the Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Auslese **, Graacher Himmelreich *** and Zeltinger Sonnenuhr *** are among the finest dry Riesling of the vintage. Also in the off-dry category, Markus delivered superb wines, including the Badstube Spätlese and the Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Auslese ***. The fruity Kabinett and Spätlese wines have depth and elegant lightness and the noble sweet wines are simply cruising at their usual high levels. True stars among the noble-sweet wines have to be the Brauneberger Mandelgraben Eiswein *, which is simply Eiswein perfection, and the Eiswein "no star" (regular would be truly the wrong word ...), which is not far behind but at a fraction of the cost. Lastly, amateurs of mature Mosel should keep Markus Molitor on their radar. He re-released a series of superb mature Riesling from the under-rated 2007 vintage. What a collection!

*The Saar Alte Reben (White Capsule), the Doctor Auslese *** (White Capsule), the Doctor Auslese *** (Golden Capsule) as well as any BA / TBA bottlings were not yet ready for tasting.*

NB: The Estate only indicates the style of its wines (dry, off-dry or fruity) via the capsule color: white for dry, green for off-dry and gold for fruity-styled. In addition there is some wording on the back label but no formal indication such as Trocken or Feinherb. In order to avoid any confusion as for style, we indicate the color of the capsule in parenthesis in the description of each wine. Readers should be aware that this is not found on the label but is referred to so internally at the Estate.

2016er	Markus Molitor	Brauneberger Mandelgraben Riesling Eiswein *	91 17	100
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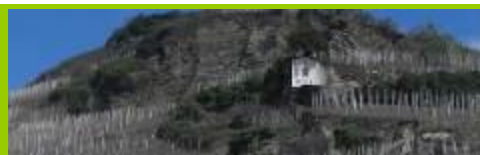
The 2016er Brauneberger Mandelgraben Eiswein * is the result of the first press of fruit harvested on December 5 (exhibiting 146° Oechsle). This mind-blowing Eiswein immediately catches one's attention through a multi-layered nose made of dried white flowers, elderflower, candied grapefruit, mango and honey. The wine develops the great complexity of a full-on "BA-Eiswein" on the palate, where creamy and honeyed exotic fruits mingle beautifully well with some apricot, candied grapefruit and elderflower. The finish is still slightly compact at the moment, a feeling underlined by the still quite sweet side of the wine. However, make no mistake: This will turn out into a perfect wine in a decade. This is simply magical! 2026-2056

2016er	Markus Molitor	Brauneberger Mandelgraben Riesling Eiswein	90 17	98
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The 2016er Brauneberger Mandelgraben Riesling Eiswein is the result of the second fraction of pressing of fruit harvested on December 5 (exhibiting 130° Oechsle). It offers a beautifully expressive and clean nose of elderflower, cassis, gooseberry, pink grapefruit, lime and cherry. The wine has great presence and freshness on the palate where juicy candied exotic fruits are beautifully wrapped into fresh citrusy fruits. The length in the finish of this stunning Eiswein seems endless. This is a stunner in the making. 2024-2036+

2016er	Markus Molitor	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese *** (White Capsule)	32 17	96
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This immediately catches one's attention as delicately spicy elements give way to subtly multi-layered scents of candied grapefruit, tangerine, cassis and violet on the nose. The wine shows stunning lightness on the palate, yet is packed with complexity, intensity and freshness. It develops great presence and depth in the hugely long and superbly delineated finish. This is a mind-blowingly good dry Riesling in the making! 2021-2036



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Weingut Markus Molitor

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Auslese * (Golden Capsule)	29 17	95
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This is still quite strongly reduced at first, and hints at (more than exhibits) superb notes of greengage, passion fruit, yellow and white peach, orange, mint, and smoke. The wine has great presence on the palate. Quite some juicy exotic fruits join the party and add an extra dimension to this already very complex wine. The wine is delicate, smooth and stunningly long, and leaves one with a great sense of candied fruits in the after-taste. What a glorious Auslese in the making! 2026-2046

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese ** (White Capsule)	43 17	95
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This delivers a stunning nose of smoke, vineyard peach, candied grapefruit, pear, cassis, yellow flowers, anise and dried spices. The wine is delicate on the palate, where a most gorgeously juicy side is beautifully wrapped into a touch whipped cream. The finish is simply to die for: airy, delicate and above all superbly refined. What a great dry Riesling in the making! 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Auslese *** (Golden Capsule)	86 17	94+
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This is quite strongly reductive at this early stage, and only timidly reveals notes of grapefruit zest, almond cream, quince jelly, herbs, white flowers and lime. The wine is quite dynamic on the palate as grapefruit zest gives this pure and rich Auslese a great playful side. This hugely impressive noble sweet wine may even turn out as a classic in a decade, after it will have emerged from its reductive phase. 2026-2046

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese *** (White Capsule)	40 17	94+
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This offers a quite fruit-driven and aromatic nose which includes pineapple, canned yellow peach, grapefruit, almond cream, and a touch of toffee. The wine coats the palate with juicy creamy, almond and spices and leaves one with a great sense of energy and intensity in the very long and impressive finish. What a breathtaking effort. 2020-2026+

2016er	Markus Molitor	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese (White Capsule)	36 17	94
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This immediately catches one's attention with an absolutely gorgeous and refined nose made of dried flowers, smoke, vineyard peach, pear, cassis, mint and almond. The wine is beautifully complex but delivers this with purity, finesse and lightness on the palate. There is enough dry extract to give the wine great structure and yet, at the same time, the finish is all about freshness and lightness as one is just left with flowers, smoke and almond in the after-taste. This beautiful dry Riesling is simply breathtakingly good. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Auslese ** (Golden Capsule)	31 17	94
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This offers a stunning and refreshing nose of grapefruit, candied lime, white peach and mint, all wrapped into some very subtle spices and a touch of bergamot. The wine is smooth and delicate on the fruity and creamy palate. While still somewhat sweet at this early stage, there is already some nice grapefruit-driven acidity lurking in the background which will give the wine great balance at maturity. 2026-2046

2016er	Markus Molitor	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese *** (Golden Capsule)	28 17	94
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This delivers an absolutely stunning and complex nose made of yellow peach, pineapple, tangerine and whipped cream, pepped up by refreshing minty and floral elements. The wine develops the beautifully creamy and juicy side of a great "lange GK" Auslese and delivers great presence in the big and hugely long finish. 2026-2046

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese (Golden Capsule)	22 17	94
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This is still quite reduced at this early stage, and only timidly reveals some yellow peach, cassis, brown sugar wrapped into dried flowers, almond cream and smoke after airing. The wine combines creamy fruity presence with an airy and delicate texture on the quite rich palate. The finish is slightly sweet at this early stage, but the presence of a most refined touch of ripe acidity in the finish makes us yearn to try this rich Spätlese at maturity, when the sweetness-acidity balance will have been reached. 2026-2046



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2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese (White Capsule)	19 17	94
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This offers a superbly deep, complex and refined nose including dried flowers, whipped almond cream, a touch of smoke, vineyard peach, cassis and grapefruit. While fully present everything about this splendid nose is subtle and refined. The wine is superbly playful with a creamy and light texture and great complexity and finesse on the palate. The finish is breathtakingly long and pure, even if still slightly reduced at this early stage. But make no mistake, this is a great airy and dry Riesling in the making. 2023-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Auslese *** (Golden Capsule)	48 17	(93-95)
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This immediately catches one's attention through a rich "Auslese lange GK" set of aromatics which include quince, pineapple, honey, dried fruits, aniseed herbs, whipped cream and beeswax. The wine coats the palate with intense and playful cream and exotic fruits. Despite its richness, this dessert wine remains comparatively light-weighted and elegant right into the superb finish. The creamy yet multi-layered side of this Auslese is simply superb. 2026-2046

2016er	Markus Molitor	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese *** (Golden Capsule)	39 17	93+
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This offers a quite fresh and lively nose of grapefruit, tangerine, melon and dried apricot all wrapped into quite some mint, laurel and smoke. This shows nice presence on the palate where ripe and exotic fruits lead to a rich and ample feeling in the long and delicately intense finish. This is best left alone for a solid decade in order for the richness to mellow away into the underlying complex and sublet structure. 2026-2046

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese *** (Golden Capsule)	49 17	93+
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This shows quite a rich nose of cassis, melon, a hint of apricot, candy floss, whipped almond cream, honey and thyme. The wine develops a stunning array of exotic flavors driven by candied apricot, mango and melon on the remarkably creamy but subtle palate. This rich "Auslese lange GK"-styled Riesling will need quite some time to integrate aromatically. It should then prove a beautifully pure and intense expression of noble-sweet Mosel Riesling. 2026-2046

2016er	Markus Molitor	Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Spätlese (Green Capsule)	58 17	93
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This offers a refreshing nose of white peach, gooseberry, passion fruit, raspberry, mango and delicately earthy spices. The wine is beautifully playful and elegant on the medium-bodied and fabulously refined palate. The finish is elegant, playful and nicely multi-layered. This model of finesse will please lovers of off-dry Riesling which combine presence and elegance. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Spätlese (White Capsule)	21 17	93
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Still quite restrained at first, this develops a most beautiful and complex nose of herbs, mint, vineyard peach, passion fruit sorbet, flowers and almond cream. The wine has great presence on the palate, and shines through precision and focus. Notes of grapefruit, lime and minty herbs add to the multidimensional side of this beautiful dry Riesling. The finish is ethereally light and refined. 2021-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett (Golden Capsule)	62 17	93
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A sumptuous and delicious nose made of whipped cream, yellow peach, cassis, raspberry, candied mango and spices leads to an Auslese styled wine with juicy cream and ample juicy fruits on the palate. The wine is animating, smooth and delicate in the very long and juicy finish. This is quite superb in a comparatively rich but no less satisfying style for the category. 2026-2046

2016er	Markus Molitor	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett (Golden Capsule)	30 17	93
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This delivers an absolutely gorgeous nose of grapefruit, tangerine, white and yellow peach, almond cream, brown sugar, and orange. Juicy fruits are wrapped into a creamy and smooth texture on the palate, giving this beautifully refined wine Spätlese presence. The finish is beautifully light and elegant. This is a superb fruity-styled Riesling in the making! 2026-2041

2016er	Markus Molitor	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese (Golden Capsule)	25 17	93
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Notes of anise and spices are quickly joined by yellow peach, quince, strawberry puree, honey and smoke. The wine has the presence of an Auslese GK on the palate, as the juicy and apricot driven fruits are well wrapped into great candied zesty fruits. The finish is superbly refined and well delineated. This is a superb fruity Riesling in the making, which plays on finesse and elegance. 2026-2046



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Weingut Markus Molitor

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Spätlese (Golden Capsule)	02 17	93
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Quite reductive at first, this only slowly reveals beautiful scents of canned yellow peach, quince, apricot, smoke and candied grapefruit on the nose. The wine has good acidity, which is however slightly overpowered by ample juicy cream and quite some residual sugar at the early stage. This smooth, Auslese-styled Riesling will need extensive cellaring in order to integrate its mid-palate richness and finds a gorgeous inner balance. 2026-2046

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese ** (Golden Capsule)	27 17	93
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This offers a captivating nose of anise, flowers, vineyard peach and mint joined by riper notes of pear and cinnamon after some airing. The wine is driven by clean yellow peach and candied mango on the very smooth and creamy palate. The finish is delicately creamy and soft. This superb Auslese is both gorgeously complex yet also remarkably easy to enjoy. 2026-2046

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett Fuder 6 (White Capsule)	41 17	93
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This delivers a gorgeous nose of apricot blossom, vineyard peach, candied grapefruit, mint, green herbs and whipped almond cream. The wine is finely creamy and smooth on the palate, where ample fruits including yellow peach drive the aromatic profile. This finish of this beautifully creamy yet dry Riesling shines through lightness and complexity. What a beauty! 2021-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese *** (Green Capsule)	59 17	(92-95)
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This wine exhibits a beautiful nose of grapefruit, canned peach, dried herbs and earthy spices. It develops quite some presence on the mineral and fruity palate. Succulent yellow peach leads to a beautifully pure and multi-layered finish. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese (White Capsule)	69 17	92+
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Quite reductive at first, this only reluctantly reveals some ripe fruits including pineapple, passion fruit, yellow peach, greengage and a touch of mango packed into smoke and minty herbs on the nose at this early stage. The wine coats the palate with ample juicy and creamy fruits. Some cassis lurks in the background in the long and smooth finish, only waiting to come out at maturity. There is quite some upside here once the fresher side will have emerged over the coming years. 2023-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Spätlese (White Capsule)	16 17	92
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Quite fruity and spicy at first, this develops more complexity as it grows in the glass and notes of yellow peach, quince, smoke, green herbs, white mint and tar kick in. The wine proves ample, packed with fruits and shows quite some presence on the palate. Yet the finish is superbly fresh and long. This only needs a few years of cellaring in order to fully shine. 2021-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Kinheimer Hubertuslay Riesling Auslese ** (White Capsule)	78 17	92
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This shows a beautiful and fresh nose driven by grapefruit, lime, fresh herbs, smoke and mint. The wine is straight and zesty on the palate, where it reveals great presence underpinned by a touch of ripe and creamy fruits. A touch of power but without any undue weight comes through in the long, focused and fruit-driven finish. 2021-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Mosel Riesling Alte Reben (White Capsule)	24 17	92
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Slightly reductive at first, this only gradually opens up to reveal ripe notes of fruits including yellow peach, apricot and strawberry. A touch of smoke and spices comes through with airing and adds depth to the nose. The wine is very delicate and superbly focused on the palate, where white flowers and herbs come through. It leaves a very long and zest infused feeling in the finish. This beautifully light and complex expression of dry Riesling only needs a few years of bottle aging to blend its elements and show its full potential. 2021-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett (Green Capsule)	04 17	92
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This offers an attractive nose made of pear, strawberry, Provence herbs and fine spices. The wine is gorgeously playful on the medium-bodied palate and leaves a nice and juicy feel in the airy and feather-light finish. This is plain gorgeous. 2021-2036



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(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Markus Molitor	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett (White Capsule)	26 17	92
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This is initially rather discreet and only slowly reveals notes of yellow peach, candied grapefruit, raspberry, white flowers and spices. The wine proves as light as a feather with however great aromatic intensity and a most attractive touch of passion fruit driven acidity on the palate. The delicious finish is intense, smoky and beautifully long. This elegant and light dry Riesling will gain in complexity with age and should prove a little beauty at maturity. 2021-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett (Green Capsule)	44 17	92
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This offers a beautiful nose of cassis, grapefruit, herbs, white flowers and fine spices. The wine is silky yet delicately zesty on the palate. Canned yellow peach, zesty grapefruit and fine aniseed herbs come through and add depth to the long and nicely focused finish. The after-taste is persistent, with nicely integrated ripe acidity and smooth herbal and fruity flavors. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett (Golden Capsule)	33 17	92
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This delivers a gorgeous nose of grapefruit zest, white and yellow peach, cassis, a touch of pear, herbs, and honey. The wine has the juicy presence of a Spätlese on the palate and offers peach and almond cream right into the comparatively light and elegant finish. It proves gorgeously persistent and fully present in the delicately multi-layered after-taste. 2024-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Kinheimer Hubertuslay Riesling Auslese *** (Golden Capsule)	47 17	(91-94)
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This offers a gorgeous nose of candied exotic fruits, quince, apricot, lead pencil and smoke. The wine has quite some ripe fruits on the palate where a creamy side as well as some residual sugar dominate the flavor profile at this early stage. But there is everything to love for those looking for delicately creamy and direct Auslese GK styled dessert wine. 2024-2041

2016er	Markus Molitor	Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Kabinett (Green Capsule)	07 17	91+
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This offers a beautiful nose made of pear, white peach, laurel, thyme and smoky slate. Finely sizzled peach and minerals make for a nicely balanced feel on the palate. The finish is still very much work in progress but this should prove a beautiful off-dry wine with a few years of bottle aging. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Kabinett (White Capsule)	34 17	91
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This offers a gorgeously delicate and refined nose showing flowers, whipped cream, vineyard peach, some green herbs and aniseed spices. The wine is feather light, airy and remarkable complex on the palate. The finish is beautifully balanced, smooth, and long. This great piece of dry Riesling is all about refinement. 2019-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Kinheimer Rosenberg Riesling Spätlese (Golden Capsule)	45 17	91
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This delivers a superbly fruity and honeyed aromatic profile with mirabelle, pear, canned pineapple, cherry and smoke. The wine is smooth and juicy on the medium-bodied palate. The finish is light and smooth, and comparatively direct in style. 2023-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Kinheimer Rosenberg Riesling Spätlese (Green Capsule)	03 17	91
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This offers a beautiful nose of grapefruit, pear, fine earth and spices. The wine proves nicely juicy and fruity on the palate and leaves a delicately mineral and herbal feel in the long finish. The after-taste is all about aniseed herbs and a hint of ripe fruits. This will develop nicely after a few years of bottle aging. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Kabinett (Green Capsule)	42 17	91
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This offers a reduced nose of greengage, minty herbs and fine spices. The wine is beautifully balanced yet soft on the palate and leaves a gorgeously elegant feel of herbs and spices in the long and smooth finish. 2021-2036



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Markus Molitor

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Markus Molitor	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese ** (White Capsule)	65 17	91
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This exhibits a quite aromatic and ripe nose made of pineapple, tangerine, yellow peach, a touch of honey and smoke. This fruit-driven wine delivers quite some presence and even a touch of power on the palate. The finish is spicy and slightly broad. This will please to lovers of more ostentatious and fruit-driven expression of dry Riesling. 2019-2026+

2016er	Markus Molitor	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese *** (Green Capsule)	01 17	(90-93)
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This offers a bold nose of canned yellow peach, mango, fine herbs and spices. The wine is soft and smooth on the fruity and mineral palate and leaves a bold feel of pear, quince and herbs in the finish. This will need some time to integrate and develop its finesse. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Kinheimer Rosenberg Riesling Auslese *** (Green Capsule)	46 17	(90-93)
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This offers a rather bold nose of grapefruit, pear and dried herbs. The wine proves nicely assertive on the palate and leaves an ample and satisfying feel of pear, star fruit and aniseed herbs in the long and complex finish. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Himmelreich Riesling Auslese ** (Green Capsule)	64 17	(90-92)
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This offers a beautiful feel of grapefruit, gooseberry, aniseed herbs and smoke. The wine proves delicately intense and yet playful on the palate, where some quince, greengage and juicy herbs are wrapped into a quite firm structure. The finish shows gorgeous presence and depth. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Wehlener Klosterberg Riesling Kabinett (White Capsule)	08 17	90+
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Strongly reductive at first, it is only after extensive airing that this wine reveals cool aromatics of herbs and mint as well as some greengage and smoke. The very dynamic wine proves nicely refreshing with grip and presence on the palate. The finish is light and airy, with great upside potential at maturity. 2021-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Spätlese (Green Capsule)	13 17	90
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This offers a beautiful nose of greengage, mirabelle, herbs and spices. The wine develops quite some presence on the palate and the delicately intense finish. This will please lovers of more powerful wines. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Riesling Schiefersteil (White Capsule)	10 17	89
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The 2016er Riesling Schiefersteil (White Capsule) proves quite reduced at first and only gradually reveals notes of smoke, dried flowers, quince and spices. It is pure and zesty, and underpinned by quite some grapefruit, lime, cassis and smoke on the palate. This delicious dry Riesling has presence and grip without any undue power in the focused, fresh and very long finish. 2020-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Wehlener Klosterberg Riesling Spätlese (Green Capsule)	20 17	88+
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This offers a nicely sizzled and exotic nose of pear, grapefruit, passion fruit, mango and herbs. The wine is nicely soft and round on the palate, where quite some ripe flavors of quince and almond come through. The finish is delicately ample but nicely juicy and playful. While a touch ripe and round at this stage, there is quite some upside here. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Riesling Haus Klosterberg (White Capsule)	35 17	87
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The 2016er Riesling Haus Klosterberg (White Capsule) delivers an attractive and fruit-driven nose including pear, greengage, canned yellow peach and smoke. The wine is playful and light-bodied on the palate, but develops good presence as it develops in the glass. The finish of this stylish and quite approachable effort is smooth and delicate. 2019-2026



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Weingut Markus Molitor

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

MATURE RIESLING COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE AT THE ESTATE

<u>2007er</u>	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese *** (Golden Capsule)	28 09	Auction	97
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This stunning noble sweet wine (which was first offered at the Bernkasteler Ring Auction in 2009) delivers a simply stunning nose made of yellow peach, mango, herbs and spices including cinnamon. The wine develops the full unctuous oily side of a BA on the palate and despite still being saturating and sweet already starts to develop a beautifully balanced and elegant feel with great creaminess right into the long and sweet finish. The after-taste is intense and truly remarkable. As impressive as the wine is now, this will really need a good decade more to fully integrate and develop its magnificent potential. 2027-2067

<u>2007er</u>	Markus Molitor	Niedermenniger Herrenberg Riesling Auslese ** (Golden Capsule)	31 08		95
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This noble-sweet Riesling offers a stunning nose made of candied grapefruit, pineapple, herbs and spices. The wine seduces one with a stunning feel of backed pineapple, mango, apricot, and candy floss on the creamy yet zesty palate. The finish is simply beautifully long and refined and one is left with a glorious multi-layered feel of honeyed exotic fruits, fine spices and herbs. Now-2047

<u>2007er</u>	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese (Golden Capsule)	22 08		92
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This fruity-styled Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Spätlese develops a beautiful nose of caramel, pear, passion fruit and spices. The wine proves superbly juicy on the palate and leaves a mouth-watering feel in the great, delicately ample but very playful finish. This is a gorgeous wine made in a light Auslese style to enjoy over the coming decades. Now-2037

<u>2007er</u>	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese ** (White Capsule)	61 08		91+
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This offers a gorgeous nose of candied grapefruit, fresh herbs, spices and a hint of licorice. The wine is quite firm and delicately assertive on the palate, where the herbal side still dominates the aromatic profile. The wine proves still rather backward, slightly ample in the long and juicy finish. This is not yet fully mature but should prove a gorgeous wine in a few years' time. 2022-2032

<u>2007er</u>	Markus Molitor	Niedermenniger Herrenberg Riesling Auslese ** (White Capsule)	43 08		90
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This develops a fascinating and complex nose of caramel, fine herbs and spices. The wine is juicy and fresh on the palate, and offers a nicely direct feel in the long and well-balanced finish. This is an outstanding dry Riesling to enjoy over the coming years. Now-2027



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Weingut Martin Müllen

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

Martin Müllen finds much appeal to his 2016 wines: "The wine are showing well early but make no mistake, these are wines made for aging as well. The growing season was anything but easy but we came more or less unscathed through the heavy pressure from peronospora. The summer proved almost ideal. We had no issue with sunburnt grapes at the end of August, as we do not defoliate our vines by much. The good weather continued right into the harvest season, which lasted from October 15 to November at our Estate. In the end, we brought in great light fruit with 81-84° Oechsle for our Kabinett and adequate 90-95° Oechsle for our Spätlese bottlings. The vintage is quite special and I don't see any obvious comparable one. However, there are parallels with 2004 and 1994, albeit with less acidity, because the 2016 wines show a very open side young."

The Estate was able to produce its full portfolio of wines right up to Spätlese bottlings in all three stylistic directions, dry, off-dry and fruity to sweet. There was not enough Auslese-level fruit for justifying separate bottlings.

As so often over the last few years, what strikes us at Martin Müllen is the incredibly high level of quality achieved by this Estate. The wines marry good but ripe acidity with complex fruity yet delicately ripe flavors. Almost all wines of the collection are outstanding and highly recommended. The Hühnerberg bottlings clearly are the sweet spot in 2016, with many of the collection highlights coming from this vineyard. However, the great Paradies Spätlese Feinherb and the superb Letterlay Spätlese ** underline the depth of the quality at Müllen in 2016.

NB: The un-sulfured 2016er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Spätlese Trocken was not yet ready for tasting.

2016er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Spätlese *	05 17	94
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The 2016er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Spätlese * was harvested en block at approx. 94° Oechsle. It offers a superb nose of passion fruit, tangerine, white peach and apricot as well as chalky minerals. The finesse on the palate is simply superb as the wine combines fruitiness and elegance. The finish is playful and refined. This is a gorgeous, lightly Auslese-styled wine in the making. 2026-2014

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Paradies Riesling Spätlese Feinherb	20 17	93+
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The 2016er Kröver Paradies Spätlese Feinherb is made from the Deare vineyards (named after the previous owner). This is still marked by residues from spontaneous fermentation. These give way to great scents of grapefruit, star fruit and white chalky minerals on the nose. The wine develops stunning finesse as well as great definition and precision on the palate. It is beautifully elegant and refined in the comparatively sharp yet elegant finish. The after-taste is hugely persistent, driven by white chalky minerals and fine spices. This stunner in the making has great upside potential. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken **	27 17	93+
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The 2016er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Spätlese Trocken ** was made from the third terraced parcel (the words "3te Terrassen" appears in small print on the label). It develops a rather bold and beautiful nose of pear, grapefruit, herbs and spices. The wine is still quite primal on the palate, where minerals and herbs drive the aromatics at this early stage. However, all these fruity and herbal elements blend together with great finesse in the long and refined finish. This great wine made in a slightly bolder but no less elegant style will prove remarkable at maturity. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Letterlay Riesling Spätlese **	06 17	93
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The 2016er Kröver Letterlay Spätlese ** was harvested en block at approx. 92° Oechsle. It develops a beautiful nose of mango, pear, star fruit, and some herbs. The wine is nicely playful and delicately creamy on the palate, where it develops a great creamy side and superb finesse. The finish is beautifully playful and elegant, with mouth-watering finesse coming through in the multi-layered after-taste. 2026-2046

2016er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken *	28 17	93
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The 2016er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Spätlese Trocken * was made from the first and second terraced parcels and fermented in 500 liters fully-used oak wooden casks. It develops a beautiful nose of peach, pear and Provence herbs. The wine proves superbly balanced on the palate, where a smooth side and elegant comes through and leads to a refined feel in the finish. 2021-2036



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Weingut Martin Müllen

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Kirchlay Riesling Spätlese **	07 17	92
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The 2016er Kröver Kirchlay Spätlese ** was harvested en block at approx. 92° Oechsle. The wine develops a beautiful nose of apricot, pear, peach and earthy spices. It is deliciously well balanced and structured on the palate, and leaves a gorgeously clean feel of apricot and herbs in the overtly fruity finish. This is a delicious Spätlese with great character and presence. 2026-2046

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Paradies Riesling Spätlese *	08 17	92
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The 2016er Kröver Paradies Spätlese * is made from the Deare vineyards (named after the previous owner). It is marked by some residual scents from spontaneous fermentation and develops great scents of gooseberry, star fruit, quince and fine herbs. The wine is quite silky and elegant on the palate and leaves a beautifully fruity feel in the long and juicy finish. This is playful and elegant Spätlese in the making. 2026-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Paradies Riesling Spätlese Trocken	22 17	92
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The 2016er Kröver Paradies Spätlese Trocken is marked by spontaneous fermentation at first. This gives way to great scents of grapefruit, yellow peach, apricot blossom, pear, spices and herbs. The wine is beautifully elegant on the palate and leaves a great feel of gooseberry and peach in the deliciously well-balanced finish. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Riesling Trocken Revival	21 17	92
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The 2016er Riesling Trocken Revival comes from the best parcels of the Estate (Trarbacher Hühnerberg and Kröver Paradies) and is made using methods from a century ago, i.e. basket pressing, long fermentation with ambient yeasts in traditional casks and blending of the casks after fermentation. It delivers a beautiful nose of pear, mirabelle, herbs and spices. The wine is nicely playful and elegant on the palate, where juicy pear mingles with herbs and zesty grapefruit-driven acidity. The finish is still quite tart at this early stage, so that it is better to leave this wine alone for a few years. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	19 17	92
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The 2016er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Kabinett Feinherb was made from fruit harvested at a low 81° Oechsle. It develops a rather reduced nose with elements of oak, herbs and spices. The wine develops a gorgeous mouth-watering spiciness with great acidic structure and finesse right into the remarkable racy finish. This is a beautiful wine with great depth in the making. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Kabinett Trocken *	17 17	92
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The 2016er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Kabinett Trocken * was harvested at a moderate 84° Oechsle. It offers a beautiful nose of grapefruit, pear, aniseed herbs and fine spices. The wine is beautifully light and playful on the palate and leaves an herb-infused feel in the finish. The wine is still quite reductive but full of promises. 2021-2031

2016er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken	26 17	92
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The 2016er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Spätlese Trocken is still marked by some residues of spontaneous fermentation. The wine develops stunningly elegant scents of pear, aniseed herbs, grapefruit and smoke. It is beautifully balanced on the palate and leaves a gorgeous zesty and refined touch of herbs in the long finish. This beautiful wine still proves rather backward but should develop positively over the coming years. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Paradies Riesling Kabinett Trocken	15 17	91+
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The 2016er Kröver Paradies Kabinett Trocken was harvested at a moderate 81° Oechsle. A whiff of residual scents of spontaneous fermentation gives way to pear, cassis, herbs, spices and herbs. The wine is superbly elegant and dances on the palate. It leaves a beautifully crisp feel in the long and playful finish. This is a beautiful light-feathered wine! Now-2026



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Weingut Martin Müllen

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Kirchlay Riesling Spätlese Trocken **	24 17	91
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The 2016er Kröver Kirchlay Spätlese Trocken ** develops a nicely smooth and elegant nose of pear, quince, star fruit, papaya and fine herbs. The wine is superbly well balanced on the palate and leaves a nice feel of ripe acidity in the long and silky finish. This is a beautiful wine in the making! 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Letterlay Riesling Spätlese Trocken *	09 17	91
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The 2016er Kröver Letterlay Spätlese Trocken * comes from a parcel still planted with over 50 year-old vines in the Layen sector. It develops a ripe nose of pear, yellow peach, grapefruit, herbs and spices. The wine proves delicately racy and quite structured on the palate and leaves a slightly sharp and playful feel in the smooth and long finish. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Letterlay Riesling Spätlese Trocken **	10 17	91
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The 2016er Kröver Letterlay Spätlese Trocken ** comes from the Eichhaus sector of the vineyard. This offers a beautiful nose of yellow peach, pear and almond. The wine is nicely juicy on the palate and leaves an herbal and spicy feel in the long and intense finish. This offers great finesse and aromatic depth. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Paradies Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	18 17	91
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The 2016er Kröver Paradies Kabinett Feinherb offers a beautiful nose of candied grapefruit, quince, fine herbs and spices. The wine is nicely smooth and elegant on the palate and leaves a fine and juicy off-dry feel in the long finish. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Steffensberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken	23 17	91
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The 2016er Kröver Steffensberg Spätlese Trocken develops a ripe nose of grapefruit, apple, pear, fine herbs and spices. The wine is beautifully elegant and well balanced on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel in the passion fruit and pear infused finish. Herbal elements then bring depth and airiness to the after-taste. This is delicious. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Trabener Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett Trocken *	16 17	90
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The 2016er Trabener Würzgarten Kabinett Trocken * was harvested at a moderate 82° Oechsle from a prime parcel in the Class I Rickelsberg sector of the vineyard. The wine develops a ripe nose of pear, mango, almond, brown sugar and fine spices. The wine is quite nicely playful on the palate and leaves a clean and juicy feel in the delicately tart finish. This will need a year or two to develop its full balance. 2019-2031

2016er	Martin Müllen	Riesling Trocken	14 17	86
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The 2016er Liter bottling of Riesling Trocken comes essentially from the Kröver Paradies and a little bit from Trabener Würzgarten. This offers a gorgeous nose of pear, herbs, grapefruit and herbs. The wine is nicely juicy and fruity on the palate and leaves a grapefruit-infused feel in the elegant and delicately dry finish. Now-2021



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Weingut "O." – Olaf Schneider

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

Olaf Schneider is positively surprised by his 2016 vintage. It is a very good vintage with good yields, which are in fact higher than in 2015. As so often, my vineyard, the Trarbacher Hühnerberg, is not quite prone to diseases and the rain in the spring did not really harm our vines. Also the heat wave in the late summer was no issue for us as we hardly defoliate our vines. The weather was perfect in the autumn so that we could wait until mid-October to start our harvest, which we completed by the end of the month. The resulting wines have unusually low levels of acidity for my Estate, between 9-10 g/l of acidity in the grapes. But they are actually still quite high by Middle Mosel standards. Overall, the wines are nicely fruit driven and much more charming in their youth than other recent vintages."

The Estate was able to produce its usual set of wines right up to the dry Ungerberg, which only stopped its fermentation in September 2017 and hence will only be bottled later this year. The portfolio includes again the Nativ, a wine made along ancient methods, i.e. basket pressing, fermentation in traditional Fuder casks until it stops naturally.

The "O." Estate is renowned for making racy Saar-styled wines. This is less so the case in 2016, the wines have more charm and maybe a touch more finesse. The Bikiniblick is a gorgeous dry Estate wine and the Kabinett proves beautifully made, with good intensity and balance. The Nativ, despite being bottled without any vineyard denomination, is a serious dry-tasting wine with quite some upside potential. We tasted also the 2015er Ungerberg after bottling: Anyone being able to put his or her hands on this remarkable wine should do so. It more than lived up to our early high hopes.

NB: The 2016er Ungerberg was not yet ready for tasting.

2015er	"O."	Trarbacher Ungerberg Riesling	03 16	93
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The 2015er Trarbacher Ungerberg is made from fruit harvested from very old un-grafted vines and fermented with ambient yeasts to dry-tasting levels in used barrique. This wine proves hugely reduced and needs a solid day or two to reveal some attractive scents of pear, vineyard peach, apricot blossom, ginger and fine herbs. The wine is superbly balanced on the palate and leaves a beautifully elegant feel in the long and elegantly long finish. This wine fully delivers upon the high early hopes we had set on this wine from cask last year. What a beauty in the making! 2023-2030+

2016er	"O."	Trarbacher Ungerberg Riesling Kabinett	03 17	91
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The 2016er Ungerberg Kabinett was made from fruit harvested at 87° Oechsle and fermented down to 40 g/l of residual sugar. It proves still marked by residues from spontaneous fermentation and only gradually reveals its attractive nose made of pear pepped up by grapefruit, passion fruit and minty herbs. The wine is nicely juicy and almost firm on the palate and leaves a beautifully fruity and mineral feel in the sharp and still quite tart yet mouth-watering finish. 2023-2041

2016er	"O."	Riesling Nativ	02 17	90+
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The 2016er Nativ is an off-dry Riesling (with 20 g/l of residual sugar) made from vines in the terraced part of the Trarbacher Ungerberg and fermented in traditional cask until it stops naturally. It offers a beautiful nose of greengage, cassis, grapefruit, pear, vineyard peach, white flowers and oregano. The wine is nicely inviting and balanced on the palate, where fruits pair beautifully well with some ripe acidity. The wine gains in sharpness and precision towards the long and hugely elegant finish. The delicately fruity after-taste is all about lemon curd, minty herbs, pear and white flowers. This is a beautiful wine in the making but one which will need a few years to have the residual touch of tartness and sweetness to mellow away into the wine. 2023-2031

2016er	"O."	Riesling Bikiniblick	01 17	88
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The 2016er Bikiniblick is a dry Riesling (with 7 g/l of residual sugar) made from holdings in the Trarbacher Ungerberg. This hay-colored wine proves hugely austere at first and requires a full day to develop a beautiful nose made of mirabelle, greengage, lemon curd, aniseed herbs, ginger and smoke. The wine is quite structured and backward on the palate and does not show much at first besides grapefruit, lemon zest, green herbs and fine spices into the firmly tart finish. The after-taste is all about herbal and chalky structure at this stage. This will need a few more years or two to develop aromatically and integrate its elements. 2020-2026



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Weingut Joh. Jos. Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

Katharina Prüm likes the complex and playful side of her 2016 vintage: "The start of the vintage was phenomenal but also extreme, with high jumps in temperatures ... and quite some rain in May and June, which led to some peronospora pressure like everywhere else. We also suffered a little bit from hail. In the end, our yields are much down, 30% on long-term average. Fortunately, the weather turned for the better and we hardly had any rain for the remainder of the growing season. September proved phenomenal with 60% more sunshine than usual. We started our harvest slowly on October 10 and finished it on November 14 with some botrytized fruit for our Goldkapsel Auslese. The wines proved more backward than in 2015 and only gradually reveal their potential. We are at a loss to find any comparable vintage. The wines are very elegant and subtle, where for instance the 2015s are in many ways louder. What stroke me right since the start was the mineral and salty side of the vintage at our Estate."

The Estate was able to produce its full range of wines right up to an Auslese lange GK from the Graacher Himmelreich (which was sold at Auction last month – see the tasting note in the "2017 Trier Auction" section of this Issue). The Estate did not produce any Eiswein and tried to do the necessary selections for a BA, but decided to declassify the resulting fruit into the auction bottlings of Auslese GK and Auslese lange GK.

2016 is an early charmer of vintage at most Estates. Not so at Joh. Jos. Prüm, as most of its 2016 wines are still quite backward. However they already more than hint at beautifully ripe elegance and finesse. We feel that the Spätlese and Auslese are the sweet spot at this Estate in 2016, with the Zeltinger Sonnenuhr and Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese ahead of the pack. And yet we would not be surprised if some of the other wines would develop and join them over time. Stylistically, the vintage seems to us to be a blend of 2007 and 2008, with some riper elements lifted up by fresher ones. More than many other Joh. Jos. Prüm vintages, this is one for the cellar. Talking of cellaring, as so often, Joh. Jos. Prüm released some mature Riesling. These wines are of outstanding quality (see the tasting notes at the end of this Estate review).

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese GK	94
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This is still quite reductive at first and only timidly hints at exotic and concentrated notes of apricot, mango, guava and quince, pepped up by a fresher streak of grapefruit. The wine delivers smooth and delicately unctuous flavors of candied yellow fruits and strawberry juice on the deep and beautifully balanced palate. The finish is pure, fresh even if still loaded with quite some residual sugar in need of integration. This rich GK is quite a treat but it is one which will demand a lot of patience. The patience will be worth it. 2031-2056

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese GK	94
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This delivers an absolutely gorgeous and multi-layered nose including pineapple, candied apricot, honeyed exotic fruits, almond paste, tangerine flower and a touch of minty smoke. The wine is superbly smooth and exotic on the palate. The complex and refined delicacy of fruits is simply stunning. The finish is all about honey and creamy exotic fruits, and while not extremely expressive at this time, grows by the minute in the glass. One is left with a great and very subtle sense of almond, passion fruit and tangerine blossom in the after-taste. This will need time to integrate all its components but should then prove a cracker of a wine! 2031-2056

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Bernkasteler Lay Riesling Auslese GK	93
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This wine is still marked by quite some residues of spontaneous fermentation with aromas including bakery elements and whipped almond cream dominate the nose at first. These then give way to rich scents of canned pineapple, candied grapefruit, passion fruit, raspberry, fine spices and even some refreshing minty herbs. The wine develops a great silky yet playful feel of almonds, greengage, star fruit, fine spices and herbs on the palate. The finish is long and delicately creamy and leaves one with a great refreshing side in the after-taste. 2031-2056

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	93
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This exhibits a superbly aromatic and exotic nose of mango, apricot and quince as well as quite some smoke and tar. The wine is rich and creamy as it woees one with juicy and mouth-coating flavors of pear, grapefruit and honeyed apricot on the palate. The rich and intense finish is all about honeyed and fruity flavors. This rich Auslese from the Wehlener Sonnenuhr will require patience as it will need quite some time to fully integrate its elements. 2031-2056

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	93
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This delivers a brilliant nose which shines through its delicate flowery side, a hint of smoke, vineyard peach, pear, candied grapefruit, cassis, and whipped cream. The wine prove pure, focused and beautifully creamy on the palate. The finish is superbly delicate, smooth and playful, with only a hint of sweetness still in need of integration. This beautifully elegant Auslese should offer much pleasure at maturity. 2026-2046



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Weingut Joh. Jos. Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese	92+
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This is still quite reductive at this early stage, however it already shows a quite rich and almost opulent nose made of candied peach, grapefruit, pineapple, cassis, pear, smoke, tar and almond paste. The wine delivers juicy honeyed fruity on the palate. The fruity side runs right into the long, smooth and fresh finish. This is still quite backward and full of potential. But it will ideally require more than a decade to fully shine. 2031-2056

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	92+
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This proves quite closed at first. A hint of volatile acidity quickly gives way to beautiful flavors of canned yellow peach, apricot blossom, grapefruit and a touch of toffee on the nose. The wine develops ripe aromas on the creamy, intense and smooth palate. The finish is full of honeyed fruits, roasted pineapple and butter cream. This Auslese-styled expression of Wehlener Sonnenuhr will need quite some time to integrate its richness, but could then turn out even better than anticipated as the fresher side emerges at maturity. 2026-2046

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Spätlese	92
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This opens up to a captivating nose made of ripe fruits yellow peach, pear, honeyed apple and cinnamon, all joined by some candied grapefruit and tangerine after some airing. The wine proves juicy as fresher flavors of peach and apple emerge on very pure palate. A great underlying touch of freshness runs through the wine, leaving one with some intense flavors of grapefruit and smoky slate in the very long and intense finish. 2026-2041

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett	92
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This delivers a beautiful nose of flowers, whipped cream, herbs, smoke, vineyard peach, and apricot blossom. The wine is delicate, light weighted and has good presence with ripe fruits including peach, pear and a touch of toffee on the palate. It develops quite some Spätlese presence and intensity in the hugely long finish. 2024-2036

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	92
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This delivers a beautifully fresh and complex nose of pink grapefruit, ginger, passion fruit, smoke, apricot blossom, almond paste and a touch of toffee. The wine is quite rich and almost of Auslese presence and intensity on the palate, yet a juicy and clean side runs through the wine and lifts up the flavors. The finish of this classy Auslese-styled Riesling is delicate, creamy and nicely fruity. 2026-2041

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett	91+
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This is delicately reductive at first and only gradually reveals a fresh and cool nose of herbs, smoke, almond cream, pear, greengage and cassis. The wine delivers quite some presence and ripeness on the palate, where grapefruit, pear and smoke are wrapped into a touch of tartness. This Kabinett will need time to integrate its sweetness and acidity. But the ingredients are there to make a great wine at maturity. 2026-2036+

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Spätlese	91
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This is still very primary and still marked by residues of spontaneous fermentation at first before whipped almond cream, yellow peach and minty herbs kick in, quickly joined by riper notes of pear and candied melon. The wine is superbly smooth and creamy on the palate. Plenty of yellow and candied fruits add charm and delicacy to this superbly light and creamy Spätlese. 2024-2036

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Kabinett	90+
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Elegantly floral elements open the way for whipped cream, vineyard peach, cassis and pear on the nose. While still quite primary, the wine develops good presence on the palate, where some cream, pear and other yellow ripe fruits come through and make for a comparatively soft and smooth feel in the delicately fruity and juicy finish. This nice and somewhat direct expression of fruity Kabinett will need some years in the bottle to develop even more complexity and finesse. 2022-2036



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Joh. Jos. Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

MATURE RIESLING COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE AT THE ESTATE

<u>2003er</u>	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese GK	10 07	95
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This hay-colored wine offers a stunning nose of melon, pear puree, star fruit and pineapple, all wrapped into gorgeous beeswax, herbs and a hint of wet slate. The wine is delicately creamy on the palate, where a nice touch of acidity lifts up the flavors of pear, pineapple and laurel on the palate. The finish is impeccably balanced and leaves on with airy feel of tangerine, pear and fine herbs. The sweetness, while still there, has beautifully mellowed away into the wine. This is a gorgeous dessert wine to enjoy over the coming decade. Now-2043

<u>2003er</u>	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	03 05	93
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This hay-colored wine offers a beautifully refined nose of mirabelle, melon, apricot blossom, star fruit, beeswax and a hint of smoky slate. The wine is nicely elegant and silky on the palate and leaves a gorgeously pure and elegant feel of melon and a hint of honey in the long and waxy finish. A gorgeous touch of ripe acidity adds a touch of juiciness to the after-taste. This is a beautiful mature Auslese made in the timelessly elegant style of the Joh. Jos. Prüm Estate. Now-2033

<u>2009er</u>	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese	06 11	92+
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This offers a beautiful nose of mirabelle, white peach, laurel and fine herbs. The wine is nicely smooth and delicately creamy on the palate, where a mouth-watering touch of ripe acidity lifts up the succulent but ripe flavors of white melon, star fruit and earthy spices. Far from being weighty, this Auslese retains the graceful lightness and finesse of the Joh. Jos. Prüm Estate and leaves one with an airy and delicately flowery feel of mirabelle, herbs and fine spices in the long and smooth finish. While already approachable now, this will certainly still develop over the coming years as the sweetness will recede with age. 2021-2041



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Weingut Van Volxem

(Wiltingen – Saar)

Roman Niewodniczanski is bold and direct with his assessment of his 2016 vintage: "This is the finest vintage I have ever made, and this despite the fact that the year started with quite some pressure in late spring. We had to multiply the preventive treatments by hand, and we really worked our socks off and came unscathed through. At the end the yields were more or less what we expected at the beginning. The summer proved ideal and gave us beautifully clean grapes. Despite this, we went three times through each vineyard to make sure we got only the best fruit for our desired wines. We started the harvest on October 3 and finished it by November 5. A major advantage in 2017 was that we were finally able to use our new cellar facilities above the Saarfelser vineyard. Overall, the 2016 wines provide so much drinking pleasure, with fruit and elegance to boot. I just love the vintage!"

The Estate produced its usual portfolio of wines right up to a full set of GGs as well as an Auslese from the Altenberg. It has added a dry-tasting Riesling at the entry of its portfolio called VV: "I want a wine which proves more accessible also when young," Roman explained, before adding, tongue in cheek, that VV stands obviously for Van Volxem but also for "Viel Vergnügen" (lots of pleasure). On the fruity side, the Estate added a Kabinett from its parcels in the Bockstein.

On the news side, the Estate has planted a first stretch (totaling 3.5 ha) of its holdings in the Ockfener Geisberg (you can learn more on the revival of this great vineyard in Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 28 – Jun 2015).

We can only agree with Roman: This is the Estate's finest vintage so far. The dry Grand Cru bottlings are as good as ever, with the Gottesfuss a strong candidate for the finest dry Riesling of the whole region and one of the finest in Germany. These wines share great finesse and elegance but also a touch of shyness at this early stage: They need some aging to fully deploy their incredible inner charm. What proves truly remarkable is the high quality of the "lower" part of the dry range, with the Wiltinger and the Schiefer Riesling offering amazing value in their category. Last but not least, the Estate has produced some superb bottlings of Kabinett and Spätlese from its holdings in the Bockstein. Lovers of mouth-watering and playful fruity wines need to get Van Volxem on their radar screen. What a collection!

2016er	Van Volxem	Wiltinger Gottesfuss Riesling Alte Reben GG	18 17	95
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The 2016er Wiltinger Gottesfuss Alte Reben GG is a dry Riesling made from very old un-grafted vines. It offers a hugely elegant feel of grapefruit, lime, gooseberry, herbs and thyme. The wine is beautifully focused yet superbly playful on the palate and leaves a stunning feel of herbs and spices in the elegant finish. The after-taste seems endless as more subtle flavors of lime, star fruit, herbs and pear make for a great feel in the long finish. This is a simply stunning dry Riesling in the making! 2021-2036

2016er	Van Volxem	Kanzemer Altenberg Riesling Alte Reben GG	19 17	93+
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The 2016er Kanzemer Altenberg Alte Reben GG develops a delicately creamy nose with infused pear, lemony elements, star fruit, dried herbs and a hint of melon. The wine is hugely backward on the palate but already hints at greatness to come as ripe, fine herbs and ripe acidity make for a wonderful interplay right into the delicately powerful finish. The after-taste is smooth and beautifully balanced. 2021-2036

2016er	Van Volxem	Kanzemer Altenberg Riesling Auslese	23 17	93
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This offers a glorious nose of yellow peach, apricot, honey and fine herbs. The wine is smooth and sweet on the palate but great honeyed flavors come through in the elegant and long finish. This will prove a hugely magnificent dessert wine at maturity. 2031-2056

2016er	Van Volxem	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Spätlese	21 17	93
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The 2016er Ockfener Bockstein Spätlese delivers a gorgeous and precise nose of almond, white peach, tangerine and fine herbs, all wrapped into a refreshing touch of whipped cream. The wine is admirably playful and smooth on the palate and leaves a juicy passion fruit driven feel in the playful and zesty finish. The finish seems endless. This is a superb Spätlese with great fruity character in the making. 2026-2046

2016er	Van Volxem	Scharzhofberger Riesling P GG	17 17	93
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The 2016er Scharzhofberger P GG is a dry Riesling made exclusively from fruit out of the prime and cooler Pergentsknopp sector (hence P) within the Scharzhofberg. It proves remarkably backward and only gradually reveals deep complex scents of herbs, lemony elements, pear and white flowers. The wine proves beautifully smooth and elegant on the palate, where ripe pear, a hint of melon and fine spices emerge from the glass. The finish is superbly elegant and smooth. This will need some time to develop aromatically and gain in focus. But the wait will be well worth it. This is a smashing and remarkably focused and elegant rendition of Scharzhofberger P in the making, one which may not be as "loud" as some past efforts but much more refined. 2021-2036



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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Van Volxem

(Wiltingen – Saar)

2016er	Van Volxem	Wiltinger Volz Riesling GG	12 17	92+
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Volz refers to a former single-vineyard classified in the highest category on the taxation maps in the 19th century and which is part of the Wiltinger Braunfels today. This offers a gorgeous nose of pear, grapefruit zest, fine herbs and spices. The wine proves gorgeously smooth and refined on the palate and leaves a beautifully clean and fresh feel of herbs, grapefruit, pear and minerals in the long finish. 2019-2026

2016er	Van Volxem	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Kabinett	28 17	92
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The 2016er Ockfener Bockstein Kabinett is still marked by notes of spontaneous fermentation and only gradually reveals gorgeous passion fruit, pear, grapefruit and fine spices. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of mirabelle, passion fruit, white peach and papaya in the long and mouth-watering finish. This is a great Kabinett in the making! 2026-2046

2016er	Van Volxem	Scharzhofberger Riesling GG	14 17	92
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The 2016er Scharzhofberger GG develops a delicately ripe nose of grapefruit, white flowers, herbs, fine spices and minerals. The wine develops beautiful presence and elegance on the focused and zesty palate. Delicately smooth fruit kicks in towards the finish, making for a great, playful and multi-layered expression of dry Scharzhofberger. Far from being big, this plays on finesse and precision. 2021-2036

2016er	Van Volxem	Wiltinger Riesling	10 17	91+
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The 2016er Wiltinger Riesling is fermented to dry levels from the Estate's holdings in the Braunfels. It develops a dead gorgeous even if still backward nose of white peach, pear, a hint of candied grapefruit and some fine dried herbs. The wine proves delicate and hugely precise on the palate, yet it is packed with gorgeous flavors of passion fruit, star fruit, pear, apricot blossom and aniseed herbs. The finish is all silk, finesse and loaded with great balanced flavors of fruits and minerals. This proves an absolutely huge success for this "mere" Village bottling: It would not go amiss among the finest of Grand Cru Riesling. This is easily the finest Wiltinger (and previously Wiltinger Braunfels) ever made by Van Volxem. What an amazing success in a hugely refined and elegant style. 2019-2031

2016er	Van Volxem	Riesling Alte Reben	11 17	91
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The 2016er Riesling Alte Reben is made from very old often un-grafted vines in lesser-known vineyards owned by the Estate, including in the Wiltinger Klosterberg (where it owns a parcel planted with 120 year-old vines), the Wawerner Ritterpfad and the Kanzemer Sonnenberg. This offers a beautifully smooth and lively nose of grapefruit zest, pear, star fruit and fine herbs. The wine is nicely elegant on the hugely elegant palate packed with flavors of passion fruit, pear and herbs. The finish is pure silk and leads to a deep, complex and playful feel in the finish. The after-taste proves delicately tart and driven by a refreshing touch of grapefruit. This is the finest rendition of Riesling Alte Reben we have ever tasted. 2022-2031

2016er	Van Volxem	Wawerner Goldberg Riesling GG	13 17	91
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The 2016er Wawerner Goldberg GG provides a slightly big nose of yellow peach, pear, grapefruit, passion fruit and fine herbs. The wine develops good elegant presence on the palate, with pear, minerals and earthy spices driving the aromatic profile. The finish is nicely playful and refined. 2019-2026

2016er	Van Volxem	Wawerner Ritterpfad Riesling Kabinett	20 17	91
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The 2016er Wawerner Ritterpfad Kabinett develops a gorgeous nose of greengage, almond, grapefruit, herbs and fine spices. The wine develops a beautiful feel of fresh herbs and fine spices underpinned by succulent ripe acidity on the palate. The finish is juicy, elegant and nicely playful. 2021-2036

2016er	Van Volxem	Riesling Kabinett Rotschiefer	09 17	90
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The 2016er Kabinett Rotschiefer is made from the Estate's holdings in Wawern and in the Wiltinger Kupp. This offers a beautiful ample nose of papaya, grapefruit, pear, sage and brown sugar. The wine is beautifully elegant and juicy on the palate, where almond cream, pear and a hint of tangerine provide for a succulent experience. The finish is nicely off-dry and playful. 2019-2026+



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Weingut Van Volxem

(Wiltingen – Saar)

2016er	Van Volxem	Saar Riesling	01 17	90
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The 2016er Saar Riesling is made from "younger" (i.e. less than 25 years old) vines from the various holdings of the Estate in the Saar. This offers a gorgeous nose of pear, vineyard peach, brown sugar and dried herbs. The wine is beautifully delineated and focused on the palate but it leaves a juicy feel of herbs and fine spices in the long finish. The after-taste is pure pleasure and elegance. This is a gorgeous wine which proves already quite approachable now but will remain superbly enjoyable over the coming years. Now-2026

2016er	Van Volxem	Riesling Schiefer	05 17	89+
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The 2016er Schiefer Riesling is a dry wine made from younger vines from Estate holdings as well as from fruit sourced from local growers under long-term contract. It develops a subtle nose of mirabelle, greengage, apple, pear and star fruit, all wrapped into some classy spices. The wine is beautifully delineated and precise on the palate, with passion fruit, herbs and spices giving it a nicely tickly acidity. The finish is superbly light, precise and beautifully balanced. This is a gorgeous effort with great freshness and character and offers an amazing presence and complexity for a "mere" entry level Riesling. Now-2026

2016er	Van Volxem	Weissburgunder Windvogt	22 17	88
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The 2016er Weissburgunder Windvogt is made from fruit harvested in a privileged sector of the Wawerner Ritterpfad and fermented in young oak barrique from the French region of the Limousin. It offers a very nice nose of fresh herbs, fine spices, yellow peach and star fruit. The wine is nicely smooth on the palate, where attractive and well-integrated oak elements add depth to the wine. These are joined by passion fruit and honey with further airing. The finish is soft, smooth and quite complex in a delicately ample but very satisfying and juicy style. Now-2021+

2016er	Van Volxem	Weissburgunder	15 17	88
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The 2016er Weissburgunder is essentially made from grapes harvested in Wawern and fermented in used German oak casks. This yellow-colored wine develops a beautiful nose of yellow peach, star fruit, apricot blossom and fine spices. It is nicely smooth and silky on the palate and leaves a stylish feel in the long finish. The wine is smooth, nicely balanced and direct. Now-2023

2016er	Van Volxem	Riesling VV	08 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling VV is a dry-tasting Riesling (with 12 g/l of residual sugar) made from equal parts from Estate holdings essentially in the Bockstein and from fruit sourced from Saar growers under long-term contract. It offers a delicately smooth yet vivid nose of passion fruit, pear, mango, herbs and spices. The wine proves nicely delineated on the palate with hugely focused and precise flavors of passion fruit, herbs and smoke lead the pace. The finish is delicately zesty, with ripe acidity and nice mouth-watering properties. This is a beautiful Riesling made in a dry-tasting and elegant style. Now-2026



Mosel Fine Wines

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Weingut Vollenweider

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

Daniel Vollenweider sees 2016 as a classic Mosel vintage: "The 2016 wines show great fruit and are beautifully balanced. The start of the vintage was however anything but classic and we had to combat diseases. We did suffer locally in some of our fine parcels in the Wolfer Goldgrube [Note: Reiler for those in the know], in fact everywhere where the helicopter did the treatment. My parcels in the Kröver Steffensberg, which I treat organically, did not suffer nor did my Schimbock. The rest of the growing season was fine and we did not suffer from sunburn at the end of August as I hardly defoliate my vines, and the harvest weather was simply perfect. We were able to harvest without much pressure, from October 5 until October 27. The only thing which was not possible was Auslese. There was simply not enough botrytis. All in all, it is a beautiful vintage at my Estate, very much along the 1997 canon."

As a consequence of the good yields, the Estate was able to produce its full portfolio of wines right up to the estate's (dry) Goldgrube, Schimbock and fruity Spätlese. However, many of its dry Riesling took very long to ferment through. As a result, the Wolfer, Goldgrube and Steffensberg will only be bottled at the end of the year.

Daniel Vollenweider produced again some beautifully elegant wines in 2016, combining complexity with presence. The Goldgrube Spätlese and Kabinett are beautiful wines in their category and the 2016er Schimbock provides great depth and huge potential. Also the 2015er dry and dry-tasting Riesling released late last year are of superb quality. This continues to be one of the great sources for wines full of character from the Mosel.

NB: The 2016er Wolfer, Wolfer Goldgrube and Kröver Steffensberg were not yet ready for tasting. We add the tasting notes of the 2015er Wolfer, Wolfer Goldgrube and Schimbock which we did not have the chance to taste yet.

2016er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Spätlese	02 17	92+
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Harvested at 92° Oechsle, this offers a great nose of cassis, pear, spices and herbs. The wine is subtly playful and elegant on the palate and leaves a juicy and creamy feel of pear in the finish and after-taste. The wine proves beautifully balanced with presence nicely wrapped into zesty acidity. It could ultimately exceed our high expectations as the underlying fresh side gains the upper-hand. 2026-2041 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

2015er	Vollenweider	Schimbock	11 16	92
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The 2015er Schimbock is a legally dry Riesling (the Estate did away with the mention of Riesling on the label as it was the habit before 1971) from the similarly named parcel in the Trabener Würzgarten. The wine saw extensive aging on its lees and was only bottled in November 2016 and only released in fall 2017. This hay-colored wine offers a beautiful nose of candied grapefruit zest, mirabelle, passion fruit, flowery elements and earthy spices. It develops great presence on the precise and creamy palate and leaves a mouth-watering and tart feel in the slightly powerful finish. This superb wine only needs a few years to fully develop its waxy and complex potential. 2020-2030

2016er	Vollenweider	Schimbock	05 17	91+
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The 2016er Schimbock is a legally dry Riesling (the Estate does no longer write Riesling on the label, hereby reviving the way things were labeled before 1971, i.e. when Riesling was assumed the default case). It did go through an extensive (3.5 days) pre-fermentation cold soak and will only be commercially released in 2018. Dried spices, nut and smoke gradually give way to greengage, peach and a touch of mirabelle on the nose. After extensive airing (1-2 days at the moment), juicy and sweet yellow fruits emerge on the palate, and provide the right frame to the wine's comparatively soft and smooth structure. The wine reveals its full potential in the intense, multi-layered and powerful finish. This will need some patience to fully shine. 2021-2031+

2015er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling	09 16	91
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The 2015er Wolfer Goldgrube is a dry-tasting Riesling (with just above 9 g/l of residual sugar) made exclusively from Estate holdings in the Wolfer Goldgrube. It saw extensive aging on its lees and was only bottled in November 2016. This offers a slightly reduced nose of mirabelle, earthy spices, pear, candied grapefruit and camphor. The wine develops a big feel of poached fruits, herbs and spices on the nicely intense palate and leaves an impressively suave and vibrant feel in the big and nicely balanced finish. 2020-2030

2016er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Kabinett	01 17	91
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This Kabinett harvested at 87° Oechsle develops a beautifully fresh and elegant nose of white peach, grapefruit and herbs. The wine is still slightly on the sweet side on the palate but develops great delicately creamy balance in the juicy finish. Stylistically, this is closer to a clean Spätlese but with freshness, finesse and Kabinett lightness and precision in the finish. 2026-2041 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)



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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Vollenweider

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Vollenweider	Kröver Steffensberg Riesling Spätlese	03 17	90+
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Harvested at 91° Oechsle, this develops an inviting nose of fresh pear and vineyard peach. The wine starts off on the creamy side and gains in juiciness as a ripe touch of acidity adds some depth to the pear infused and delicately complex finish. This light Auslese-styled wine is best left alone for a solid decade but could then exceed our expectations if it gains in precision and focus. 2026-2041 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

2016er	Vollenweider	Riesling Felsenfest	04 17	90
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The 2016er Felsenfest comes from the Estate's holdings in the Kröver Steffensberg (2/3) and of the Wolfer Goldgrube (1/3). Reductive notes of almond and nut give way to candied fruits, greengage, grapefruit zest and smoke on the nose. The wine shows quite some juicy fruits on the palate with good grip and quite some tart minerals. These lead to a long, herbal and intensely spicy finish with still some tartness in need of integration. This bone dry Riesling (it only has 2.5 g/l of residual sugar) only needs a few years of bottle aging to fully shine. 2019-2031

2015er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Riesling	08 16	90
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The 2015er Wolfer is a dry-tasting Riesling (with just above 9 g/l of residual sugar) made exclusively from Estate holdings in the Wolfer Goldgrube. It saw extensive aging on its lees and was only bottled in November 2016. This offers a beautiful nose of candied grapefruit zest, fresh pineapple, pear, yellow peach and a hint of apricot blossom. The wine shows some slight reduction on the palate but makes up for it with beautifully pure flavors of grapefruit, pear, herbs and cardamom. The finish is very nicely balanced, precise and quite long. It leaves a nicely persistent feel in the slightly powerful after-taste. 2020-2025+



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2016 Mosel Vintage – Other Recommended Wines (Part III)

This section includes noteworthy wines tasted during our summer tastings. We also include some 201 and 2014 wines when these had not yet been presented to us and hence not reviewed before. In addition older vintages are also reviewed if these have just been released and / or are still available at the Estate.

Agritiushof

Bauer (Complement)

Bergretung (Der Klitzekleine Ring)

Erben von Beulwitz

Blees-Ferber

Richard Böcking

Falkenstein (Complement)

Tobias Feiden

Dr. Fischer

Reinhold Franzen (Complement)

Geltz-Zilliken (Complement)

Fritz Haag (Complement)

Willi Haag

Reinhold Haart (Complement)

Markus Heeb

Markus Hüls

Karthäuserhof

von Kesselstatt (Complement)

Kilburg

König Johann

Peter Lauer (Complement)

Schloss Lieser (Complement)

Dr. Lippold

Loersch (Complement)

Carl Loewen (Complement)

von Othegraven (Complement)

Paulinshof (Complement)

Dr. Pauly-Bergweiler (Complement)

S.A. Prüm (Complement)

F.J. Regnery (Complement)

Richard Richter (Complement)

Rinke (Complement)

von Schubert (Complement)

Günther Steinmetz (Complement)

St. Urbans-Hof (Complement)

Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Thanisch (Complement)

Vereinigte Hospitien

Dr. Wagner (Complement)

Wegeler

Weiser-Künstler (Complement)

Oberemmel

Mülheim

Traben-Trarbach

Mertesdorf

Leiwen

Traben-Trarbach

Niedermennig

Winningen

Ockfen

Bremm

Saargurg

Brauneberg

Brauneberg

Piesport

Traben-Trarbach

Kröv

Eitelsbach

Morscheid

Wintrich

Konz

Ayl

Lieser

Ürzig

Leiwen

Leiwen

Kanzem

Kesten

Bernkastel-Kues

Wehlen

Klūsserath

Winningen

Mertesdorf

Mertesdorf

Brauneberg

Leiwen

Bernkastel-Kues

Trier

Saargurg

Bernkastel-Kues

Traben-Trarbach





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2016 Mosel Vintage: Other Noteworthy Wines (Part III)

Weingut Agritushof – Alfred Kirchen

(Oberemmel – Saar)

2016er	Agritushof	Riesling Spätlese Alte Reben	13 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Spätlese Alte Reben is a fruity-styled wine made from old vines in the Oberemmel Altenberg. This hay-colored wine develops a juicy even if ripe nose of pear, cassis, grapefruit and gooseberry, all wrapped into quite some earthy spices and smoky slate. The wine is light-weighted and playful on the palate and leaves a nicely fruity feel in the smooth and satisfyingly direct finish. 2019-2026

2015er	Agritushof	Riesling Spätlese Felskupp	09 16	87
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The 2015er Riesling Spätlese Felskupp (the Prädikat is only indicated in small characters on the side of the label) is an off-dry wine coming from the Gewann Karlskopf, a privileged south-facing high-altitude sector of the Oberemmel Karlsberg previously owned by the von Kesselstatt Estate. This golden-hay colored wine delivers an attractive and delicately fiery nose of grapefruit, ripe pear, earthy spices and dried herbs. It develops quite some presence on the delicately off-dry and silky palate and leaves a slightly broad but nicely satisfying feel of herbs in the powerful finish. 2019-2025

2016er	Agritushof	Riesling Spätlese Karlskopf	14 17	87
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The 2016er Riesling Spätlese Karlskopf (the Prädikat is only indicated in small characters on the side of the label) is an off-dry wine from the Gewann Karlskopf, a privileged south-facing high-altitude sector of the Oberemmel Karlsberg which has recently been registered as *Katasterlage* (more on this subject in the Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 26 – Oct 2014). This hay-colored wine develops a rather backward and delicately fiery nose of greengage, gooseberry, earthy spices and herbs. The wine is nicely playful in a light and direct style on the palate and leaves a clean and delicately smooth and fruity feel in the long and powerful finish. Now-2026

2015er	Agritushof	Riesling Rotschiefer	08 16	86
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The 2015er Riesling Rotschiefer is a dry-tasting wine from parcels in the iron-rich south-facing sector of the Oberemmel Karlsberg. This hay-colored wine delivers a ripe nose of grapefruit, pear, smoke and fine herbs. It is nicely playful and easy on the palate and leaves a pleasing feel of herbs and minerals as well as pear sorbet in the refreshing finish. This gains significantly from airing at this stage. The wine is therefore best left alone for two more years. 2019-2025

2015er	Agritushof	Riesling Trocken PurSchiefer	14 16	85
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The 2015er Riesling Trocken PurSchiefer comes from fully ripe fruit in the Oberemmel Karlsberg. It was fermented with ambient yeasts and saw a prolonged aging on its lees. This offers a delicately ripe and already rather closed nose of pear, herbs and almond from reduction. The fruity side of this comparatively powerful wine comes through on the palate at this stage and remains right into the suave and intense finish. A hint of soft sweetness adds roundness to the after-taste. This is best left alone for a few years. 2019-2025

2016er	Agritushof	Riesling Trocken Grauschiefer	11 17	84
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The 2016er Riesling Trocken Grauschiefer comes from Estate holdings in the Oberemmel Karlsberg. This hay-colored wine offers a rather discreet nose of ripe poached pear, wet stones, fine spices and aniseed herbs. The wine is comparatively fruity and delicately soft on the palate and leaves a clean and nicely salty feel in the slightly powerful finish. Now-2020

Weingut Bauer

(Mülheim – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Bauer	Mülheimer Elisenberg Riesling Auslese **	13 17	91
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This wine proves rather reduced and only gradually reveals some attractive scents of passion fruit, pear sorbet, slate and fine herbs. A beautiful touch of acidity brings the creamy yet juicy palate to life and provides focus to the long and deliciously fruity finish. This Auslese-Eiswein styled Riesling is quite superb, and only needs a good decade to fully shine. 2026-2041



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Bergrettung (Der Klitzekleine Ring)

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Bergrettung (Der Klitzekleine Ring)	Riesling Trocken	11 17	88
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The 2016er Bergrettung Trocken comes from a newly rescued south-east facing parcel situated in the upper part of the Steffensberg, just next to the Wolfer Goldgrube made famous by Daniel Vollenweider. This is still very much marked by residues of spontaneous fermentation and only gradually reveals attractive notes of almond cream, pineapple, yellow peach, grapefruit and dried spices. The wine is playful on the palate with nice ample and juicy fruits. The finish is focused, light and easy in style, as this refined expression of dry Riesling only shows 11.5% of alcohol. 2018-2022

Weingut Erben von Beulwitz

(Mertesdorf – Trier-Ruwer)

Complement

2016er	Erben von Beulwitz	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Trocken Auf den Mauern GG	12 17	90
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This is quite reductive at first and only gradually develops a complex nose made of smoke, anise, white pepper and mint underpinned by some fruity elements including greengage and grapefruit. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate where creamy fruits bring a touch of complexity and depth to the experience. The finish is clean, focused and long, and lives from refreshing notes of dried spices and herbs. A bit of youthful tartness still in need of integration emerges in the after-taste. This beautiful dry Riesling will only reveal its full potential in a few years. 2021-2031

2016er	Erben von Beulwitz	Kaseler Nies'chen Im Taubenberg Riesling Trocken GG	13 17	90
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This delivers a beautifully refined and aromatic nose of anise, ripe gooseberry, greengage, mint and smoke. The wine is fresh and lively on the medium-bodied palate. A touch of power comes through in the finish as the wine unfolds some gorgeous flavors of pear, spices and pineapple. This outstanding effort will please lovers of more assertive dry Riesling. 2019-2026

Weingut Blees-Ferber

(Leiwen – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Blees-Ferber	Leiwener Laurentiuslay Riesling Eiswein ***	22 17	97
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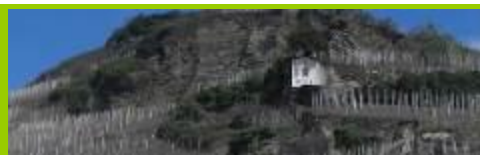
The 2016er Leiwener Laurentiuslay Eiswein *** comes from fruit harvested at 144° Oechsle in a parcel on the right bank of the Mosel on December 5, 2017. Still comparatively closed at this early stage, this only gradually reveals amazing notes of pineapple, anise, honey, pear, carambola, litchi and passion fruit, all wrapped into some classy scents of smoke and spices. The wine starts off by exhibiting the rich and initially quite thick presence of a rich BA on the palate. But acidity quickly kicks in and conveys an electrifying side to this hugely rich dessert wine. The finish has immense intensity, and offers a stunning tension between sweetness and acidity. This is a massively impressive Eiswein in the making! 2021-2036

2016er	Blees-Ferber	Leiwener Klostersgarten Riesling Eiswein	11 17	95
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The 2016er Leiwener Klostersgarten Eiswein comes from fruit harvested at 134° Oechsle on both November 30 and December 5, 2017. It delivers an astonishing nose made of exotic fruits including mango, pineapple, pink guava, candied orange and pitahaya as well as quite some honey and fresher notes of passion fruit and lime. The wine coats the palate with great honeyed fruits pepped up by a most tickly and juicy acidity. The finish is driven by zesty acidity which adds to the feeling of freshness and focus emerging from this rich and racy Eiswein. The thrilling acidity would make us opt to rather enjoy this in youth, but there is plenty of aging potential here. 2021-2031

2016er	Blees-Ferber	Neumagener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese *** Non Plus Ultra	19 17	94
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The 2016er Neumagener Sonnenuhr Auslese *** Non Plus Ultra was made from fruit harvested at a massive 117° Oechsle. This immediately catches one's attention with ripe and expressive scents of fruits including canned pineapple, mango, orange, tangerine, pear and mirabelle as well as some honey, gingerbread and tar. The wine coats the vibrant palate with succulent zesty juicy fruits and fine spices. All this leads to a beautiful, well-delineated and slightly Eiswein-styled finish. This playful and juicy BA in all but name is quite a treat. 2026-2046



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2016er	Blees-Ferber	Piesporter Gärtchen Riesling Auslese	20 17	93
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The 2016er Piesporter Gärtchen Auslese was made from fruit harvested at 106° Oechsle. It is comparatively closed at first and only gradually reveals a beautifully complex nose of yellow peach, apricot, quince, smoke, lead pencil and dried flowers as well as some bakery residues from spontaneous fermentation. The wine proves superbly refined and juicy on the palate where ample, ripe but pure flavors of fruits are joined by a gentle touch of cream and a smooth whiff of honeyed mirabelle. The finish is intense, compact and fresh. Some candied citrusy fruits come through in the after-taste and makes one want to go for more. This full-on "Auslese lange GK" expression of Piesporter Gärtchen will need quite some time to integrate its sweetness. It should then prove a cracker of a sweet wine. 2031-2056

2016er	Blees-Ferber	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese *** Alte Reben	15 17	92
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The 2016er Trittenheimer Apotheke Spätlese *** Alte Reben is a dry-tasting wine (it stopped its fermentation at 10.2 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. just above legally dry levels) made from 46 year-old vines. It exhibits a beautiful nose made of grapefruit, cassis, yellow peach, superb fresh spices and a touch of almond cream. The wine develops nice sweet yellow fruits and a hint of honey on the gorgeously balanced and refined palate. The finish is very long and oozes freshness and finesse. This is a beautiful and just off-dry tasting Riesling which should evolve gracefully into a very complex and dry-tasting wine in a few years' time. 2021-2031+

2016er	Blees-Ferber	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese ***	21 17	91+
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This greets one with quite some rich and ripe scents of peach, quince, mirabelle, candied grapefruit and even a touch of mango and honey. The wine proves also quite ripe and sweet on the soft and creamy palate at this early stage. Honeyed flavors lead to smooth and very long finish. This rich Auslese-styled expression of Goldtröpfchen will need at least a decade to reach maturity. It could then prove quite a cracker, especially as it will undoubtedly gain in finesse as the sweetness recedes. 2026-2046+

2016er	Blees-Ferber	Piesporter Gärtchen Riesling Spätlese Feinherb	23 17	91
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The 2016er Piesporter Gärtchen Spätlese Feinherb was fermented to fully off-dry levels (28.1 g/l of residual sugar). It delivers a gorgeous nose made of white peach, cassis, grapefruit and almond cream all wrapped into spices and still some residues of fermentation. The wine is superbly juicy and spicy on the palate, where it offers good concentration and presence without any undue power or sweetness. The finish is long and refreshing. This is an outstanding off-dry Riesling in the making. 2018-2036

2016er	Blees-Ferber	Neumagener Sonnenuhr Riesling Non Plus Ultra	14 17	90
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The 2016er Neumagener Sonnenuhr Non Plus Ultra stopped its fermentation just above legally dry levels (with 11.9 g/l of residual sugar). Superbly fresh and complex scents of lime, grapefruit zest, tangerine and citrus give way to richer fruity elements including pear and pineapple as well as smoke after the wine is given some time in the glass. The wine proves mid-weighted on the palate, where it develops quite some presence as well as a touch of sweetness, a feeling reinforced by the underlying touch of creaminess. The long finish is playful as candied citrus and spices add a nice touch of freshness to the wine. 2019-2026+

2016er	Blees-Ferber	Schweicher Herrenberg Riesling Feinherb Alte Reben	13 17	90
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The 2016er Schweicher Herrenberg Feinherb Alte Reben is a fully off-dry wine (with 26.1 g/l of residual sugar) made from a parcel planted with 40 year-old Riesling vines at the bottom hill, just next to the Longuicher Maximiner Herrenberg. It is still comparatively closed down and only reveals some discreet notes of yellow peach, almond cream, herbs and smoke as well as a touch of yeasts at this early stage. The wine proves nicely structured, creamy and delicate on the palate. Ripe and sweet fruits are well packed and integrated into the wine. The wine develops a more opulent and intense side in the finish yet remains nicely refined at all times. This backward effort really needs a few years to fully develop its aromatic charm. It should then prove a truly outstanding expression of off-dry Mosel Riesling. 2020-2031

2015er	Blees-Ferber	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese Trocken ***	10 16	89
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Already light golden in color, this dry Spätlese offers an expansive and ripe fruity nose made of yellow peach, mirabelle and orange as well as a touch of toffee, honey and petrol. The wine is quite creamy and driven by yellow fruits, gingery spices and tar as well as some acidity on the intense and powerful palate. This bold and rich wine will please lovers of more forceful and fruit-driven expression of dry Riesling. 2019-2025

2016er	Blees-Ferber	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese	17 17	89
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This delivers a refined set of aromatics inducing flowers, vineyard peach, pear, dried spices and herbs. The wine proves nicely playful on the palate as some ripe and exotic fruits such as mango, papaya and pineapple are lifted up by some juicy and enlivening acidity. This is still on the sweet side at this early stage, but all the elements are present to make for a very good Spätlese in a decade's time. 2026-2046



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2016er	Blees-Ferber	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Kabinett Trocken	07 17	88
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The 2016er Trittenheimer Apotheke Kabinett Trocken was harvested at 87° Oechsle. It proves still rather reductive at first and only gradually reveals smoky scents of lime, ginger, freshly cut herbs, orange blossom, grapefruit and greengage. The wine is dynamic, animating on the lean palate and pepped up by zesty acidity right into the pure, spicy and long finish. There is still some tartness that needs to mellow away, so it is best to leave this alone for a year or two to be able to fully enjoy this attractive dry Riesling. 2019-2026

2016er	Blees-Ferber	Leiwener Laurentiuslay Riesling Kabinett	16 17	87
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Harvested at 87° Oechsle, the 2016er Leiwener Laurentiuslay Kabinett is still quite restrained and only timidly offers nice and fresh notes of candied grapefruit, canned yellow peach, pear, earthy spices and smoke. After airing, riper fruits including mirabelle and greengage join the party. The wine is quite direct and driven by ample, ripe and nicely canned fruits on the comparatively soft and still sweet palate. The finish is light and smooth with just a touch of acidity in the background to add early drinking appeal. This needs time to develop aromatically and gain in presence, but should develop into a very nice expression of ripe and juicy Kabinett at maturity. 2024-2036

2016er	Blees-Ferber	Leiwener Laurentiuslay Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	08 17	87
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The 2016er Leiwener Laurentiuslay Kabinett Feinherb was harvested at 88° Oechsle and fermented down to full off-dry levels (25.7 g/l of residual sugar). It delivers a nicely fresh even if slightly restrained nose made of vineyard peach, ginger spices, grapefruit and smoke. The wine is fully expressive and fruity on the palate. The sweet side of this off-dry Riesling still dominates the aromatic profile at this early stage but also gives this light-weighted and juicy wine a lot of charm and early drinking appeal. While drinking nicely early, this is not without aging potential. 2018-2024

Weingut Richard Böcking

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Richard Böcking	Trarbacher Ungerberg Riesling	06 17	91
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The 2016er Trarbacher Ungerberg is a fully dry Riesling (with only 2 g/l of residual sugar) fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in oak barrel for 10 months. This hugely backward wine only gradually reveals a reduced nose of grapefruit, lemon, passion fruit and pear, all wrapped into some faintly minty herbs and quite some spices. The wine is all about racy spices, minerals and herbs on the palate but reveals already nicely perfumed flavors of passion fruit, pear and white flowers in the background. This outstanding, bone dry and comparatively racy expression of Riesling only needs a few years of bottle aging to shed its wall of tartness. It should then prove a very elegant and stylish wine. 2021-2031

2016er	Richard Böcking	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling	08 17	90+
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The 2016er Trarbacher Ungerberg is a fully dry Riesling (with only 1 g/l of residual sugar) fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in oak barrel for 10 months. This backward wine offers a rather shy nose of grapefruit, greengage, pear, melon and earthy spices. It is bone dry and still driven by quite some hard chalky minerals on the palate, a normal stage for such a high-end Riesling at this early stage, and leaves a beautifully floral and herbal feel in the finish. The after-taste is still floral but quite tart for the moment. This wine needs certainly a few years to shed its backwardness but the balance is really promising. 2021-2031

2016er	Richard Böcking	Trarbacher Schlossberg Riesling	05 17	90
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The 2016er Trarbacher Schlossberg is an off-dry Riesling (with 17.6 g/l of residual sugar) fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in oak barrel for 10 months. This offers a nice nose made of grapefruit, minty herbs and mirabelle. The wine is nicely structured and direct on the palate and leaves a still slightly hard feel in the long and nicely balanced finish. This needs a few years to integrate its slightly hard tartness and show its class. 2021-2031

2016er	Richard Böcking	Riesling Devon	03 17	87
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The 2016er Riesling Devon is a dry Riesling (with 9 g/l of residual sugar) made from early pickings in the Estate's four flagship vineyards (Burgberg, Hühnerberg, Schlossberg and Ungerberg). This offers an energizing nose of grapefruit, gooseberry, lemon, pear and fine floral elements. The wine is nicely smooth, direct and delicate on the palate, where a touch of creaminess gives way to a firmly tart and slightly austere feel in the long, zesty and quite mouth-watering finish. The after-taste is all about tart minerals. This lively wine only needs a year or so to digest its tart side and fully shine. 2018-2023



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Hofgut Falkenstein

(Niedermennig – Saar)

Complement

2016er	Falkenstein	Niedermenniger Sonnenberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken	09 17	91
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The 2016er Niedermenniger Sonnenberg Spätlese Trocken (called "Fuder Muny, Kleiner Klaus" internally at the Estate) comes from two Lieu-Dit called Unter den Röderchen and Beim Hasenbirnbaum. It offers a gorgeous nose of pear, white flowers, melon and smoky slate. The wine starts off razor sharp on the palate but gains in presence as it unfolds into the beautifully flowery and playful even if still quite tart and focused finish. This is a classic steely expression of dry Riesling in the making. 2019-2026

Tobias Feiden

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

Tobias Feiden is the partner of Rebecca Materne (from the Weingut Materne & Schmitt) and works for the von Canal Sekt winery in Winnigen. Besides his day job, he took on parcels (0.2 ha in total today) in the steep hill Winninger Domgarten which are planted with Spätburgunder to produce some individualistic red wines. Winemaking is done at the facilities of Materne & Schmitt and is based on partial de-stemming, little pumping and extended (18 months) aging in used (3-4 year-old) barrique. Not having any reserve wines, he had to compensate the loss of volume from evaporation by glass marbles, and twisted this word to name its only wine: Marbleous. Whoever is in elegant Spätburgunder with presence but without undue oak should have a very close look at this exciting new project.

2015er	Tobias Feiden	Winniger Spätburgunder Marbleous	01 17	90
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The 2015er Spätburgunder Marbleous comes a prime sector of the Winniger Domgarten (which was classified as dark red on the old taxation maps) and was aged in used (3-4 year-old) barrique for 18 months. It offers a beautiful nose of Morello cherry, a hint of blackberry and wild strawberry, all wrapped into elegant spices and a hint of smoke. The tannic structure marks the wine at first on the palate but the tannins gain in sweetness and finesse as the wine develops in the glass. The finish is beautifully long and gorgeously balanced, carrying more fruits with just a hint of tartness in need of dissolving. This is a great first effort by a young grower from whom we will certainly hear more in the coming years. This is highly recommended. 2020-2030

Weingut Dr. Fischer

(Ockfen – Saar)

2016er	Dr. Fischer	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Kabinett	05 17	90
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This offers a nice and ample nose of lemon, cream and herbs. More melon blended with some tangerine elements and spices wrapped into ripe acidity give the wine presence and width on the palate. The finish is ripe and delicately zesty. 2026-2036

2016er	Dr. Fischer	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Spätlese	06 17	90
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This offers a big and aromatic nose of apricot, peach and spices. The wine is elegant and nicely round on the palate and leaves a great fruity feel in the smooth and delineated finish. 2026-2041

2016er	Dr. Fischer	Saarburger Kupp Riesling Trocken GG	07 17	90
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This offers beautiful elements of smoke, apricot, yellow peach, licorice and anise. The wine is quite imposing on the palate, with however enough dry extracts to buffer off the power in this fully dry tasting and baroque Riesling. The very long finish is quite spicy and marked by pink grapefruit and lime but also riper elements including melon. The tartness is still in need of integration. This wine should then prove an outstanding expression of a full-bodied dry Saar Riesling. 2021-2031



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2016er	Dr. Fischer	Saarburger Riesling Trocken	02 17	89
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The 2016er Saarburger Riesling Trocken comes exclusively from the Saarburger Kupp. The wine develops a bright nose with grapefruit and some elements of green herbs. It proves rather sharp and structured on the palate and leaves a clean and direct feel in the elegant finish. 2019-2026

2016er	Dr. Fischer	Saarburger Riesling Alte Reben	03 17	88
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The 2016er Saarburger Alte Reben is an off-dry wine made from old vines in the Saarburger Kupp. It develops a rather ripe and delicately creamy nose of melon, spices and herbs. The wine proves soft and smooth on the palate and leaves a nice creamy and herbal feel in the ample finish. 2019-2026

2016er	Dr. Fischer	Riesling Steinbock	04 17	87
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The 2016er Riesling Steinbock develops a clean and inviting nose of grapefruit, herbs and spices. The wine is nicely playful on the rather light palate and delivers quite some grip in the moderately intense and attractive finish. 2019-2026

2016er	Dr. Fischer	Riesling Trocken	01 17	86
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The 2016er Riesling Trocken comes exclusively from the Ockfener Bockstein. It offers an attractive nose of cassis, green herbs, grapefruit and elderflower. The wine is nicely direct and easy on the palate and leaves a refreshing and direct feel in the crisp finish. Now-2021

Weingut Reinhold Franzen

(Bremm – Terrassenmosel)

Complement

2016er	Reinhold Franzen	Bremmer Calmont Riesling	14 17	91
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The 2016er Bremmer Calmont is a dry Riesling (with 9 g/l of residual sugar) from the steep hill and classical part of the vineyard. This offers a beautiful and delicately creamy nose of mirabelle, greengage, earthy spices and smoky slate. The wine is nicely playful and smooth on the palate, where brown sugar, yellow peach, grapefruit, and some earthy spices play with one's senses. They leave a beautifully creamy and delicately ample feel in the light and focused finish (the wine only has 11.5% of alcohol). This is a beautiful effort in the making which proves both elegant and intense. 2021-2031

2016er	Reinhold Franzen	Neefer Frauenberg Riesling	13 17	91
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The 2016er Neefer Frauenberg is a dry-tasting Riesling (with 11 g/l of residual sugar) made from very old and largely un-grafted vines in the prime part of the vineyard. This offers a beautiful nose of lemon curd, mirabelle, coconut and fine herbs. The wine is delicately zesty on the palate. Nice juicy flavors of fruits emerge towards the finish, leaving one with a great and delicate feel of greengage, candied grapefruit, gingery herbs, flowery elements and chalky minerals. This proves a textbook of a dry-tasting Mosel Riesling, being both packed with flavors yet superbly light thanks to a refreshingly low 11.5% of alcohol. 2019-2031

2016er	Reinhold Franzen	Riesling Trocken FranZero	12 17	88
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The 2016er Trocken FranZero is a fully dry Riesling (with less than 2 g/l and referred to as "Extra Trocken" by the Estate) from Kabinett level fruit harvested in the classical part of the Bremmer Calmont. It delivers a delicately ripe and ample nose of pear, brown sugar, coconut, apricot blossom, minty herbs and earthy spices. The wine proves delicately creamy yet bone dry on the palate and leaves a nice herbal and rather zesty feel in the long and playful finish. 2018-2021



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Weingut Geltz-Zilliken

(Saarburg – Saar)

Complement

2016er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Trocken GG	10 17	91
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Mint, spices, pear, grapefruit, lime and herbs are some of the elements found in the elegant nose of this dry Riesling. The wine starts off on the creamy and juicy side on the palate. This then gives way to a more compact even if complex feel which runs right into the mineral and subtly finish. The after-taste is driven by minerals, herbs and ripe fruit, pepped up by a nice touch of minty elements. 2021-2031

Weingut Fritz Haag

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

Complement

2016er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	08 17	92+
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This offers a quite pure and aromatic nose made of smoke, grapefruit, lime and spices with a touch of apricot and licorice. The wine starts off on the smooth and fruity side on the palate before a zesty side pepped up by a touch of CO2 comes through and makes for a leaner structure in the highly spicy and nicely salty finish. This comparatively light expression of GG needs a couple of years to shine, but there is all the finesse to make for an outstanding and playful expression of dry Riesling at maturity. 2022-2031

2016er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Trocken GG	24 17	92
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This delivers an outstandingly creamy and complex nose of apricot cream, vanilla, yellow peach, mint, smoke and herbs. The wine coats the palate with ample juicy fruits, which gives it a beautiful sense of smoothness and delicacy. The finish is nicely dry in taste. This will only need a few years of bottle aging to integrate its creamy and smooth side. 2021-2028

Weingut Willi Haag

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Willi Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	09 17	91
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This wine is still quite reductive and only gradually reveals ripe scents of quince, yellow peach, honey and melon on the nose. The wine is quite compact as sweet apricot, beeswax and juicy yellow fruits emerge on the palate but leaves one with a great sense of freshness in the very long finish. This will prove a superb drinking Auslese at maturity. 2026-2046

2016er	Willi Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Auslese	10 17	90
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A whiff of sulfur gives way to ripe and ample scents of canned pineapple, peach, pear and spices on the nose. The wine is quite juicy, direct and still comparatively sweet on the palate at this early stage. Honeyed yellow fruits add to the rich and fruity feel of this juicy and ripe expression of Auslese. 2024-2036

2016er	Willi Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Kabinett	07 17	90
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An initial smoky side gives way to superb notes of almond, pineapple, apricot and raspberry. The wine delivers a gorgeously clean yellow peach with Spätlese intensity on the smooth palate and leaves on with a feeling of delicacy in the fruity finish. 2024-2036

2016er	Willi Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Spätlese	05 17	90
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Quite closed and almost non-saying at first, this Spätlese needs a couple of minutes of airing in the glass to reveal quite complex notes of almond, yellow peach and apple on the nose. The wine offers a playful interplay of sweet juicy pineapple and candied grapefruit on the palate and a superb feel in the long finish. 2024-2036



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2016er	Willi Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	17 17	89
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Slightly reductive and still marked by some SO2 at this early stage, this wine only gradually reveals some beautiful notes of flowers, apricot, strawberry and vanilla cream. The wine is light and very playful on the palate, and ends on a just off-dry note in the long and spicy finish. This needs a couple of years to fully shine. 2019-2026

2016er	Willi Haag	Riesling Trocken	02 17	87
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A very clean and refreshing nose of white peach, mint, anise and smoke with a touch of apricot in the background leads to a light-weighted and rather subtle wine on the palate. This builds up more presence and intensity in the fully dry and long finish and quite zesty after-taste. 2018-2021

2016er	Willi Haag	Veldenzer Riesling Spätlese Feinherb Alte Reben	06 17	87
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This off-dry Riesling delivers a ripe yet clean nose of apricot, apple, quince, almond cream and anise. The wine proves creamy and sweet (it has 27 g/l of residual sugar) on the fruit-loaded palate and is on a charming but soft side in the medium-long finish. The whole thing remains deliciously easy to drink, and will gain in finesse with a few more years of bottle. 2019-2024

Weingut Reinhold Haart

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

Complement

2016er	Reinhold Haart	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Trocken GG	40 17	94
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This seduces one with a very elegant and marvelously smoky nose driven by subtle hints of spices, herbs and anise at this early stage. The wine is beautifully focused and precise on the palate, a feeling reinforced by the fact that the wine is bone dry and offers beautiful zesty and animating acidity. The purity in the finish is quite breathtaking. This quite sharp wine will need quite a few years of bottle aging to fully develop and integrate some of its early firm and sharp edges. But make no mistake, this is a stunning piece of dry Riesling in the making for lovers of precise and delicately racy wines. 2024-2036

2016er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken GG	20 17	93
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Superbly smoky and fresh elements gradually give way to riper notes of pear, apricot and yellow peach on the nose as the wine expands in the glass. The wine is initially creamy and smooth on the palate but develops great presence and intensity in the very long and zesty finish. The purity and length in the after-taste are quite stunning. This needs a couple of year to integrate its richness. It will then turn out into a stunning expression of dry Mosel Riesling. 2021-2031+

2016er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Grafenberg Riesling Trocken GG	45 17	91
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This offers a light and fresh nose of white peach, herbs, gooseberry, cassis and smoke. The wine is delicately light on the palate and seduces one through finesse and elegance. The finish develops the beautifully flowery side of Mosel Riesling. This will provide outstanding drinking pleasure at maturity. 2021-2031

Weingut Markus Heeb

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

Markus Heeb is a musician by profession with a passion for wine. In 2013, he did an internship with Daniel Vollenweider and, in his own words, "it was love at first sight." Daniel leased him two small parcels (totaling ... 0.1 ha!). Markus does (most of) the vineyard work himself. The wines are fermented with ambient yeasts and in stainless steel in a part of the cellar at Vollenweider. 2015 was his first commercial vintage, whereby quantities are tiny (no more than a few hundred bottles).

2016er	Markus Heeb	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Kabinett	01 17	90
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This 2016er Wolfer Goldgrube Kabinett was harvested at 86° Oechsle from 50 year-old grafted vines in the Jon part of the vineyard. Still quite reductive at first, this wine quickly reveals superb notes of yellow peach, almond cream, candied grapefruit and pear. The wine is creamy, juicy and fine. The light structure makes for a playful and easy side of this clean and quite fruit driven Kabinett. This beautiful Kabinett is still on the sweet side in the after-taste at the moment, so it is best left alone for a few years in order to enjoy its full fruity complexity. 2024-2036



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2016er	Markus Heeb	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling	02 17	87
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This 2016er Wolfer Goldgrube is a dry Riesling (with less than 6 g/l of residual sugar) made from very century-old un-grafted vines in the Padauer sector of the vineyard. A hint of volatile acidity gives way to clean and ripe yellow fruits including peach, pear and quince on the nose. Spices, whipped cream and anise come through with airing. The wine offers nice juicy yellow fruits on the palate and good grip and tension in the long finish. The touch of tartness in the after-taste would make us opt to wait a year in order to fully enjoy this wine. 2018-2024

Weingut Markus Hüls

(Kröv – Middle Mosel)

NB: Markus Hüls uses a 1-10 scale on the bottom of its label to indicate the sweetness of his wines (1 being dry and 10 noble-sweet). Some wines only differ by the AP Number or the indication of sweetness.

2016er	Markus Hüls	Kröver Letterlay Riesling	21 17	91+
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The dry-tasting 2016er Kröver Letterlay was made from 45 year-old vines and was fermented and aged in stainless steel. It stopped its fermentation at dry-tasting levels (10 g/l of residual sugar). This offers a gorgeously open nose of pear, white peach, some grapefruit and cassis as well as herbs and smoked spices. The wine is beautifully balanced with great presence on the palate. Gorgeous fruity flavors flow with ease, being nicely framed by a great touch of tartness. The finish is beautifully long and intense, leaving one with a broad and inviting feel of herbs. This a gorgeously full-bodied expression of dry-tasting Riesling in the making, and one with quite some upside potential as the herby and tart side melts into the overall aromatics and structure of the wine at maturity. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Hüls	Kröver Steffensberg Riesling	20 17	90+
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The 2016er Kröver Steffensberg was made in stainless steel and stopped its fermentation at dry-tasting levels (12 g/l of residual sugar). This offers an inviting and ample nose of greengage, cassis, passion fruit, infused pear and fine aniseed herbs. The wine is nicely creamy and elegant on the palate and leaves a still slightly off-dry feel in the long and beautifully playful even if comparatively powerful finish. This only needs a few years to shine and could ultimately warrant a higher rating as it gains further in finesse and precision and as the touch of off-dryness melts into the wine. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Hüls	Riesling Alte Reben	15 17	90
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The 2016er Alte Reben is made from 45-year-old vines in the Kröver Steffensberg. It stopped its fermentation at fully off-dry levels (28 g/l of residual sugar). This offers a delicately broad nose blending ripe pear, apricot blossom and herbs with a touch of grapefruit. The wine is off-dry and mellow on the palate, where creamy fruits lead to an inviting, broad feel in the tart and salty finish. The sweetness is a bit at the forefront so that we would opt to enjoy this rather in a few years' time, when the wine will have integrated. 2024-2036

2016er	Markus Hüls	Riesling Schieferspiel	10 17	88
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The 2016er Schieferspiel comes from Estate holdings planted with the Schlangengraben Riesling clone in the Kröver Kirchlay and was fermented at dry-tasting levels (11 g/l of residual sugar). The wine still proves quite backward and only gradually reveals an attractive and slightly ample nose of minerals, grapefruit, cassis, pear, elderflower and bergamot. More minerals, wrapped into some pear-infused fruits, drive the aromatics on the palate. There is great intensity but the wine remains nicely medium-bodied right into the nicely juicy and delicately powerful finish. Only a touch of sweetness is in need of integration, it is therefore better to leave the wine alone for a few years before enjoying it. It should then provide much pleasure in a nicely forceful style of dry-tasting Mosel Riesling. 2019-2026

2016er	Markus Hüls	Riesling	05 17	86
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The 2016er Riesling AP05 is an off-dry Riesling (with 21 g/l of residual sugar) from Estate holdings in the Kröver Letterlay, Kirchlay and Steffensberg (it carries the sweetness level "3" on the scale provided at the bottom of the label). This offers an attractive nose of cassis, grapefruit, spices and herbs. The wine is made in a direct and easy style on the palate and leaves a remarkably zesty feel in the crisp and tart finish. A nice mouth-watering and salty feel comes through in the after-taste of this slender and citrusy expression of off-dry Riesling. Now-2021

2016er	Markus Hüls	Weissburgunder Goldstück	41 17	86
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The dry 2016er Weissburgunder Goldstück comes from selected grapes in the Kröver Paradies, and was fermented and aged in traditional oak cask until bottling in June 2017. The wine is yellow colored with some green reflexes. It offers a slightly broad nose of poached pear, wet wood and aniseed herbs. The wine proves elegantly soft and round, as creamy fruits hit the palate and lead to a more ample and delicately zesty feel of poached pear in the long and comforting finish. Now-2019



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2016er	Markus Hüls	Riesling	01 17	85
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The 2016er Riesling AP01 is a legally dry Riesling from Estate holdings in the Kröver Letterlay, Kirchlay and Steffensberg (it carries the sweetness level "1" on the scale provided at the bottom of the label). This offers a slender nose made of grapefruit, cassis, smoke, green herbs and Provence herbs. The wine is light-bodied, direct and remarkably sharp on the palate with a firm acidity structuring the slender and direct finish. Now-2020

2016er	Markus Hüls	Weissburgunder	40 17	85
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The dry 2016er Weissburgunder comes from Estate holdings in the Kröver Paradies and from purchased fruit from partner growers in Wolf. It was fermented in stainless steel with extended aging on the fine lees. This offers a rather smoky and delicate nose made of discreet scents of apple, mirabelle, pear, grapefruit, Provence herbs, smoke and green herbs. The wine proves rather slender-bodied on the palate, with good zesty and apply flavors leading to a sharp and crisp finish. This slightly sharp expression of Mosel Weissburgunder proves direct and easy. Now-2019

Weingut Karthäuserhof

(Eitelsbach – Trier-Ruwer)

2016er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Spätlese	08 17	91
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This is comparatively closed at first, and only gradually reveals some beautiful notes of whipped cream, honeyed fruits and pear. The wine is full of fruits, including juicy peach, mango and tangerine, on the palate, giving it Auslese character. The finish is long, pure and reveals superb refreshing notes of candied lime. This is a beautiful piece of fruity Riesling made in a "drinking Auslese" style in the making. 2026-2046

2016er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Kabinett	07 17	90
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The 2016er Karthäuserhofberg Kabinett offers a beautiful nose of candied grapefruit, yellow peach, whipped cream, lime and herbs. The wine coats the palate with juicy fruits, and proves light and fresh right into the very long finish. This juicy Kabinett only needs some years of bottle aging to reach its drinking window. 2023-2036

2016er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Trocken GG	14 17	90
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This delivers a nicely elegant and refined nose of vineyard peach, almond cream, flowers and elderflower. The wine starts off on the direct side on the palate but then develops a superb cocktail of grapefruit, citrus and smoke. The finish is delicately fresh, playful and fully dry. This mouth-watering dry tasting Riesling is a joy to drink by the bottle. 2018-2024

2016er	Karthäuserhof	Riesling Spätlese Trocken Alte Reben	06 17	87
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This delivers a nice and refreshing nose of smoke, herbs and minty spices. The wine is straight and direct and develops quite some herbal and zesty flavors on the palate. The finish is still slightly on the tart side, so it is best to wait until next year to fully enjoy this wine. 2018-2022

2016er	Karthäuserhof	Weissburgunder Trocken	01 17	87
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This offers a direct and very aromatic nose with ripe elements driven by pear, apple, rose water and melon. The wine is comparatively gentle and soft on the palate where some ripe yellow fruits underline its creamy texture. The finish of this fruit-driven Weissburgunder is intense and delicately powerful. Now-2019

Weingut Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt

(Morscheid – Trier-Ruwer)

Complement

2016er	von Kesselstatt	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Trocken GG	30 17	92
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This delivers a superbly smoky nose of gooseberry, mint, smoke and anise. The wine delivers these fruity and herby elements with great presence on the medium-bodied palate, and proves nicely balanced tight into the very long finish. Only a touch of tartness is still in integration, before this outstanding piece of dry Ruwer Riesling will deliver its full potential. 2019-2026



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2016er	von Kesselstatt	Josephshöfer Riesling Trocken GG	28 17	91+
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The 2016er Josephshöfer Trocken GG delivers a gorgeously fruity nose of yellow peach, macerated pear and greengage as well as spices and anise. Despite a low 12% of alcohol, the wine proves intense and quite concentrated on the palate. Good levels of dry extracts buffer off this intensity on the palate beautifully well and add depth to the wine. The very pure and long finish is all about grapefruit zest refined tartness (which will dissolve after some bottle aging). This superb GG in the making has quite some upside potential if the fresher side remains intact at maturity. 2022-2031

Kilburg

(Wintrich – Middle Mosel)

After winemaking studies and stints overseas as well as with Julian Haart, young Max Kilburg (winemaker in 20th generation) rejoined the family Geierslay Estate in Wintrich, one of the historic Estates of the Mosel, in 2014 and took it over formally in 2016. In parallel, he also acquired a sizeable parcel in the Wintricher Ohligsberg which was partially lying fallow and partially planted with 40 year-old vines. From this parcel, he produces a series of wines using ambient yeasts and prolonged lees contact which he commercializes under the (stylish) Kilburg label.

2014er	Kilburg	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Kabinett	20 15	92+
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This 2014er Wintricher Ohligsberg Kabinett is the debut vintage of a project of young Max Kilburg (who took over the family Geierslay Estate in 2016) from a parcel planted with 40 year-old vines which he personally acquired in 2014. This hay-yellow colored wine has closed down now (as many wines from the vintage did) and only hints at a superb nose of grapefruit puree, white peach, tangerine, ginger and herbs. The full balance of the wine comes screaming through on the palate, which proves superbly light, playful and elegant, yet packed with flavors. The finish is deep, juicy and marked by fresh notes of fruits as well as a classy touch of brown sugar. This is a terrific Kabinett in the making, and has even some upside potential, as it will reach its drinking window! 2024-2039

2016er	Kilburg	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Kabinett	17 17	91
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This 2016er Wintricher Ohligsberg Kabinett is a project of young Max Kilburg (who took over the family Geierslay Estate in 2016) from a parcel planted with 40 year-old vines which he personally acquired in 2014. This offers a beautiful and delicately ample nose of whipped cream, pear, lemon, white melon, herbs and spices. It develops the delicate creaminess of a light Spätlese on the palate and leaves a pure and clean feel of herbs in the long finish. This is a beautiful and nicely lively fruity wine in the making! 2026-2041

2015er	Kilburg	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Kabinett	37 16	91
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This 2015er Wintricher Ohligsberg Kabinett is a project of young Max Kilburg (who took over the family Geierslay Estate in 2016) from a parcel planted with 40 year-old vines which he personally acquired in 2014. The wine has already closed down somewhat but still offers a telltale nose of yellow peach, tangerine zest, grapefruit, cardamom and smoky slate. It is rather full-bodied for a Kabinett on the palate but a brilliantly vivid yet ripe acidity cuts through the richness and makes for a superbly racy and engaging experience in the already beautifully balanced finish. This slightly powerful expression of Spätlese-styled Riesling (with 9.5% of alcohol) should offer much pleasure alone or with food. 2020-2030

Weingut König Johann

(Konz – Saar)

The Weingut König Johann in Konz was known as Weingut Ökonomierat A. Schmitt Estate until the Schmitt family replanted the forgotten and abandoned Serriger König-Johann-Berg in 2006. This 10.5 ha Estate with vineyards in Filzen and Serrig in the Saar, was recently given a new life, after Dennis, Nicole and Sarah Schmitt, all still in their early to mid-twenties, joined their parents at the helm of this venerable Estate as their father faced some heart problems. Under the line "Saar DNS" introduced in 2016 (a wordplay on DNA in German and the initials of Dennis, Nicole and Sarah), they produce wines based on fermentation with ambient yeasts.

2016er	König Johann	Filzener Steinberger Riesling Spätlese Saar DNS Mehrwert	05 17	90
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The 2016er Riesling Mehrwert (the name of the vineyard and the Prädikat only appears on the back label) is a fruity-styled Spätlese made from fruit harvested at approx. 88° Oechsle on 50 year-old vines. The wine develops a beautiful nose of grapefruit, star fruit, greengage and dried herbs. It proves beautifully balanced on the palate, where a delicately waxy side balances out the ripe and zest acidity. The finish is beautifully clean, pure and direct. This is an outstanding light-weighted fruity-styled wine in the making. 2021-2036



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2016er	König Johann	Filzener Steinberger Riesling Kabinett Saar DNS Lebenslust	10 17	89
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The 2016er Riesling Lebenslust (the name of the vineyard and the Prädikat only appears on the back label) is a fruity-styled Kabinett with approx. 45 g/l of residual sugar. This is still marked by quite some residual notes from spontaneous fermentation on the nose. These only gradually give way to succulent scents of white peach, grapefruit sorbet, herbs and fine spices. This rather light-bodied wine is nicely juicy and fruity on the palate, where a delicate touch of beeswax gives a nice soothing pendant to the zesty flavors of grapefruit, herbs and spices. The finish is nicely playful and direct. This is a nice and very easy-drinking Saar Kabinett with ripe yet tickly acidity. 2021-2031

N.V.	König Johann	Saar Riesling Crémant Saar DNS	06 17	89
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The Non-Vintage Riesling Crémant AP06 17 comes solely from the 2011 vintage and was fermented with ambient yeasts from fruit harvested in the lower part of the Serriger König-Johann-Berg. It was aged in bottle for 36 months before being disgorged with a total dosage of 9 g/l (the disgorgement date is not provided). This opens up with a beautifully flowery nose of grapefruit, yellow peach, apricot blossom and fine herbs. The wine is nicely smooth yet animating on the palate. A very fine mousse underlines the overall balance of this Sekt right into the slightly off-dry finish. All in all, this is a beautiful effort. Now-2020

2016er	König Johann	Serriger König-Johann-Berg Riesling Kabinett Saar DNS Zeitvertreib	09 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Zeitvertreib (the name of the vineyard and the Prädikat only appears on the back label) is a fully off-dry wine with approx. 30 g/l of residual sugar. It is still marked by quite some residual notes from spontaneous fermentation on the nose and only gradually reveals citrusy and smoky scents. These give way to a light-weighted but beautifully juicy feel of earthy spices, pear, aniseed herbs and slate on the palate. The finish is airy and plain gorgeous in a delicate style. This wine, which is playing on zesty fleeting elegance rather than presence, will prove delightful in its direct style for a solid decade. Now-2026

2016er	König Johann	Serriger König-Johann-Berg Riesling Saar DNS Fernblick	07 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Fernblick (the name of the vineyard only appears on the back label) is a legally dry Riesling with approx. 7 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a deep nose of grapefruit sorbet, blackberry, minerals and dried aniseed herbs. The wine is elegantly light-featured on the palate and leaves a beautifully clean and playful feel of citrusy fruits, greengage and chalky minerals in the tart finish. There is nice presence without any power in the zesty after-taste. Now-2023

2016er	König Johann	Riesling Classic Hummingbird	08 17	87
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The 2016er Riesling Classic Hummingbird comes from Estate holdings in the Filzener Unterberg with some fruit from the upper part of the solely owned Serriger König-Johann-Berg. It was fermented down to off-dry levels (14.6 g/l of residual sugar). This offers a rather deep and quite complex nose of blackberry, greengage, citrusy fruits, smoke and minerals. Medium-bodied, it is elegant and shows surprising depth on the palate for a simple Estate wine. It leaves a nice and harmoniously off-dry feel in the long and direct finish. This is nicely enjoyable today if one does not mind a touch of tartness in the after-taste. Now-2021

Weingut Peter Lauer

(Ayl – Saar)

Complement

2016er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Kupp Riesling Fass 18 GG		94
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The 2016er Ayler Kupp GG develops a gorgeous nose made of pear, white peach, mirabelle, greengage, oregano, tea and smoke. The wine is beautifully balanced as it develops great presence on the superbly focused palate. This will gain in presence with age and prove a stunner of a wine in a delicately intense style at maturity. 2021-2031

2016er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Lamberts Kirch Riesling Kabinett	14 17	93
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The 2016er Ayler Lamberts Kirch Kabinett was harvested at a moderate 82° Oechsle. It develops a hugely vibrant nose of cassis, gooseberry, white peach, green herbs and flint stone akin with more than a fleeting similitude with that of a Sauvignon Blanc. The wine starts off on the sharp and structured side on the palate before beautiful cream kicks in and adds a smooth side to the overall highly racy and almost green finish. This is a brilliant Kabinett which needs time to fully integrate. But we have full understanding for anyone who would drink this on its early fruit. It is simply so good. 2026-2046



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2016er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Schonfels Riesling Fass 11 GG	92
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The 2016er Ayler Schonfels GG develops a ripe nose of grapefruit zest, ginger, sage, star fruit and minty herbs. The wine is beautifully elegant on the palate where aniseed herbs, mirabelle and grapefruit drive the aromatic profile. It leaves a stunning even if slightly warm feel of herbs and spices in the long finish. This is a gorgeously delineated and intense dry Riesling in the making. 2021-2031

2016er	Peter Lauer	Biebelhausener Feils Riesling Fass 13 GG	92
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The 2016er Biebelhausener Feils GG develops a beautiful nose of mirabelle, pear, white flowers, licorice and smoke. The wine is elegant and zesty on the palate, where date, apricot and passion fruit drive the aromatic profile. It leaves a gorgeously smooth and elegant feel in the quite powerful finish. This is a great wine for lovers of slightly bigger but no less refined expressions of dry Saar Riesling. 2021-2036

1996er	Peter Lauer	Saar Riesling Sekt Réserve Natur	28 16	90
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The 1996er Saar Sekt Réserve Natur AP28 16 comes from secondary hills around Ayl and remained on its fine lees until it was disgorged without any dosage in June 2017 (the disgorgement date is provided on the label). This bright yellow-colored Sekt starts off on the backward side, with some smoke, tea and hay, before revealing a quite appealing and complex nose of white peach, pear, grapefruit and Provence herbs. It proves remarkably smooth on the palate (certainly for a 1996, one of the most acidic vintages of recent times) as it went through at least partial malolactic fermentation. This gives this Sekt a great winery side lifted up by a nicely integrated mousse. This feeling runs right into the bone dry, herbal and nicely backward finish. This beautifully mature Sekt needs food. Now-2019

2016er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Riesling Fass 25	87
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The 2016er Ayler Fass 25 comes from the Scheidterberg and Rauberg hills, two secondary steep hills in Ayl. It develops a very nice nose of grapefruit zest, lavender, Provence herbs and smoky slate. The wine is nicely balanced and smooth on the palate and leaves a crisp and delicately creamy feel in the medium-long finish. Now-2021

2016er	Peter Lauer	Riesling Feinherb Alt Scheidt	19 17	87
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The 2016er Alt Scheidt is an off-dry Riesling made from purchased fruit as well as from Estate vineyards. It offers a very nice nose of grapefruit zest, minty herbs, smoke and chalky minerals. The wine is direct and easy on the palate and leaves a pure and juicy feel of herbs and peach in the surprisingly long finish (certainly by "mere" Estate wine standards). Now-2021

2016er	Peter Lauer	Riesling Barrel X	19 17	87
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The 2016er Barrel X is an off-dry Riesling made from purchased fruit as well as from Estate vineyards. It offers a very nice nose of grapefruit zest, minty herbs, smoke and chalky minerals. The wine is direct and easy on the palate and leaves a pure and juicy feel of herbs and peach in the surprisingly long finish (certainly by "mere" Estate wine standards). Now-2021

2016er	Peter Lauer	Riesling Trocken Fass 16	86
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The 2016er Trocken Fass 16 comes from purchased fruit out of a variety of Saar vineyards. It offers a very attractive nose of fresh fruits, spices and herbs. The wine is nicely focused and easy on the palate and leaves a minty and juicy feel in the crisp finish. Now-2021

Weingut Schloss Lieser

(Lieser – Middle Mosel)

Complement

2016er	Schloss Lieser	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken GG	26 17	94
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Smoky and bacon-driven residues of spontaneous fermentation quickly give way to beautiful scents of orange blossom, yellow peach, almond cream, mint and smoke on the nose. The wine is packed with flavors and delivers these with plenty of freshness and intensity and without any undue power on the palate. The length is outstanding and stunningly animating, with lime and ginger spices adding an extra dimension to the experience. This is a great success to let age a few years to fully blossom. 2021-2036



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2016er	Schloss Lieser	Lieserer Niederberg Helden Riesling Trocken GG	23 17	93
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Still marked by smoky and bacon driven residues of spontaneous fermentation, this only gradually reveals superbly fresh scents of yellow peach, smoke, anise, cassis and spices. The wine is packed with intense tartness and zesty fruits, which gives it some weight at this early stage. The finish is still restrained and in need of expansion. This classy effort only needs a couple of years of bottle aging to fully shine. 2021-2031

2016er	Schloss Lieser	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	25 17	93
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This offers a great fresh feel of pear, grapefruit, flowery elements and a hint of smoky slate. The wine develops good presence on the palate and leaves a gorgeous long feel in the refined finish. While already quite approachable now, this will gain in presence and definition as it matures over the coming years. 2021-2031

2016er	Schloss Lieser	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Trocken GG	22 17	92+
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Nutty residues of spontaneous fermentation gradually give way to beautiful scents of dried flowers, dried apricot, white peach, smoke and spices on the nose. The wine develops great tension on the palate, a feeling which is amplified both by the lime-driven acidity and the tartness. It appears almost on the lean and smoky side in the finish, yet there is everything packed deep into this wine for it to develop positively over the coming years. Patience is needed for this beautiful mineral Himmelreich in the making. 2021-2031

2016er	Schloss Lieser	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	24 17	92+
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This offers a great nose of cassis, peach and floral elements. The wine is straight but also quite tart on the palate and leaves a great and quite intense feel in the long finish. The wine is still quite primary and needs to integrate its bigger side. But the potential is quite high. 2021-2031

Weinbau Dr. Lippold

(Ürzig – Middle Mosel)

Dr. Lippold is a tiny Estate in Ürzig. Besides a successful career as winemaker and oenologist, Dr. Enno Lippold took over two small parcels of vineyards in his homeland Ürzig in the 2000s. There are respectively situated in the prime Neuberg and the Weltersberg parts of the Würzgarten. Dr. Lippold produces traditionally made wines with the helping hand of local grower Benedikt Pfeiffer. He typically releases many of its wines rather late, sometimes years after the vintage, as one of his credos is that Mosel greatness comes with age. The style is one of lightness and elegance.

2010er	Dr. Lippold	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Beerenauslese Alte Reben	03 11	94
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The 2010er Ürziger Würzgarten BA Alte Reben develops a beautiful nose of mint, gooseberry, white peach, pineapple, coconut and quite some earthy spices. The wine is beautifully playful and elegant on the palate, with the presence and raciness of a high-end Auslese. The finish is beautifully lively and has the depth and the great elegance of a fruity Eiswein. This is a gorgeous wine made in a slightly sturdy but no less satisfying style. Now-2030

2003er	Dr. Lippold	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Auslese Alte Reben vom Weltersberg	02 04	92
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This offers a gorgeous nose of cassis, herbs and smoke. The wine is beautifully elegant and refined on the palate and leaves a gorgeously smooth feel of melon, cassis, slate and herbs in the surprisingly elegant refreshing finish. This is a great success! Now-2028

2010er	Dr. Lippold	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Auslese Alte Reben	03 14	91
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The 2010er Ürziger Würzgarten Auslese Alte Reben develops a surprising nose of camphor, gooseberry, mint, underbrush and herbs. The wine is slightly bold with minty herbs and sharp acidity on the palate but this is nicely balanced by a touch of whipped cream and mirabelle. The finish is precise and quite refreshing, with gooseberry mingling with riper flavors of greengage and some spices. This is nicely made in a sharp and delicately restrained style. Now-2025+

2013er	Dr. Lippold	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese Alte Reben vom Weltersberg	01 15	90+
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This Spätlese, made from 80-100 year-old un-grafted vines, offers a rather backward nose of gooseberry, greengage, herbs and smoke. The wine proves rather youthful and delicately powerful on the palate (it does have 9% of alcohol) and leaves a pure and clean feel in the long and superbly juicy finish. This old-styled Spätlese is not really ready yet but full of promises. 2023-2033



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2012er	Dr. Lippold	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett Alte Reben vom Weltersberg	01 13	90
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This just off-dry Kabinett (it does have 14 g/l of residual sugar) was made from very old un-grafted vines in the prime Welbersberg sector of the vineyard. It offers a beautiful nose of cherry, strawberry, pear and fine herbs and spices. The wine is nicely smooth and delicately playful on the light-weighted palate and leaves a great feel of apple and a hint of slate in the smooth and stylish finish. This proves beautiful to enjoy now and over the next couple of years. Now-2022

Weingut Carl Loewen

(Leiwen – Middle Mosel)

Complement

2016er	Carl Loewen	Longuicher Maximiner Herrenberg Riesling Trocken GG	13 17	93
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This delivers an absolutely gorgeous and captivating nose of smoke, aniseed spices, cardamom, smoke and dried flowers. The wine is packed with complexity on the palate yet offers an incredibly refined and airy side. Superb zesty notes of grapefruit and lime make for a delicious and refreshing experience right into the stunningly long finish. The after-taste is all about zest and minerals. This is a great piece of dry Riesling in the making. 2022-2031

2016er	Carl Loewen	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Trocken GG	12 17	92
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This offers an almost opulent yet beautifully refined nose with yellow peach, vanilla cream, coconut, Limoncello and spices. The wine coats the palate with juicy, fresh and pure flavors of peach, grapefruit and spices. The finish may seem slightly on the baroque and intense side of things at the moment. But give this wine time and you will have a great piece of fruit-driven dry Riesling. 2021-2031

Weingut von Othegraven

(Kanzem – Saar)

Complement

2016er	von Othegraven	Kanzemer Altenberg Riesling Trocken GG	23 17	93
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Still slightly reductive and marked by residues of spontaneous fermentation, this develops a light flowery nose with aniseed herbs, vineyard peach, smoke, and thyme after some airing. Though light in structure, the wine develops very intense spicy flavors on the palate. Lime and salty elements add to the zesty power running through the wine and up to the very long finish. This is a superb expression of highly focused and razor-sharp dry Saar Riesling. 2023-2036

2016er	von Othegraven	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Trocken GG	22 17	92+
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This still proves quite reduced at this early stage, and it only gradually reveals tons of spices, including ginger, cardamom and curry, soon followed by yellow peach and pear. The wine is delicately creamy but also zesty on the palate, and delivers its full grace in the very long, immensely spicy and fresh finish. The after-taste lasts for minutes on end. This hugely impressive dry Bockstein will need a few years to develop aromatically and deliver its full potential. 2021-2031

Weingut Paulinshof

(Kesten – Middle Mosel)

Complement

2016er	Paulinshof	Brauneberger Kammer Riesling Trocken GG	16 17	92
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This offers a beautifully elegant and fresh nose of herbs, mint, greengage, white peach, grapefruit and cassis. The wine is packed with fresh flavors of smoke and spices as well as just a touch of fruits on the palate. This is superbly playful, zesty and pure in the very long and smoky finish. This has all the elements to develop into a fresh and elegant top dry Riesling within a few years. 2021-2031



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2016er	Paulinshof	Kestener Paulinshofberg Riesling Trocken GG	25 17	91
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This delivers a quite spicy nose of creamy fruits including yellow peach, coconut and quince as well as some candied grapefruit and mint. The wine has quite some grip and density and proves quite compact at this early stage on the palate. But it develops a superbly playful and delineated side in the very long, creamy and spicy finish. The after-taste is full of minerals despite the inner weight of this great dry Riesling in the making. 2021-2031

Weingut Dr. Pauly-Bergweiler

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Dr. Pauly-Bergweiler	Bernkasteler alte Badstube am Doctorberg Riesling Trocken GG	21 17	90
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This develops a gorgeous nose of pear, herbs and fine spices. The wine is beautifully balanced on the mineral and herbal palate, and leaves a long feel in the smooth and refined finish. This is an outstanding dry Riesling in the making which plays on finesse and subtlety. 2019-2031

Weingut S.A. Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

Complement

2016er	S.A. Prüm	Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Spätlese	11 17	92
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The 2016er Bernkasteler Badstube Spätlese is still marked by some quite classy scents of spontaneous fermentation which some describe as the typical "Prüm stink." The wine then reveals its beautiful nose of grapefruit, white and yellow peach, earthy spices and herbs, all wrapped into a succulent whiff of lemony whipped cream. It is beautifully playful and elegant on the delicately creamy palate and leaves a simply irresistible feel in the long and feather-light finish. The after-taste is all about whipped cream, passion fruit and melon. This has all of this unique combination of lightness and aromatic intensity that is the hallmark of Mosel. 2024-2036

2016er	S.A. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Spätlese	12 17	92+
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The 2016er Graacher Himmelreich Spätlese offers a beautiful nose of white peach puree, grapefruit, cassis, minty herbs and a hint of spices. The wine develops the creamy presence of a clean Auslese on the palate and leaves a gorgeously smooth and elegant feel of creamy melon, passion fruit, laurel and chalky minerals in the long and mouth-watering finish. This will need at least a decade to fully blossom, and there is even quite some upside potential. 2026-2041

2016er	S.A. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese Fass 39		90+
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The 2016er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese Fass 39 is a special selection made from 90-110 year-old un-grafted vines in the terraced area around the sundial. This proves rather backward and hints only at ripe scents of brown sugar, quince, apple and Provence herbs. The wine is delicate and deep on the palate, but still needs quite some time to develop aromatically. It should then prove a quite deep, complex and ripe expression of Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese. 2026-2046

Weingut F.J. Regnery

(Klūsserath – Middle Mosel)

Complement

2015er	F.J. Regnery	Klūsserather Bruderschaft Spätburgunder Trocken im Barrique gereift	02 17	89
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The 2015er Spätburgunder Trocken im Barrique gereift is aged in 2-8 year-old barrique for 15 months. This offers an ample nose of ripe cherry, strawberry, soy sauce and a hint of minty herbs. This wine is superbly balanced on the palate, where sweet juicy cherry and strawberry mingle with Asian spices. The finish is elegant and comparatively complex. This is a very good Spätburgunder which plays on finesse and not on extract and power. Now-2021



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2015er	F.J. Regnery	Klüsserather Bruderschaft Spätburgunder Trocken Bestes Fuder	01 17	88
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The 2015er Spätburgunder Trocken Bestes Fuder is the best cask from a selection made from German clones. It was aged for in traditional Fuder casks for 15 months. Brick-red in color, this offers a ripe nose of cooked strawberry, cherry, underbrush and dried herbs. The wine develops a warm and delicately silky feel on the palate and leaves a slightly hot touch in the long and quite remarkably balanced finish. Now-2021

2015er	F.J. Regnery	Klüsserather Bruderschaft Spätburgunder Trocken	17 17	87
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The 2015er Spätburgunder Trocken comes from German clones of Pinot Noir and was aged in traditional Fuder casks for 15 months. Brick-red in color, this offers an attractive nose of wild strawberry, a hint of clove, some herbs and sweet cherry. The wine is nicely balanced on the palate and leaves a nice feel of sweet ripe fruits in the long and comparatively silky finish. A touch of fruit tannins adds just enough presence to the after-taste. This is a real success for comparatively little money. Now-2021

Weingut Richard Richter

(Winningen – Middle Mosel)

Complement

2016er	Richard Richter	Winninger Uhlen Roth Lay Terrassen Riesling Trocken GG	16 17	91+
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This is still quite reductive at this early stage but already hints at great complexity and finesse with flowery notes of smoke, anise, pear and apple as well as vanilla, coconut and spices. The wine develops an elegantly soft and creamy side on the fruity and smooth palate. The finish proves zesty and spicy, but also intense and rather powerful. This powerful but elegant expression of Riesling could well surprise us all at maturity. There is quite some upside here. 2021-2028+

2016er	Richard Richter	Winninger Uhlen Laubach Terrassen Riesling Trocken GG	17 17	91
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This immediately catches one's attention with superb smoky and fruity notes including apricot, strawberry, yellow peach and pear as well as quite some spices and tar. The wine is compact and dense on the palate, where ripe fruits add to the softness and creaminess of the texture. The finish is on the powerful side of things as it delivers spices and herbs with a light touch of tartness still in need of integration. The after-taste remains however light and refined. This will need a few more years of bottle aging to integrate and develop its full finesse. 2021-2028+

2016er	Richard Richter	Winninger Röttgen Terrassen Riesling Trocken GG	18 17	90
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This offers a delicate and pure nose of smoke, apricot blossom, yellow peach, pineapple, spices and anise, which gains in presence and fruity intensity with airing. The wine is nicely creamy, spicy and juicy on the palate and develops a rather powerful and intense side as quince, tar, candied grapefruit and pear in alcohol emerge in the finish. This is best waited for a couple of years to integrate its richness and will then be a great food companion. 2020-2026+

Dr. Marion & Alexander Rinke

(Mertesdorf – Trier-Ruwer)

Complement

2016er	Rinke	Wiltinger Klosterberg Riesling Alte Reben	08 17	91
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The 2016er Wiltinger Klosterberg Alte Reben is an off-dry Riesling (with 24 g/l of residual sugar) fermented and aged in traditional Fuder casks from 50 year-old un-grafted vines. This develops a beautifully fruity nose of kumquat, pear, white melon, whipped cream and smoky slate. The wine is nicely balanced and beautifully fruity on the palate where ripe acidity lifts up some delicately creamy flavors of melon and lemon. The finish is smooth, zesty and, quite frankly, very enjoyable! 2019-2026+

2016er	Rinke	Wiltinger Braunfels Frühburgunder	07 17	88
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The 2016er Wiltinger Braunfels Frühburgunder was fermented and aged for 8 months in used barrique (1/3 from Caucasian oak from second year and 2/3 French oak from fourth year). This offers a rather silky nose of stewed strawberry, earthy spices and minty herbs. The wine is nicely playful and fruit-driven on the medium-bodied palate and leaves a nice silky feel in the medium long and slightly sharp finish. Cassis and cloves come through in the after-taste, adding a nice fresh note to this beautifully balanced wine. Now-2021



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Weingut von Schubert – Maximin Grünhaus

(Mertesdorf – Trier-Ruwer)

Complement

2016er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Trocken GG	09 17	94
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This delivers a stunningly flowery and fresh nose with great complexity at play, including smoke, white peach, mint, almond and anise. The wine dances on the palate with sublime smoky flavors lifted up by a most glorious touch of tickly acidity. The finish is immensely long and smoky. The lightness, purity and freshness of this dry Ruwer Riesling are quite marvelous. What a huge success made in a beautifully elegant and ethereal style! 2024-2036

2016er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Trocken GG	08 17	93
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Quite reductive at first, this only gradually offers fresh and cool notes of gooseberry, smoke, cassis, flowers, mint and white peach. The wine is then, almost surprisingly, playful and fruity on the palate with juicy notes of yellow peach, tangerine and spices. It remains focused and pure in the very long and zippy dry finish. This wine is still hugely primary at this early stage, as Abtsberg wines often are, and it will need a couple of years of bottle aging to reveal its full potential. It should then prove a smashing piece of dry Ruwer Riesling made in an ethereally but no less satisfying style. 2021-2036

Weingut Günther Steinmetz / Steinmetz und Gerlach

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

Complement

2016er	Günther Steinmetz	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling GP	26 17	93
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The 2016er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen GP is a dry-tasting Riesling (with 13.5 g/l of residual sugar) made from 30 year-old vines in the Niederemmel part of the vineyard. This offers a rather big and ample nose of poached pear, cassis, melon, brown sugar and earthy spices. The wine is smooth and delicately ample on the palate and leaves a spicy and subdued feel of power in the mineral and grapefruit-infused finish. As so often with wines from this part of the Goldtröpfchen, this wine is hugely backward and will need quite a few years to really develop its full potential. 2021-2031

2016er	Steinmetz und Gerlach	Katteneser Steinchen Riesling Liquid Fossil	24 17	92+
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This wine is the result of a collaboration between Stefan Steinmetz (Weingut Günther Steinmetz) in Brauneberg and Martin Gerlach (Weingut Gerlachs Mühle) in Koblenz-Gondorf, using the fruit from the under-rated Katteneser Steinchen, a south-east orientated terraced vineyard in the Terrassenmosel part of the region, just upriver of Winningen and Koblenz. The 2016er Katteneser Steinchen Liquid Fossil was made from fruit harvested at 93° Oechsle from 40 year-old vines and is the result of a long fermentation in stainless steel. This off-dry wine (with 20 g/l of residual sugar) proves hugely reduced at first and only gradually reveals a beautifully herbal nose made of pear, yellow peach, grapefruit puree and some cardamom. It is subtle and delicately playful on the mid-weighted palate and leaves a beautifully feel of grapefruit, herbs and spices in the juicy finish. This wine plays on subtleness and elegance and should develop well over the coming years. 2019-2031

2016er	Günther Steinmetz	Dhroner Hofberg Riesling GD	25 17	92
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The 2016er Dhroner Hofberg GD is an off-dry Riesling (with 20 g/l of residual sugar) made from over 40 year-old vines in the classical part of the vineyard. This offers a gorgeous and still slightly reduced nose of grapefruit puree, white melon, vineyard peach, coconut, laurel and fine herbs. The wine starts off by a gorgeously creamy set of fruits on the palate before a zesty kick of passion fruit and grapefruit brings a great playful side to the experience. The finish is assertive, slightly ample but beautifully balanced. It leaves one with an herbal feel of passion fruit and melon in the after-taste. The restrained show of power and intensity oozing from this off-dry Riesling is hugely impressive. 2021-2036

2016er	Günther Steinmetz	Veldenzer Graftschafter Sonnenberg Riesling Alte Reben	30 17	91
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The 2016er Riesling Alte Reben is off-dry wine (with 20 g/l of residual sugar) solely made from grapes harvested from over 60 year-old and still largely un-grafted vines on the west-facing Veldenzer Graftschafter Sonnenberg (the name of the vineyard appears in small on the side of the label). This offers a reduced nose of grapefruit puree, green apple, white peach, ginger and aniseed herbs. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate and offers nice juiciness in the long and mouth-watering finish. 2021-2031



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2016er	Günther Steinmetz	Wintricher Geierslay Riesling Sur Lie	27 17	91
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The 2016er Wintricher Geierslay sur Lie is a fully dry Riesling (with 4 g/l of residual sugar) which saw extensive (9 months) aging on its fine lees. This wine is still very much under the impact of its long fermentation with ambient yeasts and only gradually reveals a beautiful nose of grapefruit, ginger, herbs, white flowers and spices. It proves smooth, slightly tart and beautifully mineral and austere on the palate and leaves a mouth-watering feel of grapefruit and melon wrapped into some tart and chalky minerals in the finish. Everything is there for delivering a classic dry Riesling from the Mosel in a few years' time. It will then prove elegant and playfully light. 2021-2031

Weingut St. Urbans-Hof

(Leiwen – Middle Mosel)

Complement

2016er	St. Urbans-Hof	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Trocken GG	24 17	91
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A comparatively ripe and creamy nose of yellow fruits including peach, pineapple and mirabelle gives the wine quite some early charm. Notes of apricot and orange join the party with airing and add to the rich side of the aromatics. The wine is nicely creamy and round on the palate with a supple and comparatively light structure leading to a focused and gorgeously long finish. 2021-2031

2016er	St. Urbans-Hof	Schodener Marienberg Saarfelser Riesling Trocken GG	25 17	90+
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This offers a beautiful even if rather ripe nose of pear, Provence herbs and bergamot. The wine is driven by spicy and herbal elements on the palate and leaves a beautifully clean and fresh feel in the long, creamy and playful finish. This backward wine proves rather stylish in its ripe, full-bodied and complex style. We would not be surprised if this would gain in finesse with bottle aging. 2021-2031

2016er	St. Urbans-Hof	Leiwener Laurentiuslay Riesling Trocken GG	23 17	90
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This delivers a lovely smoky nose with aniseed herbs, orange, grapefruit and almond cream. The wine is gently creamy and soft on the palate with mouth-coating and slightly honeyed fruits leading to a soft, nicely balanced and direct finish. While already quite accessible, this will benefit from a few years in the bottle to integrate its gentle creaminess and gain in complexity. 2021-2036

Weingut Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

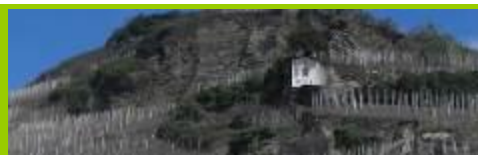
Complement

2016er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Trocken GG	10 17	91
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The 2016er Berncasteler Doctor GG offers a gorgeous nose of almond, pear, star fruit and smoky slate. The wine is nicely balanced on the palate with minerals and fine herbs driving the aromatics at this early stage. The finish is smooth, seemingly slightly broad and quite complex yet also still backward. This therefore needs a few years of cellaring before reaching its best level. 2021-2036

2016er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Bernkasteler Graben Riesling Trocken GG	11 17	90
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The 2016er Bernkasteler Graben GG is made from old un-grafted Riesling vines. It offers a rather ripe nose of pear, minty herbs and smoky slate. The wine is nicely round and soft on the palate and leaves a clean and juicy feel on the delicately light-bodied palate. The finish is still on the slightly broad and ripe side at this early stage but there is immense promise in this complex wine when this will have reached its drinking window. 2021-2036



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Stiftungsweingut Vereinigte Hospitien

(Trier – Trier-Ruwer)

2015er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Auslese	11 16	93
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This Auslese harvested at 95° Oechsle took quite some time to complete its fermentation and was only bottled in late 2016. It has already closed down somewhat but still delivers some attractive scents of candied grapefruit, wild strawberry, fresh herbs and spices on the nose. The wine shows quite some sweetness at this early stage on the palate. Yet, at the same time, a good kick of acidity lifts the aromatics driven by grapefruit, lime and passion fruit. This elegantly fresh, firm and juicy wine leaves a superb elegant feel in the long and refined finish. 2030-2045

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese	21 17	93
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The wine offers an inviting nose made of pear, white peach, floral elements and a hint of rose water, as well as some bacon and smoke residues of spontaneous fermentation. It develops a beautifully juicy presence on the sweet yet delicately zesty finish. The wine develops a fresher and more elegant side with airing and leaves a clean and juicy feel in the finish. This is a magnificent Spätlese with quite some juicy presence in the making. 2026-2041

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Kanzemer Altenberg Riesling Trocken GG	32 17	91
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This 2016er Kanzemer Altenberg GG proves a rather pure and elegant wine driven by white peach, white flowers and herbs on the nose. The wine is superbly balanced and delicate on the palate, and leaves a gorgeously precise feel in the long finish. 2019-2026

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett	12 17	91
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This develops a succulent nose of white peach, pineapple, coconut cream, pear and a hint of mango and apricot in the background. The wine develops the full sweet and creamy presence of an Auslese on the palate and leaves a beautifully playful feel of herbs in the long and suave finish. This beautiful wine will prove even more refined at maturity, which will happen in a little decade. 2026-2041

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Scharzhofberger Riesling Spätlese	26 17	91
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This offers a beautiful nose of pear, elderflower, pineapple, slate and smoke. The wine proves beautifully present and playful on the palate, where it develops the full presence of an Auslese. It leaves a clean and mouth-watering feel in the long finish. The after-taste is succulent and all about minerals and delicately zesty fruits. 2026-2041

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Scharzhofberger Riesling Trocken GG	34 17	90+
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The 2016er Scharzhofberger GG starts off with some beautiful scents of grapefruit, flowers, herbs and fine spices on the nose. The wine proves rather focused on the palate and leaves a great, salty feel in the long finish. There is great upside here as it develops its full aromatic finesse. 2019-2026

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Piesporter Schubertslay Riesling Trocken GG	35 17	90
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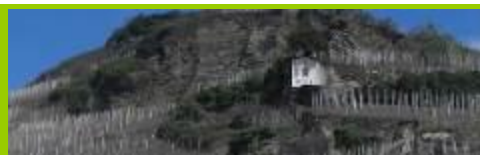
This 2016er Piesporter Schubertslay GG develops a delicately ample nose of earthy spices, ripe orchard fruits and fine herbs. The wine is quite intense on the palate and leaves an herbal feel in the long finish. This will need a few years to fully develop its balance and aromatic presence. 2019-2026

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett	19 17	90
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This offers a beautiful nose of white peach, grapefruit, white flowers, green herbs and smoky slate. The wine develops the sweet playful presence of a Spätlese on the palate and leaves a beautifully creamy and airy feel in the long finish. This is a textbook example of a light fruity and ripe Scharzhofberger. 2026-2041

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Serriger Schloss Saarfeser Schlossberg Riesling Kabinett	10 17	89+
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This offers a rather reduced nose of white peach, pear, passion fruit sorbet, pineapple and smoky slate. The wine is nicely smooth and playful, and shows the sweet presence of a Spätlese on the palate. The finish already offers some attractive playful finesse to come. This will need some time to fully develop its aromatics. 2026-2036



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2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Serriger Riesling Trocken Schloss Saarfels -durchgegoren-	23 17	88
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The 2016er Serriger Riesling Schloss Saarfels is a fully dry Riesling from Estate holdings in the solely-owned Serriger Schloss Saarfels Schlossberg with no more than 2 g/l of residual sugar ("durchgegoren" means fermented through). This proves still completely reduced on the nose and only gradually reveals some scents of grapefruit, herbs, spices and smoke. The wine is beautifully playful and elegant on the palate and leaves a delicately tart and mouth-watering feel in the linear and delicately zesty finish. The depth of the wine comes through in the after-taste. 2019-2024

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Serriger Schloss Saarfels Schlossberg Riesling Trocken GG	33 17	88
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The wine offers a beautiful and delicately ample nose of grapefruit, pear, coconut, minerals and herbs. It proves nicely fruity and playful on the medium-bodied palate and leaves a zesty feel in the long and attractively tart finish. The finish is also delicately salty and mineral, with quite some spices, and tartness still needing to integrate. 2019-2026

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Trierer Riesling Trocken vom roten Fels	13 17	88
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The 2016er Trierer Trocken vom roten Fels comes exclusively from the solely owned Trierer Augenscheiner, a vineyard with a unique terroir (for the Mosel) of red sandstone. It offers a very nice nose of yellow fruits, herbs and fine spices. The wine proves playful and harmoniously balanced in the long and suave finish. Now-2021

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Wiltinger Hölle Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	18 17	88
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The 2016er Wiltinger Hölle Kabinett Feinherb was made from fruit harvested at 83° Oechsle. It stopped its fermentation just below 18 g/l of residual sugar. This offers a backward nose of minerals at this early stage with some fleeting scents of herbs and fruit. It is only on the palate that the wine delivers beautifully playful notes of canned peach, pear, aniseed herbs and fine minerals. The wine leaves a delicately off-dry feel in the long and smooth finish. 2019-2026

2016er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Grauburgunder Trocken Réserve	14 17	87
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The 2016er Grauburgunder Trocken Réserve is a stainless-fermented selection from up to 50 year-old vines in the Estate's solely owned Trierer Augenscheiner. It offers a big nose of pear, quince, rose water and fine spices. The wine develops good presence on the palate and leaves a soft and long feel in the spicy finish. Now-2019+

MATURE RIESLING COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE AT THE ESTATE

2011er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Scharzhofberger Riesling Auslese GK	24 12	93
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Harvested at 101° Oechsle, this 2011er Scharzhofberger Auslese GK hints at a beautiful nose of melon, pear, grapefruit and fine spices in the making. The wine is superbly playful and elegant on the medium bodied and delicately creamy palate and leaves a beautifully airy and juicy melon-infused feel in the long and flowery creamy finish. This is a gorgeous and delicate Auslese GK in the making. 2021-2036

Weingüter Geheimrat J. Wegeler

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Auslese	12 17	93
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The 2016er Bernkasteler Doctor Auslese was made from a selection of botrytized fruit harvested at 105° Oechsle. It develops a beautiful nose of pear puree, coconut, pineapple, passion fruit and whipped cream. The wine proves delicately zesty and animating on the refined and medium-bodied palate and leaves a beautifully creamy and multi-layered feel in the finish. This is a great Auslese in the making, with gorgeous presence and finesse. 2031-2056

2016er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese	10 17	92+
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The 2016 Bernkasteler Doctor Spätlese was harvested at just above 90° Oechsle. The wine proves rather backward, as Doctor wines often do at this stage. Yet it gradually reveals some superb scents of cassis, grapefruit, yellow peach and apricot, all firmly wrapped into fine herbs and spices. The wine proves beautifully precise, silky and complex on the palate and leaves a backward but hugely promising feel in the long finish. This is a great, slightly smooth yet mouth-watering expression of Doctor Spätlese in the making. 2031-2046



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2016er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Trocken GG	11 17	92+
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The 2016er Bernkasteler Doctor Trocken GG delivers a beautiful nose of white peach, pear, fine herbs and spices. The wine is hugely complex, spicy and above all silky on the palate, and leaves a beautifully refined and elegant feel of minerals, succulent fruits and herbs in the long and engaging finish. This is not a "loud" wine but a truly beautiful and elegant dry Riesling in the making. 2019-2031

2016er	Wegeler	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	09 17	92
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The 2016er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese was harvested at 90° Oechsle. The wine develops a beautiful nose of white peach, grapefruit, passion fruit, pear, aniseed herbs and smoky slate. It proves superbly creamy and elegant on the palate and leaves a mouth-watering feel of pear, passion fruit, apricot blossom and fine herbs in the long and delicately tickly finish. Ripe acidity brings focus to the juicy yet creamy finish. This is a beautiful wine made in a light Auslese style. 2024-2041

2016er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Kabinett	06 17	91
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The 2016er Bernkasteler Badstube Kabinett was made from fruit harvested 84° Oechsle. The wine develops a beautiful nose of passion fruit, pear, aniseed herbs and fine spices. It proves beautifully animating yet silky and playful on the palate and leaves a great mouth-watering and fruity feel in the long and delicately tickly finish. 2026-2041

2016er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Lay Riesling	07 17	91
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The 2016er Bernkasteler Lay is an off-dry wine (18 g/l of residual sugar) made from parcels in prime sectors (Olk and Pritzenlay) of the vineyard. The wine develops a stunningly beautiful nose of passion fruit, quince, herbs and fine spices. A more yellow side comes through after a while, adding to the attractiveness of the bouquet. The wine is beautifully balanced and playful on the palate and leaves a superbly clean and delicately spicy feel in the silky and zesty finish. Despite easy-drinking qualities, this wine has true depth and great finesse. Now-2026

2016er	Wegeler	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	08 17	90+
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The 2016er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Trocken GG develops a ripe and elegant nose of pear, earthy spices and herbs. The wine is beautifully smooth and nicely balanced on the palate and leaves a gorgeously playful and refined feel in the finish. While slightly on the ripe side, the wine leaves a stunning feeling of complexity in the after-taste. 2019-2026

2016er	Wegeler	Graacher Riesling Feinherb	05 17	90
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The 2016er Graacher Feinherb is an off-dry wine (with approx. 20 g/l of residual sugar) made from parcels in the Graacher Himmelreich. The wine develops a ripe nose of pear, grapefruit, spices and herbs. The wine develops a beautiful zesty side on the palate, with some grapefruit to lift up the beautifully herbal and spicy flavors. The finish is mouth-watering, animating and, quite frankly, irresistible. As usual all this easy-drinking side is delivered with good depth and presence. Now-2026

2016er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Riesling Trocken	04 17	89
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The 2016er Bernkasteler Trocken comes from the prime sectors of Bernkasteler Graben and Bratenhöfchen. This offers a ripe and elegant nose of pear, grapefruit, herbs and fine spices. This offers a beautifully pure feel of herbs and creamy pear on the palate. The wine is superbly silky and gorgeously smooth with some ripe acidity bringing the right balance in the long finish. Now-2026

2016er	Wegeler	Riesling Trocken	01 17	86
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The 2016er Riesling Trocken comes essentially from the Bernkasteler Badstube and Johannisbrunnchen, Kesten and early pickings casks from other vineyards. The wine develops a beautifully ripe nose of pear, grapefruit, herbs and spices. The wine is on the smooth and easy side on the palate and leaves a clean and spicy feel in the medium-long finish. This all-rounder of a wine should prove very easy to drink over the coming few years. Now-2021

MATURE RIESLING COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE AT THE ESTATE

1997er	Wegeler	Winkeler Jesuitengarten Riesling Vintage Collection	07 98	93
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This 1997er Winkeler Jesuitengarten Vintage Collection is a late-release (Fall 2017) set of bottles which have aged in the cellars of the Rheingau Estate owned by Wegeler. This golden-colored wine delivers a beautiful nose almond, apricot, aniseed herbs and fine spices. It proves luscious and elegant on the palate and leaves a gorgeously dry and smooth feel in the gorgeous finish. This is now a perfect food wine for instance for game dishes. Now-2027



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2007er	Wegeler	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese Vintage Collection	21 11	92
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The 2007er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese Vintage Collection is a late-released (Fall 2017) set of magnums bottled late (hence the 2011 AP number) which have aged in the Estate cellars. This bright white-hay colored wine develops a beautiful nose of pear, star fruit, greengage and fine herbs. It still proves remarkably vibrant and mouth-watering on the palate and leaves a beautifully juicy and delicately creamy feel in the long finish. This is in a superb place now but will certainly provide much pleasure for the coming decades as well. Now-2037

2007er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Kabinett Vintage Collection	19 08	90
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The 2007er Bernkasteler Badstube Kabinett Vintage Collection is a late-released (Fall 2017) set of bottles which have aged in the Estate cellars. The wine develops an attractive nose of quince, mirabelle, spices and a hint of slate. It proves beautifully precise on the palate and leaves a pure and zesty feel of pear, laurel and Provence herbs in the delicately intense finish. Now-2027

Weingut Weiser-Künstler

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

Complement

2016er	Weiser-Künstler	Enkircher Ellergrub Riesling Trocken GE	04 17	93
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This offers a most beautiful and refined nose of bergamot, vineyard peach, sage, minty herbs, yuzu and smoke as well as some residues of spontaneous fermentation. The wine is very delicate and elegant on the palate where an almond-infused creamy side already provides the right balance to the precise and focused structure. The long finish is intense, smoky and remarkably refined. 2021-2036

2016er	Weiser-Künstler	Trabener Gaispfad Riesling	05 17	92
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The 2016er Trabener Gaispfad was fermented down to 9 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a gorgeous and fruity nose of greengage, pineapple, cassis and canned yellow peach, all wrapped up in smoky herbs and spices. The wine proves beautifully refined on the palate, where some smooth fruits nicely buffer off an overall zesty and dynamic structure. The finish is very long, smoky and beautifully infused with herbs. The after-taste is full of freshness, purity and focus. This great Riesling only needs a few more years to fully shine. 2021-2031



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2017 Trier Auctions– A Look-Back

The 2017 Auctions proved a rather tale of record prices and quite remarkable bargains. We provide a full account here below.

NB: All prices indicated in the articles here below refer to "hammer prices," to which one needs to add the broker fees for the accredited commissioners, sales tax, shipping costs and possible import duties.

The VDP Mosel Auction 2017 – Record Prices and Fine Values

The 2017 Grosser Ring / VDP Mosel Auction held on September 15, 2017 essentially saw the sale of top-end wines from the great 2016 vintage as well as some two older rarities. Overall, prices proved high (these are rare auction lots from the finest growers of Riesling in the world) but not as high as last year, when the highly rated 2015 vintage was auctioned off.



The Kabinett wines proved fairly priced, especially those by von Othegraven and by Peter Lauer, which went respectively for €22 and €23. Also this year, von Schubert brought a Kabinett to the Auction which went for a similar price as last year (€41) ... albeit with almost double the amount of bottles offered. Also the Fritz Haag Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Kabinett went for a solid €36, underlying the growing interest into this style of wines. In contrast, the Kabinett Alte Reben by Egon Müller went for a staggering €180, the highest price ever paid for a young Kabinett.

Among the Spätlese, the two presented by Peter Lauer were more than fairly priced at €28 and €30, as were the ones by Fritz Haag (€42) and Dr. Loosen (€44). Again, Willi Schaefer kept the prices on its auction Spätlese down (still at €50) by throwing in much of the family reserve. The most expensive Spätlese proved to be those by Schloss Lieser (€81), Joh. Jos. Prüm (€85) ... and von Othegraven, which went for €80, a record for the Estate. Also the Doctor Spätlese by Wwe Dr. Thanisch proved the most expensive to date at €65.

The biggest contrast was to be found at the Auslese level. On the one side of the spectrum, the beautiful Auslese by Peter Lauer went for a remarkably modest €19 per half and the superb Auslese GK by Reinhold Haart proved a true bargain at €60. At the other end of the spectrum, the Auslese lange GK by Joh. Jos. Prüm and Dr. Loosen went for €380 and €440 respectively. In comparison, the equally great Auslese lange GK by Schloss Lieser and Fritz Haag proved truly modestly prices, at €180 and €220 respectively.

There was only one TBA on sale at this year's VDP Auction, the stunning Goldtröpfchen TBA by St. Urbans-Hof. It went for €360 per half, a comparatively modest price when compared to similarly good TBAs at recent Auctions.

One moment proved particularly poignant. The VDP Mosel auctioned off a mixed case of 15 bottles, with one signed bottle from each of the growers present at the Auction, whose proceeds were to support charitable causes (in this case the local branch of the German cancer association). The case eventually fetched a heartening €6,500 via a bid by a moderator of a German Facebook wine group. This Facebook wine group had initiated a collection of funds to acquire this case. Many growers and restaurateurs as well as private individuals participated to this, giving bottles, time or simply donated cash. In total, they collected €25,000, i.e. far more than their winning bid. The full proceeds, as well as the resale value of the case, were all donated to charity.

Finally, we would like to add a word on the overall event. Despite a higher number of lots than last year, the event was run much more swiftly and nobody complained about it.



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The Bernkasteler Ring Auction 2017 – Superb Quality at Fair Prices

The Auction of the Bernkasteler Ring took place on September 14, 2017. At this year's edition, a sizeable amount of wines from the latest vintage (i.e. 2016) but also many mature Riesling went under the hammer. Overall prices remained more than fair, allowing the astute Mosel wine lover to get some great deals.



Most 2016 wines remained comparative bargains. Above all, the beautiful Spätlese by Peter Neu-Erben went for a modest €13, a price only slightly above that of 2015. Also the Spätlese by Erben von Beulwitz was still fairly priced at €19, broadly in line with last year. Also, the Bernkasteler Doctor Kabinett by newcomer Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch (Erben Müller-Burggraef), who joined the Bernkasteler Ring this year, went for a quite attractive €18.

The biggest bargains of the Auction were to be made at Auslese levels. In particular the 2016er Goldtröpfchen Auslese by Lehnert-Veit went for a remarkably modest €30. Even more remarkably, the 2015er Goldtröpfchen Auslese *** by Weller-Lehnert went for a low €24.50 ... for a full bottle. Finally, the 2016er Kaseler Nies'chen Auslese Fass 3, the finest cask of the two "Auslese GK" styled wines sold at the Auction by Erben von Beulwitz went for a truly modest €24.50. Even the (on paper) "lesser" 2016er Kaseler Nies'chen Auslese Fass 4 fetched €41. The other great 2016er Auslese auctioned off that day, by the likes of Werner, Gessinger, etc. all went for roughly €40 per bottle, still a more than fair price for such high-end Auslese GK wines.

One of the attractions of the Bernkasteler Ring Auction is the sale of mature rarities. Also in 2017, some great deals could be made. In particular, the beautifully mature 2002er Wiltinger Klosterberg Auslese went for a modest €23 and the gorgeous 1990er Bernkasteler alte Badstube am Doctorberg Auslese for €36. However, as so often over the years, the beautiful mature Auslese by Clüsserath-Eifel were anything but bargains. The 1997er and 1998er Trittenheimer Apotheke Auslese *** knocked on down by €135 and €120 respectively.

Finally, the BA and TBA on sale were not cheap, but their price was more than fair for the superb quality and the rarity of these wines. In particular, the great 2015er BA and 2015er TBA by Erben von Beulwitz went for a remarkably modest €100 and €190 per half. For such quality and rarity, one can talk of a bargain.



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Tasting Notes Update

We add here tasting notes for recommended auction wines, which we did had the chance to taste before the Auctions (and, hence, were not covered in the Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 37 with our Auction Guide 2017 published in August) or which were still cask samples at the moment of tasting.

Weingut Fritz Haag

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese lange GK #15	Auction	96+
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Very finely reductive at first, this gradually reveals a beautiful nose of cassis, vineyard peach, anise, herbs and fine spices. The wine proves filigreed on the palate, with great notes of almond adding depth to the overall delineated structure of the wine. The sweet finish is driven by succulent flavors of yellow peach, apricot and honey. The after-taste is all about multi-layered and beautifully precise elegance and complexity. The concentration and comparatively high levels of residual sugars mean that this needs more than a decade to fully shine. This is a stunner of an Auslese in the making! 2031-2056

Weingut Dr. Loosen

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Prälat Riesling Auslese lange GK	32 17	Auction	96
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This develops a complex and typically baroque nose of mango, pear, apricot and almonds. The wine has the full creamy and unctuous presence of a BA on the palate and leaves a complex and multi-layered feel in the very long finish. This beauty is still on the sweet side at the moment in the after-taste so it is best left alone for a solid two decades to make the most of its complex structure. 2036-2066

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese GK	31 17	Auction	93
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This delivers a beautiful nose made of ginger bread, rose water, pink grapefruit and pear, with a good hint of cassis, raspberry and mint freshening up the whole experience. The wine develops the full presence of a pure Auslese on the palate, where a riper side is in the driving seat at the moment. The finish is nicely long, beautifully elegant and fresh. This offers a lot of drinking pleasure. 2026-2046

Weingut Joh. Jos. Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese lange GK	20 17	Auction	95
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This strict selection of botrytized fruit harvested at a full 120° Oechsle delivers a gorgeous nose of canned yellow peach, mirabelle, apricot, mango and grilled pineapple. The wine proves quite appealing on the palate and leaves a beautifully long and filigreed feel in the smooth and delicately tickly finish. Reduced flavors of sweet almond, salted caramel and honey dominate the after-taste at this early stage. This backward wine is far from being and will need the better part of two decades to fully integrate. 2036-2066

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	16 17	Auction	93+
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This develops a rather reduced nose with some canned yellow peach, mirabelle, herbs and loads of spices. The wine proves quite sweet but also remarkably tactile and elegant on the palate. Mirabelle and other ripe juicy fruits emerge in the delicately long finish. This beautiful wine has the richness and depth of an Auslese GK. There is quite some upside potential if the wine gains in freshness with time. 2031-2046



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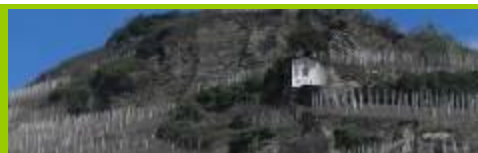
By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	15 17	Auction	93+
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This proves hugely backward and only gradually reveals scents of cassis, green herbs, pear and almond (from reduction). The wine proves on the sweeter side on the palate at this early stage but already reveals a gorgeous feel of yellow fruits in the long and persistent finish. This will need quite some time to develop its balance and integrate its sweetness. It could then well prove a smasher albeit in a possibly slightly rounder style than usual. 2031-2046

2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese GK	17 17	Auction	92+
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This develops a huge nose of canned yellow peach, a bit of honey, caramel, dried exotic and ripe fruits, tar, herbs and minerals on the nose. The wine is nicely rich on the palate and leaves a feel of almond tartness in the long and overall opulent and broad finish. This proves a remarkably backward wine, even by Joh. Jos. Prüm standards, and one which will need extended patience for it to develop its full potential. 2031-2046



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Bernkasteler Ring Auction 2017- Results

Wine			Hammer Price *			
			37.5cl	50cl	75cl	150cl
2016er	Karp-Schreiber	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG			13	
2016er	Goerg	Neumagener Rosengärtchen Riesling Spätlese Trocken Alte Reben			11	
1987er	Paulinshof	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Kabinett			41	
2015er	Reinhold Franzen	Bremmer Calmont Riesling Calidus Mons			26	
2015er	Richard Richter	Winniger Uhlen Terrassen Riesling Réserve			24	
2016er	Wwe Dr. H Thanisch – Müller Burggraef	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Kabinett			18	36
2016er	Kanzlerhof	Mehringer Blattenberg Riesling Kabinett			9.90	
2016er	F.J. Regnery	Klüsserather Bruderschaft Riesling Spätlese Feinherb			12.50	
2016er	Erben von Beulwitz	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Spätlese Feinherb			15	
2016er	Rebenhof	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese Feinherb von den Felsen			15	
2016er	Bastgen	Kestener Paulinshofberg Riesling Spätlese			20.50	
2016er	St. Nikolaus-Hospital	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese			15	
2016er	Peter Neu-Erben	Wiltiger Klosterberg Riesling Spätlese			13	
2016er	Kerpen	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Spätlese *			13	
2016er	Albert Kallfelz	Merler Königslay-Terrassen Riesling Spätlese			25	
2016er	Erben von Beulwitz	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Spätlese Fass 6 Alte Reben			19	
2016er	Andreas Schmitges	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Spätlese			22.50	
2016er	Kees-Kieren	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Spätlese **			13	
2015er	Weller-Lehnert	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Auslese ***			24.50	
1997er	Clüsserath-Eifel	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Auslese ***			135	
1990er	Dr. Pauly-Bergweiler	Bernkasteler Badstube am Doctorberg Riesling Auslese			36	
2002er	Johann Peter Reinert	Wiltiger Klosterberg Riesling Auslese			23	
2003er	Johann Peter Reinert	Ayler Kupp Riesling Auslese **			21.50	
2003er	Johann Peter Reinert	Wiltiger Schlangengraben Riesling Auslese **			24	
2016er	Erben von Beulwitz	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Auslese Fass 4 Alte Reben			35	
2016er	Dr. Pauly-Bergweiler	Ürziger Goldwingert Riesling Auslese			25	
2016er	Lehnert-Veit	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Auslese			30	
2016er	Werner	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Auslese		26.67		
2016er	Kerpen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese **	11		22	44
2016er	Erben von Beulwitz	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Auslese Fass 3 Alte Reben			27.50	
2016er	Bauer	Mülheimer Elisenberg Riesling Auslese			22	
2016er	Kees-Kieren	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Auslese ***	20		40	
2016er	Albert Gessinger	Zeltiger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese *** Alte Reben	20		40	
2016er	Ernst Clüsserath	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Auslese	15			
1998er	Clüsserath-Eifel	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Auslese ***			120	
2015er	Erben von Beulwitz	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Beerenauslese Alte Reben	120			
2015er	Bauer	Mülheimer Elisenberg Riesling Beerenauslese	100			
2009er	Philipps-Eckstein	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Beerenauslese	140			
2015er	Richard Richter	Winniger Röttgen Riesling Beerenauslese	100			
2011er	Rebenhof	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Beerenauslese Fass 17	90			
2015er	Erben von Beulwitz	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese Alte Reben	170			
2015er	Philipps-Eckstein	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	175			
2015er	Leo Fuchs	Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese vom grauen Schiefer	180			
2003er	Dr. Pauly-Bergweiler	Bernkasteler Badstube am Doctorberg Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	190			

* Hammer prices are expressed in euros (€) and exclude any commissions, VAT and shipping costs, and converted to the bottle format sold. Please note that the **hammer prices at the Bernkasteler Ring are traditionally given for an equivalent 75cl bottle, irrespectively of the size of the bottles being sold.**



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VDP Mosel Auction 2017 - Results

Wine			Hammer Price *				
			37.5cl	75cl	150cl	300cl	600cl
2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese		85	160		
2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	65	145	200		
2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese GK	95	200	330		
2016er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese lange GK	180	380	1,540		
2016er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Thanisch	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese		65	155		
2016er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese		50	185		
2016er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Auslese GK	75	160	400		
2016er	Dr. Loosen	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese GK		44	85		
2016er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Prälät Riesling Auslese lange GK	235	410			
2016er	St. Urbans-Hof	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese GK		43			
2016er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Auslese GK	27	60			
2016er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett		36	102		
2016er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese #14		42	125	305	
2016er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese lange GK	85	220	710	1,500	
2016er	Schloss Lieser	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese		81	220	510	2,900
2016er	Schloss Lieser	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese lange GK	85	180	500	1,260	
2016er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett Nr. 17		41	91		
2016er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Auslese Nr. 19		81	200		
2016er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Spätlese Nr. 24		27			
2016er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Kupp Riesling Kabinett Fass 5		24			
2016er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Kupp Riesling Spätlese Fass 23		28			
2016er	Peter Lauer	Schodener Saarfelser Marienberg Riesling Spätlese Fass 24		30			
2016er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Kupp Riesling Auslese	19				
2016er	von Othegraven	Kanzemer Altenberg Riesling Kabinett		22			
2016er	von Othegraven	Kanzemer Altenberg Riesling Spätlese		80			
2016er	Le Gallais	Wiltinger braune Kupp Riesling Auslese		195			
2016er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett Alte Reben		180			
2016er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburer Rausch Riesling Spätlese		50	120		
1997er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburer Rausch Riesling Auslese lange GK			820		
2013er	St. Urbans-Hof	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	350				

* Hammer prices are expressed in euros (€) and exclude any commissions, VAT and shipping costs.



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

2016 Vintage Beyond Mosel –Dry German Riesling

We had the opportunity to taste (and sometimes re-taste) many great dry Riesling including a full set of GG (Grosses Gewächs) and those from some iconic dry Riesling growers in Germany over the last few weeks. We provide here a little piece on the 2016 vintage for dry Riesling looking at Germany as a whole. We also included some late released wines (mainly from 2015 and 2014 vintages) as these prove increasingly frequently to be among the finest dry Riesling of the respective vintages.



2016 Dry German Riesling: Charm and Elegance ... for the Long-Haul

2016 DRY GERMAN RIESLING – GROWING SEASON

The 2016 growing season was "hell followed by heaven." The spring was marked by quite some frost in many part of Germany, which affected yields. This was followed by weeks of rain in May and June which led to widespread outbreaks of peronospora. As we explained extensively in our Mosel Vintage Report (see Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017), all the difficulties encountered in the spring affected yields but not quality.

Thankfully, the weather turned for the better as of July and there was essentially sunshine and warm weather right into the harvest season. If anything, it was too dry and hot at some moments, especially at the end of August, where some grapes got affected by sunburn. Harvest could be done under more or less ideal conditions, allowing the right selections to be made.

The result was plenty of clean grapes with often very moderate sugar levels and riper acidity (following a record warm month of September), i.e. ideal material for great dry Riesling.

2016 DRY GERMAN RIESLING – STYLE

2015 yielded impressive powerhouses of dry Riesling, with high levels of everything: ripeness, acidity and dry extracts. 2016 is completely different. If anything, it is about moderation. But the wines are no less admirable. It is an elegant vintage for dry Riesling, with sometimes quite ripe flavors, ripe but juicy acidity and good balance in the finish. The wines are delightfully graceful and refined, yet at the same time packed with deep complexity.

The 2016 dry Riesling have refreshingly low levels of alcohol, typically between 11.5% and 13% of alcohol. The acidity levels may seem low but this is deceiving, as much of the acidity is of tartaric nature and the pH levels are actually quite low.

Many 2016 dry Riesling showed well young. Despite their fruity charm and lower levels of dry extracts than say 2015, the finest of the 2016 dry Riesling have enough dry extracts (certainly seen historically) for being real keepers. In fact, we would not be surprised if many will go down the road of a strong close-down phase despite their early charm. Our latest tastings early October showed that quite a few of the top dry Riesling show some serious tendencies to do so.



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2016 DRY GERMAN RIESLING – BUYING GUIDE

It is also undeniable that Klaus-Peter Keller, Koehler-Ruprecht and Markus Molitor outdid themselves in this vintage, each producing a stunning set of wines including strong contenders for finest dry Riesling of the vintage.

By enlarge, the vintage confirmed much of the relative pecking order among growers, with classics such as Georg Breuer, Emrich-Schönleber, Schäfer-Fröhlich, etc. delivering handsomely. Their top wines will be cherished treasures in a decade or two.

Rheinhessen, and in particular the wines from the "Rheinfront", has fared particularly well in 2016. Besides Keller, Kühling-Gillot and St. Antony made some stunning dry Riesling in 2016.

Thanks to the slightly more moderate acidity and the cleanness of the fruit, also the Mosel hit the bull's eye in 2016 and produced a huge number of stunning dry Riesling in all stylistic directions, be it in the more fuller-bodied style (e.g. Heymann-Löwenstein, Clemens Busch, etc.) or in the lighter style (Maximin Grünhaus, Falkenstein, etc.). On top of the remarkable performance of Markus Molitor, a wide range of growers produced magnificent dry Riesling. Besides the growers already mentioned, one may cite (in alphabetic order) A.J. Adam, Reinhold Haart, Julian Haart, Immich-Batterieberg, Knebel, Schloss Lieser, Carl Loewen, von Othegraven and, last by not least, Van Volxem.

A special mention should go for the Pfalz, whose wines were often "too much" in 2015. The lighter structure of the 2016 played into the hands of this region and lovers of this stylistic direction will find much to like in the region in the 2016 vintage. Besides an awe-inspiring collection by Koehler-Ruprecht, the collections dished by Bassermann-Jordan and Rebholz are of particular finesse.

Overall, the 2016 vintage has the charm, balance and elegance one expects from a great classic vintage for dry Riesling and this is reflected in the large number of wines with outstanding scores. If elegance is your thing, there is much to like in 2016. As always, there is not "the" dry Riesling, but a wide range of styles. It is therefore important to read the tasting notes (or even better: taste the wines yourself) in order to make sure that you will get a wine in the stylistic direction you will enjoy.

This buying guide would not be complete without a word on the stunning late releases of dry Riesling which have happened recently or are going to happen within the coming months. Let us be direct: Some of the finest dry Riesling from Germany are now the late-released Rieslings by the leading Estates. In fact, one of the (if not the) finest dry Riesling from 2016 is the magical Koehler-Ruprecht Auslese Trocken R which will only be released in ... 2022.

Unfortunately, these gems do not get the full marketing attention they deserve. We would however urge lovers of great dry Riesling to plunge on the 2014er GG Réserve when these will be released by Dr. Loosen, the stunning set of 2015er and 2014er late releases by Clemens Busch (including the possibly finest dry Mosel Riesling from the 2015 vintage), the superb 2015er R to be released by Koehler-Ruprecht as well as the stunningly silky 2015er Kirchenstück GG by Bürklin-Wolf.

Happy hunting!



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

2016 Dry German Riesling: Noteworthy Wines from Outside of the Mosel

We provide here tasting notes for noteworthy dry Riesling of outstanding quality from outside of the Mosel, which we had the chance to taste. The list is not intended to be fully comprehensive, as there are hundreds of grand dry Riesling (including GGs) produced in Germany.

NB: The most stunning dry Riesling from the Mosel which were reviewed in our Mosel Vintage reports are summarized in the following section.

Acham-Magin
Dr. Bassermann-Jordan
Georg Breuer
von Buhl
Bürklin-Wolf
A. Christmann
Dr. Crusius
Diel
Dönnhoff
Emrich-Schönleber
K.F Groebe
Gunderloch
Hermannsberg
Toni Jost
Keller
Koehler-Ruprecht
Kühling-Gillot
Peter Jakob Kühn
Künstler
Georg Mosbacher
Rappenhof
Rebholz
Balthasar Ress
Joh. Bapt. Schäfer
Schäfer-Fröhlich
Schätzel
St. Antony
Thörle
Wagner-Stempel
Robert Weil
von Winning
Wittmann

Forst (Pfalz)
Deidesheim (Pfalz)
Rüdesheim (Rheingau)
Deidesheim (Pfalz)
Wachenheim (Pfalz)
Neustadt (Pfalz)
Traisen (Nahe)
Rümmelsheim (Nahe)
Oberhausen (Nahe)
Monzingen (Nahe)
Westhofen (Rheinhessen)
Nackenheim (Rheinhessen)
Niederhausen (Nahe)
Bacharach (Mittelrhein)
Flörsheim-Dalsheim (Rheinhessen)
Kallstadt (Pfalz)
Bodenheim (Rheinhessen)
Ostrich-Winkel (Rheingau)
Hochheim (Pfalz)
Forst (Pfalz)
Alsheim (Rheinhessen)
Siebeldingen (Pfalz)
Eltville (Rheingau)
Rümmelsheim (Nahe)
Bockenau (Nahe)
Nierstein (Rheinhessen)
Nierstein (Rheinhessen)
Saulheim (Rheinhessen)
Siefersheim (Rheinhessen)
Kiedrich (Rheingau)
Deidesheim (Pfalz)
Westhofen (Rheinhessen)



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2016 Dry German Riesling: Noteworthy Wines from Outside of the Mosel

Weingut Acham-Magin

(Forst – Pfalz)

2016er	Acham-Magin	Forster Jesuitengarten Riesling Trocken GG	27 17	92
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This delivers a gorgeously refined and spicy nose of grapefruit, peach, smoke and mint. The wine is impeccably balanced on the palate. While on the richer side, this develops great depth and especially focus in the very long and intense finish. The after-taste is full of spices and citrus, and proves hugely persistent. This is a great ambassador for the more forceful yet highly elegant expression of dry Riesling. 2020-2028

2016er	Acham-Magin	Forster Kirchenstück Riesling Trocken GG	25 17	92
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This delivers a beautifully complex and layered nose made of grapefruit, candied citrus and orange blossom with a touch of banana. The wine shows great tension, intensity and structure on the medium-bodied palate and leaves a magnificent and broad feel in the deep and spicy finish. 2021-2031

2016er	Acham-Magin	Forster Pechstein Riesling Trocken GG	28 17	90
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This delivers an aromatic nose made of orange blossom, candied grapefruit, mango, apricot, vanilla, smoke and tar. The wine is delicately creamy and juicy on the palate, yet it shows also quite some presence and even a touch of power in the long and fruit-driven finish. This will please to lovers of direct, ostentatious and fruit-loaded dry Riesling. 2018-2026

Weingut Geheimer Rat Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan

(Deidesheim – Pfalz)

2016er	Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan	Forster Pechstein Riesling Trocken GG	33 17	94
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This offers a quite impressive and complex nose of ginger and smoke, as well as some nut, apricot blossom and anise. The wine is precise, fresh and layered on the palate. A superbly smoky side runs through the wine and leads to a marvelous long and intense finish. Dried spices, a touch of salt and lime make for a great after-taste, even if the tartness is still quite present at this early stage. This forceful expression of Riesling will need a couple of years to find its balance, but lovers of smoky and intense Pechstein will find everything to love after that. 2022-2036

2016er	Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan	Forster Kirchenstück Riesling Trocken GG	49 17	93
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This is still marked by quite some fine notes of reduction and only gradually reveals a refined and beautiful nose of grapefruit, mint, vineyard peach, spices and herbs. The wine coats the palate with very intense notes of grapefruit and spices. These glide into a powerful and very long finish. This ostentatious expression of dry Riesling lives from its remarkable complexity and presence. 2021-2031

2016er	Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan	Forster Jesuitengarten Riesling Trocken GG	10 17	92
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This is still hugely backward and only hints at complex notes of grapefruit, lead pencil, smoke, lime, herbs and spices. The wine is superbly juicy and packed with intense flavors of grapefruit and citrus on the palate. This leads to a broad and powerful finish with but with no undue weight or heat. The persistence in the after-taste is impressive. 2021-2031

2016er	Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan	Deidesheimer Kalkofen Riesling Trocken GG	43 17	91
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This delivers a gorgeous nose of apricot blossom, peach, pear and flowers. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate. Nicely light-weighted, it proves nevertheless packed with intense flavors of grapefruit and lime. The finish is razor sharp and deliciously focused. This is an outstanding dry Riesling in the making. 2020-2031



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Weingut Georg Breuer

(Rüdesheim – Rheingau)

2016er	Georg Breuer	Rauenthaler Nonnenberg Riesling	03 17	95
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The 2016er Rauenthaler Nonnenberg was fermented to fully dry-tasting levels (9 g/l of residual sugar). It develops a sublimely ample and elegant nose as grapefruit and lemon as well as pear and greengage woo for one's attention with quite some herbs-infused scents. The wine is superbly juicy and elegant, with good zest but no hard edges, on the palate and leaves a gorgeously playful feel of fine herbs and classy elements of citrusy fruits in the long and very subtle finish. This proves gorgeously elegant without any undue power or presence. It is simply at ease with itself, the typical hallmark of a Grand Vin. This will only show its true colors with age even if it is already remarkable enjoyable at this young age. 2026-2041

2016er	Georg Breuer	Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg Riesling	01 17	93+
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The 2016er Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg was fermented to fully dry levels (3.9 g/l of residual sugar). It develops a delicately ample even if still completely reduced nose of candied grapefruit puree, pear, laurel and, deep below, some cassis and aniseed herbs. The wine starts off on a beautifully smooth and fruity side on the palate before it gains in grip and multi-layered presence as elements of bergamot, oregano and minerals come through. The finish is delicately smooth, refined, subtle and yet loaded with great complexity and quite some presence. This stunning effort in the making will need a solid decade to fully integrate its elements. There is quite some upside if the wine retains its complex and refined side in the finish over time. 2026-2046

2016er	Georg Breuer	Rüdesheimer Berg Rottland Riesling	05 17	93
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The 2016er Rüdesheimer Berg Rottland was fermented to full legally dry levels (5.6 g/l of residual sugar). It still proves very much on the reductive side but already hints at beauty to come. The nose is driven by minerals and herbs, with an underlying touch of mirabelle, greengage, cassis, grapefruit and pear only waiting to shine through. The wine proves gracefully playful and stylish in its slightly ample presence on the palate, but the finish is all about sizzled focus and elegance. This magnificent dry Riesling in the making will please lovers of presence and elegance. 2024-2036

2016er	Georg Breuer	Riesling Terra Montosa	02 17	92+
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The 2016er Terra Montosa is a legally dry wine (with 6.5 g/l of residual sugar) made of declassified casks ear-marked for the single-vineyard Grand Cru bottlings of the Estate. The wine develops a beautifully inviting nose of delicately creamy pear, quince and grapefruit, all wrapped into some minerals, fine aniseed herbs and spices. The wine proves gorgeously balanced and delicately zesty on the palate, where grapefruit puree and a hint of cassis gives the wine a great refreshing side right into the delicately tart and beautifully balanced finish. The finish is still slightly reduced with herbs as well as salty and chalky elements driving the aromatic profile. This is a huge success and our finest Montosa to date. The upside is superb if the wine retains its finesse at maturity. 2024-2036

2016er	Georg Breuer	Riesling Rauenthal Estate	06 17	90
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The 2016er Rauenthal Estate is a legally dry wine (with 3.9 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit harvested in the Estate's Rauenthaler Nonnenberg. This offers a still slightly reduced and only hints at scents of pear, grapefruit, Provence herbs, spices and smoky elements at this stage. The wine is elegantly playful and delicately zesty on the palate and leaves a smooth and subtle feel of herbs and spices in the long and classy finish. This is a beautiful wine only needs a few years to fully blossom. 2019-2031

2016er	Georg Breuer	Riesling Rüdesheim Estate	04 17	90
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The 2016er Rüdesheim Estate is a fully dry-tasting wine (with 9 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit harvested in the Estate's secondary vineyards in Rüdesheim. It develops a rather elegant and subtle nose of fresh herbs, pear, grapefruit and smoky elements still buried deep into the wine. The wine develops great presence and focus on the palate and leaves a beautifully clean and exquisite feel of herbs in the medium-long but nicely sizzled finish. 2021-2031+



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Weingut Reichsrat von Buhl

(Deidesheim – Pfalz)

<u>2015er</u>	von Buhl	Forster Kirchenstück Riesling Trocken GG	35 16	91+
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This has started to close down and only hints at more than exhibits ample notes of quince, almond cream, canned peach and candied grapefruit. Grapefruit-driven acidity makes the wine start off on the light side on the palate. It is only gradually that it develops more power, presence and ripe yellow fruits. These lead to a very long and intense finish with great grip and intensity as well as quite some tartness still in need of integration. A nice zesty side comes through in the after-taste. This really needs to be left alone for many years now in order to develop its full aromatic balance. It could then well turn out better than expected if it gains in focus. 2022-2030

<u>2016er</u>	von Buhl	Forster Pechstein Riesling Trocken GG	33 17	91+
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Some initial smoky notes give way to refined flowery scents of yellow peach, pear, vanilla and mint on the nose. The minty side comes through on the palate. The structure and tannins make for a powerful and mouth-coating experience. The after-taste is quite powerful. This forceful expression of Riesling needs time to settle down and integrate all its elements. It could well turn out even better than initially expected if it gains in finesse. 2020-2031

Weingut Dr. Bürklin-Wolf

(Wachenheim – Pfalz)

<u>2015er</u>	Dr. Bürklin-Wolf	Forster Kirchenstück Riesling Trocken GG	20 17	93+
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This is completely shut down now and only hints at some fresh scents of mint, dried herbs, vineyard peach, anise and smoke. The wine delivers however full throttle presence, intensity and complexity on the comparatively mid-weighted palate. The finish is full of dried spices, mouth-watering freshness and intensity. This is best left alone for quite some years to let it unfold its magic. It could ultimately prove even better than initially anticipated if it gains in complexity without losing in freshness 2023-2035

<u>2015er</u>	Dr. Bürklin-Wolf	Deidesheimer Kalkofen Riesling Trocken GG	39 16	90
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This offers a beautiful nose of yellow flowers, peach, honeysuckle and candied grapefruit as well as mint and mango. The wine coats the palate with myriads of yellow ripe fruits wrapped into fine honey. Ample cream and juicy fruits add depth and presence. The finish is all about ample, exotic fruits and breadth, wrapped into intense grapefruit-driven acidity. This exotic and slightly powerful expression of dry Riesling only needs to mature in order to fully shine. 2020-2030

Weingut A. Christmann

(Neustadt – Pfalz)

<u>2016er</u>	A. Christmann	Königsbacher Ölberg-Hart "Kapelle" Riesling Trocken GG	35 17	Auction	91
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This offers an attractively refined set of aromatics including yellow peach, almond cream, dried herbs and candied grapefruit. The wine is nicely creamy and gorgeously complex with plenty of spices and a touch of herbs on the palate. The finish is nicely balanced and beautifully structured. 2021-2028



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Weingut Dr. Crusius

(Traisen – Nahe)

2016er	Dr. Crusius	Schlossböckelheimer Felsenberg Riesling Trocken GG	21 17	91
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This offers an aromatic and smoky nose with plenty of fruity notes including quince, apricot blossom, apple, and a touch of banana, as well as mint and anise. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate where it delivers presence and intensity as well as finesse and delicacy. The after-taste is full of smoke, delicately salty tartness and ginger. This is an outstanding slightly spicy dry Riesling in the making. 2021-2031

2016er	Dr. Crusius	Traiser Rotenfels Mühlberg Riesling Trocken GG	20 17	90
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This delivers a ripe and fruit-driven nose of quince, pear, peach, gooseberry and dried mango. With airing, notes of smoke and licorice join the party. The wine is broad and juicy on the palate, and the initial feeling of fruits and smoothness is nicely balanced out by some tickly acidity as well as quite some tartness. The finish is spicy and slightly powerful. This ostentatious expression of dry Nahe Riesling will please lovers of more forceful expressions of dry Riesling. 2021-2028

Schlossgut Diel

(Rümmelsheim – Nahe)

2016er	Diel	Dorsheimer Goldloch Riesling Trocken GG	23 17	92
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Almost non-saying at first, this dry Riesling only gradually reveals complex scents of anise, vineyard peach, mint and almond. The wine then develops a riper and more exotic side on the palate, where juicy notes of coconut and peach are nicely wrapped into grapefruit driven acidity. Tangerine, apricot blossom and lime make for a lively and animating finish, full of length and freshness. This is a gorgeous Goldloch in the making. 2021-2031

2016er	Diel	Dorsheimer Pittermännchen Riesling Trocken GG	25 17	91
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Slightly reductive at first, this develops intense notes of gooseberry, cassis and paprika, not unlike those found in a Sauvignon Blanc, as well as raspberry and smoke. The wine is superbly fresh and playful on the palate, and lives through a beautiful zesty acidity. A beautifully tart and herby side in the long finish adds to the overall freshness and lightness of this fully dry tasting Riesling. 2021-2036

Weingut Hermann Dönnhoff

(Oberhausen – Nahe)

2016er	Dönnhoff	Niederhäuser Hermannshöhle Riesling Trocken GG	26 17	92+
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This delivers an impressive and fruit-driven nose with pear and peach as well as a touch of anise, almond cream, vanilla and spices. The wine proves mouth-coating, with great presence and intensity, on the palate. A touch of power comes through in the long and persistent after-taste. The 2016er Hermannshöhle will particularly please lovers of ostentatious expressions of dry Dönnhoff Riesling. 2021-2028

2016er	Dönnhoff	Schlossböckelheimer Felsenberg Riesling Trocken GG	24 17	92
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This offers notes of aniseed herbs, almond cream, hay and yellow peach. The wine is nicely broad and even a tad powerful on the palate and leaves a tart feel in the intense finish. This ostentatious expression of Felsenberg will please lovers of more forceful dry Riesling. 2021-2028

2016er	Dönnhoff	Norheimer Dellchen Riesling Trocken GG	25 17	91
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This exhibits quite an aromatic nose with plenty of yellow and ripe fruits including quince, peach and apple, as well as coconut cream, anise and canned pineapple. A nicely zesty side wraps the underlying feeling of intensity and even power on the palate. The finish is slightly broad and still quite tart, making this a more forceful expression of Dellchen than usual at Dönnhoff. 2021-2028



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Weingut Emrich-Schönleber

(Monzingen – Nahe)

2016er	Emrich-Schönleber	Monzinger Auf der Ley Riesling Trocken GG	12 17	Auction	94
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Served out of a magnum (the wine was sold at the Nahe Auction only in magnums and double-magnums), this delivers a great and superbly perfumed nose of spices, grapefruit zest, orange blossom and vineyard peach as well as some richer elements of almond cream and a touch of pear with airing. The wine is juicy and appears almost light in texture. Creamy fruits add quite some charm to this very elegant and refined wine. The intensity only comes through in the breathtaking finish. This is a quite superb piece of dry Riesling in the making. 2024-2036

2016er	Emrich-Schönleber	Monzinger Frühlingsplätzchen Riesling Trocken GG	10 17		94
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This delivers a stunning and superbly delineated nose with white flowers, dried spices, mint, almond and ginger. The wine is smooth and delicate on the palate, and this leads to a creamy and long finish. Even if quite compact and highly present on the palate, the freshness leads the pace in the after-taste so that the wine conveys the tell-tale feeling of balance at all moments. The finish is hugely long and persistent. This is a stunning wine in the making. 2024-2036

2016er	Emrich-Schönleber	Monzinger Halenberg Riesling Trocken GG	11 17		93+
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This is quite reductive at first and only hints at some superb refined notes including smoke, anise, peach, herbs and plum as well as some riper scents of fruits. The wine is quite compact on the palate but hints already at grandness to come through its impressive length and freshness in the finish. This austere Riesling only needs a decade to fully develop its aromatics. There is great upside potential if it manages to do so with panache. 2026-2041

Weingut K.F. Groebe

(Westhofen – Rheinhessen)

2016er	K.F. Groebe	Westhofener Kirchspiel Riesling Trocken GG	19 17		90
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This offers an aromatic and fruit-driven nose with pineapple, canned yellow peach, pear, almond cream and mint. The wine is nicely smooth and delicately creamy on the palate, yet quickly develops a more powerful and intense side. The palate leads to a broad and ostentatious long finish with good overall balance. This intense expression of dry Riesling proves an outstanding effort. 2018-2024

Weingut Gunderloch

(Nackenheim – Rheinhessen)

2016er	Gunderloch	Niersteiner Hipping Riesling Trocken GG	13 17		90
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This offers a charming fruity and nicely exotic nose made of candied mango, orange, yellow peach, smoke and a touch of flowers. This exotic turns to a riper side on the palate. Here sweet and ripe fruits are balanced out by quite some acidity lifted up also by a noticeable touch of CO2. The finish is powerful and slightly herbal. This slightly ostentatious expression of dry Riesling will please lovers of more direct wines. 2019-2026

2016er	Gunderloch	Niersteiner Pettenthal Riesling Trocken GG	14 17		90
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This offers a highly aromatic and intense nose made of candy floss, canned peach, candied grapefruit and yellow apple. The wine develops deliciously soft, sweet fruits on the palate and gains in presence and intensity in the long and spicy finish. This will please lovers of direct and creamy expression of dry Riesling. 2018-2026



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Gut Hermannsberg

(Niederhausen – Nahe)

2016er	Hermannsberg	Niederhäuser Hermannsberg Riesling Trocken GG	05 17	93
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This first starts off on the fresher side on the nose, with gooseberry, green apple and peach, before it develops richer scents of dried spices, ginger and smoke. The wine is gorgeously balanced on the palate where the presence and intensity are beautifully wrapped into some nicely tickly acidity. The finish is very long and driven by lime and grapefruit as well as some great smoky flavors. This is a terrific dry Riesling in the making. 2023-2031

2016er	Hermannsberg	Schlossböckelheimer Felsenberg Riesling Trocken GG	25 17	92
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Still marked by sulfur reduction at first, this gradually opens up to offer anise, almond paste, thyme and smoke. The wine is beautifully playful on the light yet intensely complex palate. The finish is stunningly smoky and driven by dried spices. This superb dry Riesling only needs a few years of patience in order to get rid of its reduction and fully shine. 2021-2031

2016er	Hermannsberg	Niederhäuser Steinberg Riesling Trocken GG	20 17	91
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This offers a quite minty nose underpinned by anise, pear, ginger and smoke. These scents lead to a creamy and nicely fruity, round and delicately broad palate. This softer side is however nicely framed by some tickly acidity and a kick of CO2. The delicately tart finish offers great length and intensity. This only needs a couple of years to integrate its elements and fully shine. 2019-2026

2016er	Hermannsberg	Altenbamberger Rotenberg Riesling Trocken GG	15 17	90+
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This offers a complex and refined nose with notes of smoke, anise, herbs, smoke, nut and cherry. The wine has quite some grip and intensity on the palate, and remains on the fresh side thanks to a most animating grapefruit driven acidity. A more powerful side underpinned by slightly macerated fruits including pear and mirabelle emerges in the finish at this early stage. There is quite some upside in this more forceful expression of dry Riesling, especially if the fresher side takes the upper hand at maturity. 2019-2024+

2016er	Hermannsberg	Schlossböckelheimer Kupfergrube Riesling Trocken GG	10 17	90+
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Still marked by some stinky reduction at first, this backward wine only timidly reveals some scents of almond cream, dried spices, apple and smoke. Opulent fruits wrapped into intense grapefruit and lime drive the flavors on the quite punchy, salty and spicy palate. The finish is dominated at this stage by the tartness which will certainly require quite some years to integrate. This outstanding effort could even surprise us all if it comes out on the refined side of things at maturity. 2021-2031

Weingut Toni Jost - Hahnenhof

(Bacharach – Mittelrhein)

2016er	Toni Jost	Bacharacher Hahn Riesling Trocken GG	17 17	90
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This delivers a nicely fruity nose with ripe pear, herbs and earthy spices. The wine is nicely round and quite elegant on the palate and delivers a refreshing and complex feel of fruits and herbs in the nicely precise and elegant finish. This beautiful dry Riesling plays on finesse and delicacy rather than power but is no less satisfying. 2019-2031

Weingut Keller

(Flörsheim-Dalsheim – Rheinhessen)

2016er	Keller	Niersteiner Pettenthal Riesling Trocken GG	38 17	Auction 97
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This immediately catches one's attention through its magnificent cool nose made of mint, white flowers, smoke, sea breeze and orange blossom. The wine is ethereally light and airy on the palate yet offers immense complexity and intensity. One is then left with stunning salty, smoky and spicy elements in the hugely persistent finish. The wine literally takes one's breath away as it leaves one with a great feeling of freshness and multi-layered complexity in the after-taste. This is a magnificent dry Riesling in the making! 2026-2041



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2016er	Keller	Dalsheimer Hubacker Riesling Trocken GG	31 17	95
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This develops a superbly herbal and minty nose driven by intense notes of smoke, yellow peach, pineapple and spices. The wine is full of energy and, even if still quite compact at this early stage, already reveals great complexity and finesse. There is a touch of riper fruits on the mid-palate but these are beautifully balanced out by fresh and minty notes in the very long, spicy and herbal finish. Smoky notes remain in the after-taste for minutes. This fresh Hubacker is quite a treat, but also one which will need quite some time to reach its optimal drinking window. 2026-2041

Weingut Koehler-Ruprecht (Kallstadt – Pfalz)

2016er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken R	15 17	98+
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The 2016er Kallstadter Saumagen Auslese Trocken R will only be released in 2022. It exhibits an absolutely smashing, very delicate and refreshingly cool nose of white minerals, flowers, minty herbs and tons of spices. The wine dances on the playful, fresh and super elegant palate yet it also has great structure, presence and grip. It is still compact and austere, something completely normal at such an early stage, but already hints at the grandness to come. Make no mistake, this Auslese Trocken R is set to become a mythical R bottlings alongside the all-time greats (2004, 2001, 1998, 1996, 1990) and a worthy successor to the immense 2004 (which we highlighted as a [wine of the month](#) in 2014). What a stunner in the making! 2026-2046+

2016er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken	14 17	96+
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The 2016er Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken will only be commercially released as of September 2018. It offers a quite spicy and refreshing nose of almond cream, dried flowers, coconut, gooseberry, herbs and white minerals. The wine intense, full of grip and yet at no point weighty on the palate. Bracing acidity eventually comes through and adds length and some power to this overall very delicate and highly elegant expression of dry Riesling. The finish is very pure and fully dry. This wine has immense potential, but will have to be cellared for a good decade to deliver upon it. 2026-2046

2016er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken	13 17	96
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The 2016er Kallstadter Saumagen Spätlese Trocken will only be commercially released in May 2018. It offers a stunning and already magnificently complex nose of whipped cream, dried flowers, candied peach, spices and almond. The wine shows great presence and immense grip without any undue power on the palate (the wine only has 12% of alcohol). It is packed with huge complexity and the finish is super fresh and animating. The acidity is fully ripe yet still quite sharp at this early stage, giving the wine a beautifully austere side, always a great sign in a young dry Riesling. The after-taste is all about grapefruit zest and chalky minerals. This is a dazzling piece of dry Riesling in the making and one of the finest Spätlese Trocken ever at this Estate! 2024-2046

2014er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken	13 15	95
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This offers a most delicate nose of candied grapefruit, elderberry, tangerine, blood orange, dried flowers, cassis and coconut cream. The wine delivers huge finesse and delicacy wrapped into a smooth and very subtle structure on the palate. This is all about elegance, and at the same time there is huge length, presence and focus. The wine proves fully dry and leaves one with salty and spicy elements in the remarkably animating after-taste. This is a great Saumagen Spätlese Trocken in the making. 2020-2039

2014er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken R	15 15	94+
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The 2014er Kallstadter Saumagen Auslese Trocken R will only be released commercially in 2020. It offers a most intense nose of smoke, beeswax, apricot, raspberry and spices. The wine is driven by some coconut cream and pineapple juice on the smooth and delicately creamy palate. Yet the finish is firmer, with minerals, spices and herbs still giving the wine an almost austere side with quite some grip and powerful zesty and spicy elements in the after-taste. This is actually quite far from being ready but all elements are there for a smashing dry Riesling. 2024-2044

2014er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken	14 15	94
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This is currently comparatively closed and only timidly hints as its beautiful nose made of candied peach, elderberry, raspberry, grapefruit zest, ginger, cherry and almond. The wine is delicately juicy and smooth on the palate, where more almond paste, coconut cream and pineapple show up. The finish is very long and offers good grip and intensity. There is still a touch of tartness in the background in need of integration, so that this will only fully shine in a few years' time. 2022-2039



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2015er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken R	24 16	94
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The 2015er Kallstadter Saumagen Spätlese Trocken R was bottled comparatively late, in December 2016 and will only be released commercially in 2019. It offers a most fascinating nose of flowers, dried fruits, herbs, mint, pear and a touch of quince. The wine proves rather intense and full-bodied on the palate, but the balance of this comparatively opulent dry Riesling is quite fascinating. It offers juicy pear, grapefruit and quince. It has energy, presence and power, but all this is superbly packed into quite some freshness and even focus in the very long and intense finish. This superbly fascinating wine will prove irresistible to the lovers of riper expression of dry Riesling. 2023-2035

2016er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Kabinett Trocken	17 17	93+
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The 2016er Kallstadter Saumagen Kabinett Trocken was bottled at the beginning of September. This immediately catches one's attention through a superbly elegant and refined nose made of dried white flowers, white peach, curcuma, gooseberry and ginger-driven spices. The wine is very delicate on the palate with subtle notes of white peach and zesty fruits wrapped into minty herbs. It delivers a great and fresh feel with animating tartness and zest in the playful and focused. This is a great light dry Riesling which only needs a few years in the bottle to fully shine. 2023-2036

2014er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Kabinett Trocken	12 15	92+
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This delivers a most beautifully aromatic and attractive nose of elderberry, yellow fruits, gingerbread, mirabelle and beeswax. The wine proves hugely complex on the palate, where its delicate waxy texture is lifted up by a most wonderful grapefruit and lime driven acidity. The finish is superbly long and highly focus. This is astonishing effort has even some upside potential as the wine is still not fully at its peak. 2020-2034

2015er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken	25 16	92
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This offers superbly attractive and even refreshing elements within a core of ripeness on the nose as notes of grapefruit, candied lime, white minerals and mint give slowly way to mirabelle, yellow peach and dried spices after airing. The wine proves powerful but this is superbly harnessed by good structure on the palate. Notes of tar and licorice emerge in the powerful finish. Even if slightly on the richer and broader side, this Auslese Trocken manages to retain good focus and balance. It will best be served with richer food when it will have reached maturity, in a few years. 2020-2030

2011er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken R	15 12	92
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This offers a quite aromatic and fruit-driven nose of praline, pear, quince puree, mirabelle, acacia honey and flowers. The wine is smooth and delicate on the palate where it unfolds subtle flavors of ripe yellow fruits wrapped into a creamy and delicate texture. The finish is very long, quite smooth and seemingly soft, yet the after-taste is nicely dry and delicately structured. This will please lovers of creamy and smooth Riesling. Now-2031

2015er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Kabinett Trocken	22 16	91
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This delivers a beautiful and attractive nose of flowers, pineapple, candied grapefruit and a touch of tar. The wine coats the palate with a myriad of juicy yellow fruits as well as a touch of honey and beeswax. This juicy and smooth experience is pepped up by an animating and even slightly powerful acidic structure in the finish. The after-taste is all about licorice and pear. This needs a couple of years to find its balance and will then best be paired with hearty food. 2023-2030+

2016er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Riesling Kabinett Trocken	03 17	90
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The 2016er Kallstadter Kabinett Trocken was made exclusively from grapes harvested in the Steinacker and Annaberg, and was bottled at the end of June. It delivers a beautiful nose of yellow peach, grapefruit, floral elements and mint. The wine is superbly balanced and delicately smooth, as well as fresh and juicy on the palate. It leaves a light and fully dry feel in the very long and spicy finish. This is an outstanding dry Riesling. 2021-2031

2015er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken	23 16	90
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This offers a hugely aromatic and ripe nose of mirabelle, pear, yellow peach, candied grapefruit and a touch of coconut cream, all wrapped into ginger herbs and tar. The wine is full-bodied, quite luscious and driven by very ripe notes of yellow and exotic fruits on the palate. The finish proves powerful and gives way to a macerated fruits wrapped into some alcoholic warmth in the after-taste. This will particularly please lovers of ostentatious and bigger expressions of dry Riesling. 2022-2030



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Weingut Kühling-Gillot

(Bodenheim – Rheinhessen)

2016er	Kühling-Gillot	Nackensteiner Rothenberg Riesling Trocken GG Wurzelecht	38 17	94
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This delivers a hugely complex and smoky nose blending slate, flowers and thyme with dried herbs. The wine is elegantly creamy and smooth on the palate where some delicious yellow peach interplays with tickly and juicy grapefruit driven acidity. The finish is mouthwateringly dry, a feeling amplified by a gorgeous touch of tartness, wonderful spices and a beautiful salty side. The wine significantly gains from airing and continues to grow in presence without ever compromising on its core of freshness and intensity. This great dry Riesling is easily the finest Rothenberg we have ever tasted. 2024-2036

2016er	Kühling-Gillot	Niersteiner Hipping Riesling Trocken GG	36 17	94
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This backward wine starts off by delivering some flinty notes and a touch of smoky bacon. Only with airing does the nose develop a delicate flowery side, with some ginger, caraway and thyme in the background. The wine is superbly playful on the palate. Here, the intense spicy and mineral flavors are joined by some zesty elements from tangerine and lime. The finish is ethereally light yet packed with complexity and freshness. This is a great Hipping in the making, and one which will age gracefully. 2021-2036

2016er	Kühling-Gillot	Niersteiner Pettenthal Riesling Trocken GG	37 17	93+
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Still marked by a touch of sulfur reduction at this early stage, this needs a few minutes in the glass to reveal great smoky flavors of spices, flowers, citrus zest and mint. The wine is delicately creamy and juicy on the palate, and leaves a spicy, slightly salty and fresh feel in the long finish. This is still a baby and will need many years to reach its drinking window, especially to integrate the underlying youthful tartness. It could ultimately warrant an even higher rating if the gains further in freshness. 2023-2036

Weingut Peter Jakob Kühn

(Oestrich-Winkel – Rheingau)

2015er	Peter Jakob Kühn	Oestricher Doosberg Riesling Trocken GG	08 17	91+
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This delivers a smooth and silky nose of pear, apple and delicately aniseed herbs. The wine is round and satisfyingly smooth on the palate, with the acidity still playing rather prima donna and not yet fully integrated. The finish is smooth, ripe and delicately powerful. 2020-2030

2016er	Peter Jakob Kühn	Oestricher Riesling Trocken Quarzit	03 17	91
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This offers a superbly elegant nose of apple, greengage, herbs, grapefruit and fine spices. The wine starts off with quite some grip on the palate before a smoother and quite multi-layered feel of apple, mint and herbs makes for a soothing feel in the very long and beautiful finish. Now-2026

Weingut Künstler

(Hochheim – Rheingau)

2016er	Künstler	Hochheimer Hölle Riesling Trocken GG	13 17	91
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This delivers a superbly complex and elegant nose of anise, almond cream, elderflower, herbs and a touch of coconut. The wine is superbly playful on the palate and remains on the light side even though it exhibits good presence. The finish is delicately creamy and light, with good length and play. This is drinking superbly well in a light and almost airy style for a dry Rheingau Riesling. 2020-2031

2016er	Künstler	Hochheimer Kirchenstück Riesling Trocken GG	24 17	90
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This wine proves nicely light and flowery, with some fine scents of yellow peach, anise, almond cream and coconut make adding complexity to the nose. The wine is intensely creamy and soft on the palate, and exhibits some grapefruit zest in the long and delightful finish. 2019-2031



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Weingut Georg Mosbacher

(Forst – Pfalz)

2016er	Georg Mosbacher	Forster Pechstein Riesling Trocken GG	42 17	91
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This is quite aromatic and direct in style as it offers canned peach, herbal elements, dried spices and pear. The wine is juicy and develops some sweet and smooth fruits packed into quite some cream on the palate. It shows a full-bodied presence in the long and herbal finish. This beautiful dry Riesling only needs a few years of bottle aging to integrate its tartness. 2019-2028

2016er	Georg Mosbacher	Forster Jesuitengarten Riesling Trocken GG	44 17	90
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This develops quite some creamy notes of peach, butter, pineapple and grapefruit on the nose. The wine is smooth and quite powerful on the palate, where juicy and ripe fruits add to the feeling of exotic sweetness. The finish is very spicy, intense and powerful. This full-blown expression of dry Riesling will particularly please lovers of ostentatious and fruit-driven wines. 2019-2028

Weingut Rappenhof

(Alsheim – Rheinhessen)

2016er	Rappenhof	Niersteiner Pettenthal Riesling Trocken GG	19 17	90
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This wine develops a beautifully smoky side on the nose at first. This gives way to some nice ripe fruity notes including pear, canned peach and a touch of pineapple as well as some spices. The wine has quite some presence and even a touch of power on the still rather tart palate. This ostentatious Pettenthal will need a few years to settle down and integrate its richness, and will especially please to lovers of more powerful expression of dry Riesling. 2019-2026

Weingut Ökonomierat Rebholz

(Siebeldingen – Pfalz)

2016er	Rebholz	Birkweiler Kastanienbusch Riesling Trocken GG	21 17	94
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This offers a hugely complex nose of grapefruit, pear, aniseed herbs, ginger and white flowers. The wine develops great balance and precision on the palate and leaves a superbly playful feel of gingery fruits and chalky minerals in the superbly precise palate. This is a great dry Riesling playing on finesse and elegance. 2021-2036

2016er	Rebholz	Siebeldinger im Sonnenschein Riesling Trocken Ganz Horn GG	19 17	93+
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This still proves rather reduced at this early stage and it only almost reluctantly reveals some of its bouquet after extensive airing. Then, discreet but hugely complex scents of grapefruit, pear, yellow peach and fine herbs gradually come through on the nose. The wine proves superbly smooth, elegant and refined on the palate and leaves a mouth-coating yet gorgeously complex and refined feel in the long and multi-layered finish. This is a hugely promising wine with great upside potential. 2021-2036

Weingut Balthasar Röss

(Eltvile – Rheingau)

2016er	Balthasar Röss	Hattenheimer Wisselbrunnen Riesling Trocken GG	21 17	90+
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This offers a delicately creamy nose of almond, coconut, quince, apple and anise. The wine is nicely juicy and develops good presence with coconut cream wrapped into herbal elements on the palate. The finish is still slightly rough as tartness and spicy acidity make for a linear and straight feeling. There is quite some upside here as the different elements integrate at maturity. 2021-2026+



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Weingut Joh. Bapt. Schäfer

(Rümmelsheim – Nahe)

2016er	Joh. Bapt. Schäfer	Dorsheimer Pittermännchen Riesling Trocken GG	15 17	90+
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This offers a delicately flowery nose enhanced by scents of grapefruit, vineyard peach, almond cream and coconut. The wine proves beautifully playful with good presence and finesse on the palate. The tartness makes for a slightly harsh feel in the finish at this early stage. However, all the raw materials are there for a great dry Riesling with quite some upside should the wine develop its refined side. 2021-2031

Weingut Schäfer-Fröhlich

(Bockenau – Nahe)

2016er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Bockenauer Felseneck Riesling Trocken GG	24 17	95
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This still proves hugely backward and primary as residues of spontaneous fermentation dominate the aromatics. The wine only gradually reveals notes of spices, lily flowers, smoke, plum and tar. It is feather light on the palate yet packed with intense slate-infused and smoky flavors. The finish is also light, airy and very delicately flowery. The freshness, elegance and lightness of this wine are quite breathtaking. This is a great Felseneck in the making. 2024-2036

2016er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Bockenauer Stromberg Riesling Trocken GG	23 17	94
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Still marked by residues of spontaneous fermentation, this is however quick to reveal a more aromatic side driven by dried spices, herbs, ginger, pear and peach on the nose. The wine is nicely juicy and refined on the palate, and this delicate texture leads to zesty and spicy flavors in the very long and breathtaking finish, in which smoky elements linger on for minutes. This is a stunning dry Riesling in the making. 2023-2036

2016er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Monzinger Halenberg Riesling Trocken GG	22 17	94
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Still strongly marked by residues of spontaneous fermentation, this only timidly reveals some beautiful scents of spices, strawberry, yellow peach, tar, licorice and a touch of white flowers. The wine offers great presence and intensity on the palate. The hugely long and zesty finish is packed with flavors of cherry and lime. This is a great Halenberg in the making. 2024-2036

2016er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Monzinger Frühlingsplätzchen Riesling Trocken GG	21 17	93
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Still marked by residues of spontaneous fermentation, this delivers a comparatively aromatic and ripe nose of candied grapefruit, pear, spices and smoke. The wine is juicy and creamy on the palate, yet the tickly acidity is coming through on the mid-palate to freshen up the whole experience. The wine proves remarkably long and superbly smoky in the finish. There is still quite some tartness at this early stage but this will mellow away nicely in a few years' time. 2024-2036

2016er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Schlossböckelheimer Felsenberg Riesling Trocken GG	19 17	93
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Still marked by flowery scents of spontaneous fermentation, this shows quite some elegance and finesse with notes of smoke, pear, anise, thyme and ginger on the nose. The wine is finely juicy and delicately ample on the palate and gains in focus in the very long, smoky and zesty finish. One is left with beautiful spicy elements in the delicately tart after-taste. This is a beautiful dry Riesling in the making. 2024-2036

2016er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Schlossböckelheimer Kupfergrube Riesling Trocken GG	20 17	92
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Still slightly marked by residues of spontaneous fermentation, this offers a nice nose of elderflower, yellow peach, mint, spices and pear. The wine is slightly ripe on the palate but the creamy and ample fruits are nicely wrapped into grapefruit driven acidity. The finish is beautifully balanced. This will develop into a beautiful dry Riesling in a few years. 2022-2031



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Weingut Schätzel

(Nierstein – Rheinhessen)

2016er	Schätzel	Niersteiner Hipping Riesling Trocken GG	15 17	90
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This delivers a beautifully fresh nose made of gooseberry, cassis, green apple, smoke and dried spices. The wine is nicely animating on the rather strict and lean palate. The wine proves quite herbal and monolithic at this early stage and will need some time to develop its complexity and aromatics. Yet the freshness and lightness are quite fascinating. 2023-2031

2016er	Schätzel	Niersteiner Ölberg Riesling Trocken GG	14 17	90
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Slightly reductive and yeasty at first, this develops superb notes of cassis, strawberry, yellow peach, thyme and earthy spices on the nose. The wine is nicely juicy and playful on the palate where it exhibits riper and softer fruits with a good amount of tartness in need of integration. The finish is nicely herbal and driven by gooseberry. This outstanding dry Riesling only needs patience to fully shine. 2021-2031

Weingut St. Antony

(Nierstein – Rheinhessen)

2016er	St. Antony	Niersteiner Ölberg Riesling Trocken GG	34 17	93
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This delivers a superbly smoky and elegant nose mixing some dried flowers to apricot blossom, ginger bread, spices and mint. After some airing, it develops slightly riper notes of pear and apple, yet always remains on the fresh and delicate side. The wine also proves delicately suave and finely creamy on the palate and leaves a superbly spicy and salty feel in the finish. The after-taste is deliciously tart, fresh and above all loaded with energy. This is a superb dry Riesling from the Roter Hang in the making. 2021-2031

2016er	St. Antony	Niersteiner Hipping Riesling Trocken GG	32 17	92+
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Reductive and even marked by some sulfur at first, this only gradually reveals some scents of ripe fruits including quince, apricot, joined by a touch of yellow peach as well as some tar and smoke after airing. The wine is light-weighted and gains in presence and density as it evolves on the palate. The finish is intense and driven by grapefruit zest and other citrusy fruits. A really fresh and salty side emerges in the beautifully persistent after-taste. This needs a couple of years to fully blossom, and there is great upside potential here. 2023-2031+

Weingut Thörle

(Saulheim – Rheinhessen)

2016er	Thörle	Saulheimer Hölle Riesling Trocken	28 17	91
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This offers a refined nose of grapefruit, fine herbs and a hint of pear, all wrapped into some smoky and flowery elements. The wine is nicely harmonious, and shows good presence paired with elegance on the palate. It leaves nice feel in the long finish. This superb dry Riesling only requires one to wait two years in order to get the most from it. 2019-2031

Weingut Wagner-Stempel

(Siefersheim – Rheinhessen)

2016er	Wagner-Stempel	Riesling Trocken EMT	26 17	Auction 91
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Made from 45 year-old vines, the 2016er Riesling EMT delivers a ripe and fruit-driven nose of quince, yellow peach, apple and almond cream with a touch of coconut in the background. The wine shows good presence and mouth-coating pear elements on the slightly soft palate. It gains in power towards the very long, slightly herbal and tart finish. A hint of pear in alcohol and dried spices come through in the after-taste. This needs a few more years in the bottle to fully shine. 2020-2026



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Weingut Robert Weil

(Kiedrich – Rheingau)

2016er	Robert Weil	Kiedricher Gräfenberg Riesling Trocken GG	70 17	93
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This offers a beautifully attractive nose of pear, peach and grapefruit as well as minty and aniseed herbs. The wine is beautifully playful and very precise on the comparatively slender palate and leaves a delicately tart feel in the long and classy finish. This is a gorgeous dry Riesling playing on finesse and elegance instead of power. 2021-2036

Weingut von Winning

(Deidesheim – Pfalz)

2016er	von Winning	Forster Kirchenstück Riesling Trocken GG	40 17	91
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This is comparatively closed and almost non-saying at first. It only gradually reveals nice floral notes wrapped into candied grapefruit, peach and spices. The wine is medium-bodied and driven by zesty fruits on the palate. An exotic side driven by mango and coconut remains at this stage firmly in the background. The finish is restrained, focused and zesty. 2021-2031

2016er	von Winning	Forster Pechstein Riesling Trocken GG	37 17	91
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This is quite aromatic and ripe in style, as one is greeted by exuberant notes of pear, mango and almond cream. The wine coats the palate with creamy and juicy flavors, which gain in presence and power with airing. The finish is however long and beautifully focused. This is an ostentatious and quite aromatic dry Riesling for early enjoyment. This will happen after the current touch of wood, still noticeable in the slightly tannic finish, will have mellowed away into the wine. 2019-2031

2016er	von Winning	Forster Jesuitengarten Riesling Trocken GG	39 17	90+
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This is still comparatively shy on the nose and only hints at some complex notes of spices, smoke, peach, pineapple, coconut and almond cream. The wine, even if comparatively light-weighted on the palate, delivers a forceful presence with ample cream and also quite some coconut coming from the wood influence. This broad expression of Jesuitengarten will particularly please lovers of richer expression of dry Riesling. It may well positively surprise us after some years in the bottle if it gains in precision. 2021-2031

2016er	von Winning	Forster Ungeheuer Riesling Trocken GG	38 17	90+
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This proves hugely aromatic, with a hint of pear, cumin, ginger and herbs. The wine is ripe, herbal and round on the palate and leaves a quite powerful feel in the assertive and structured finish. This will need a few years to reveal its full potential. 2021-2036

Weingut Wittmann

(Westhofen – Rheinhessen)

2016er	Wittmann	Westhofener Morstein Riesling Trocken GG	19 17	93
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This offers a most beautiful and refined nose of grapefruit zest, smoke, freshly cut pineapple, dried spices and herbs. The wine develops more intensity and presence on the palate as quite some ripe yellow fruits join the party and add to the creamy and smooth feel. Only in the after-taste does the wine develop freshness and playfulness as candied citrus and spices woo for one's attention. This great dry Riesling only needs a couple of years to fully blossom and integrate its richness on the palate. 2021-2031

2016er	Wittmann	Westhofener Brunnenhäuschen Riesling Trocken GG	18 17	92+
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This offers a very cool and superbly delineated nose with tangerine, yellow peach, mint, green almond and a touch of nut. The wine is still compact and comparatively powerful on the palate. A smooth feeling of nicely ripe fruits runs through the wine right into the still quite tart but beautifully animating finish. This is in need of aging to fully shine and develop its complexity. We would not be surprised if this impressive dry Riesling would ultimately warrant a higher rating at maturity, when the wine will have developed its full elegance. 2021-2031



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2016er	Wittman	Riesling Trocken Alte Reben La Borne	24 17	Auction	92
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Made from a parcel in the Westhofener Morstein, this offers a superbly spicy and fresh nose of white pepper, green herbs, gooseberry, grapefruit and lime. Some notes of smoke, minty herbs and greengage come out with more airing as the wine develops in the glass. It shows good presence on the medium-bodied palate. The finish is still compact and delivers tannins, herbs and quite some tartness at this early stage. This will need quite some years to fully integrate. 2022-2031

2016er	Wittmann	Westhofener Kirchspiel Riesling Trocken GG	17 17		92
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A very delicate and elegant nose of yellow flowers, peach, almond cream and mint gives way to a juicy and more fruit driven palate. This Kirchspiel is comparatively light and delicate, a feeling which is also reinforced by the creamy and juicy side of the wine. The finish is complex and spicy, and the after-taste is delicately tart and animating. This is a beautifully playful and fruit-driven piece of dry Riesling in the making. 2021-2031



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

2016 Dry German Riesling: Highlights from the Mosel

For completion on our report on 2016 Dry German Riesling, we summarize here the tasting notes for the 2016 dry Riesling from the Mosel which prove of stunning quality. As for the wines outside the Mosel, we also added here late released wines (essentially from 2014 and 2015) which come on the market now or will be coming on the market soon.

These were reviewed in the current Part III of the 2016 Vintage Report (Issue No 38) or in Part I and II of the 2016 Vintage Report (Issues No 35 and 36).

A.J. Adam / Adam & Haart

Bischöfliche Weingüter Trier

Clemens Busch

Falkenstein

Fio

Fritz Haag

Julian Haart

Reinhold Haart

Herrenberg

Heymann-Löwenstein

Immich-Batterieberg

von Kesselstatt

Knebel

Peter Lauer

Schloss Lieser

Carl Loewen

Dr. Loosen

Materne & Schmitt

Melsheimer

Markus Molitor

Martin Müllen

von Othegraven

Paulinshof

von Schubert

Selbach-Oster

Van Volxem

Vollenweider

Wegeler

Weiser-Künstler

Neumagen

Trier

Pünderich

Niedermennig

Piesport

Brauneberg

Piesport

Piesport

Schoden

Winningen

Enkirch

Morscheid

Winningen

Ayl

Lieser

Leiwen

Bernkastel-Kues

Winningen

Reil

Wehlen

Traben-Trarbach

Kanzem

Kesten

Mertesdorf

Zeltingen

Wiltingen

Traben-Trarbach

Bernkastel-Kues

Traben-Trarbach





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2016 Dry German Riesling: Highlights from the Mosel

Weingut A.J. Adam / Adam & Haart

(Neumagen-Dhron – Middle Mosel)

2016er	A.J. Adam	Dhroner Häs'chen Riesling Trocken	05 17	93
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The wine delivers a beautiful nose of pear, mirabelle and brown sugar, all wrapped into a hint of cream. The wine proves gorgeously well balanced on the palate, with a nice touch of ripe acidity providing a great sense of structure to the experience. The finish is airy, persistent and elegant. What a great dry Riesling in the old "Spätlese Trocken" style in the making! 2021-2036 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

2016er	Adam & Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken	01 17	92+
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This wine comes from un-grafted vines (planted in 1909) in the prime Laychen sector of the Goldtröpfchen vineyard. It offers a beautiful nose of passion fruit sorbet, spices and herbs. The wine proves gorgeously full-bodied without being over-powering on the palate (it "only" boasts 12.5% of alcohol). The feel on the palate is smooth, yet a good kick of acidity comes through in the juicy finish. This splendid effort has quite some upside potential if it maintains its great focus! 2021-2036 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

2016er	A.J. Adam	Dhroner Hofberg Riesling Trocken	06 17	92+
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This offers a superb nose of pear, laurel, vineyard peach and slate. The wine is gorgeously intense and elegantly smooth on the palate, with just a hint of power still in need of integration. The finish is airy yet superbly persistent. This is a great wine in the making with quite some upside if it manages to harness the touch of power. 2021-2036 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

Bischöfliche Weingüter Trier

(Trier – Trier-Ruwer)

2016er	Bischöfliche Weingüter Trier	Ayler Riesling Kabinett Trocken	116 17	92
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The 2016er Ayler Kabinett Trocken is made from fruit harvested at 85° Oechsle on the main Ayler Kupf hill. It delivers an absolutely gorgeous nose of white flowers (including elderflower), peach, smoke and anise. The wine gorgeously light presence on the palate underpinned by plenty of zest and slate-infused flavors. The finish is still slightly backward and only hints at zesty notes of grapefruit and lime as well as smoke and a good amount of tartness. The after-taste is breathtakingly long. This great dry Riesling (with only 11% of alcohol) only needs a few years in the cellar to fully shine. 2020-2031 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 36 – July 2017)

Weingut Clemens Busch

(Pünderich – Terrassenmosel)

2015er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Fahrlay Terrassen Riesling Trocken GG	01 17	95
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The 2015er Pündericher Fahrlay Terrassen Trocken GG is made from late-harvested fruit in a prime terraced part of the blue-slate Fahrlay sector. It underwent an extended maturation on its lees and is only commercially released now (fall 2017), i.e. two years after the harvest. This offers a gorgeous nose of candied grapefruit, lemon and aniseed herbs. The wine is superbly elegant and refined on the palate and leaves a stunning feel of herbs and fine spices in the long, refined and delicately silky finish. The elegance and finesse of this wine are simply remarkable. This is without doubt one of the very finest dry Riesling made in the Mosel in 2015. It is that impressive! 2020-2030



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2015er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Raffles Riesling Trocken GG	03 17	94+
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The 2015er Pündericher Marienburg Raffles GG is made from late-harvested fruit in a prime terraced part of the grey-slated Falkenlay sector. It underwent an extended maturation on its lees and is only commercially now (fall 2017), i.e. two years after the harvest. This develops a stunning nose of candied grapefruit, laurel, chalky minerals and fine spices. The wine is beautifully zesty, focused and precise on the palate and leaves a stunningly clean and tart feel in the long and elegant finish. This is a stunning dry Riesling in the making. 2020-2035

2014er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Fahrlay Riesling Trocken Réserve	22 16	94
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The 2014er Pündericher Marienburg Fahrlay Trocken Réserve was left on its gross lees for 24 months before being bottled (hence the AP number from 2016). It develops a stunning nose of pear, mirabelle, greengage, fine herbs and spices. The wine proves wonderfully silky yet nicely zesty on the palate and leaves an intense and mineral feel in the long and suave finish. This hugely impressive Riesling merges finesse, some power and depth. What a great wine in the making! Lovers of bigger dry Riesling with however great finesse should plunge upon this effort! Now-2024

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Rothenpfad Riesling Trocken GG	19 17	94
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The 2016er Pündericher Marienburg Rothenpfad Trocken GG develops a beautiful nose of grapefruit, mirabelle, white and yellow peach and fine spices. The wine is stunningly well balanced on the palate and leaves a superb feel of grapefruit zest, herbs and spices in the hugely long finish. The elegance and finesse of the after-taste is paired with a high level of aromatic intensity and great presence. This is simply stunning. 2026-2046

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Riesling Trocken GG	18 17	93
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The 2016er Pündericher Marienburg Trocken GG delivers a gorgeous nose of mirabelle, grapefruit, cinnamon and earthy spices. The wine is beautifully balanced, with good grip, but also elegant and not overpowering presence on the palate. The finish is superbly long and lives from a great tension between zesty grapefruit, creamy pear and herbs. This is a beautiful dry Riesling in the making! 2026-2046

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Falkenlay Riesling Trocken GG	17 17	93
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The 2016er Pündericher Marienburg Falkenlay Trocken GG delivers a ripe nose of grapefruit, quince, infused pear and herbs. The wine develops a satisfyingly creamy feel on the palate, where fresh grapefruit mingles with fine spices and juicy pear. The finish is intense and almost powerful but retains stunning balance. This is a great dry Riesling in the making. 2021-2036

2014er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Rothenpfad Riesling Trocken Réserve	21 16	93
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The 2014er Pündericher Marienburg Rothenpfad Trocken Réserve was left on its gross lees for 24 months before being bottled (hence the AP number from 2016). The wine develops a beautiful nose made of mirabelle, juniper berry and white minerals. It proves nicely balanced and gorgeously silky and animating on the palate and leaves a pure feel in the long, intense and delicately warm finish. The delicately zesty and creamy after-taste is driven by fine spices and herbs. Now-2024

2016er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Fahrlay Riesling Trocken GG	20 17	92+
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The 2016er Pündericher Marienburg Fahrlay Trocken GG develops a gorgeous nose of grapefruit curd, pear, earthy spices and dried herbs. The wine proves full-bodied on the palate, with creamy fruits and herbs leading to an intense and powerful feel in the long finish. This big, bold and hugely impressive wine only needs a few years to fully shine. 2021-2036

2015er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Marienburg Felsterrassen Riesling Trocken GG	02 17	92
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The 2015er Pündericher Marienburg Felsterrassen GG is made from late-harvested fruit in a prime terraced part of the grey-slate Falkenlay sector. It underwent an extended maturation on its lees and is only commercially released now (fall 2017), i.e. two years after the harvest. This offers a beautiful nose of candied grapefruit, mirabelle, fine herbs and spices. The wine develops great silky yet zesty presence on the palate and leaves a clean juicy feel in the long and refined finish. This is beautifully made with big presence and aromatic depth. 2020-2030

2015er	Clemens Busch	Pündericher Nonnengarten Riesling Fass 29		92
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The 2015er Pündericher Nonnengarten Fass 29 is a dry Riesling (with 4 g/l of residual sugar) from this classified vineyard on a terroir of iron-rich slate. The wine develops a beautiful nose of white peach, grapefruit, mango, pineapple and herbs. It is superbly elegant and playful on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of fine herbs in the long and delicately spicy finish. The balance is simply superb here. 2025-2040



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Hofgut Falkenstein

(Niedermennig – Saar)

2016er	Falkenstein	Krettnacher Altenberg Spätlese Trocken	07 17	93
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Harvested at the end of October at 90° Oechsle, this dry Riesling proves quite aromatic as pure and juicy notes of yellow peach, apricot blossom, orange blossom and grapefruit peel emerge from the glass. It is intense and fruity and offers a great feeling of tartness on the palate. The finish is superbly long and smoky, and leaves a clean, fresh and refined feel in the after-taste. What a beautifully delicate dry Riesling! 2019-2031 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

2016er	Falkenstein	Krettnacher Ober Schäfershaus Spätlese Trocken	18 17	92
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A very elegant nose driven by floral nuances, white peach, mint and some yeasty notes from spontaneous fermentation give way to a juicy and ripe structure on the mid-palate. The "roundness" of the fruit flavors is nicely balanced by a zesty kick of acidity. This dry Riesling proves intense yet delivers a mouth-watering feel of salt and lime in the finish. 2019-2031 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

2016er	Falkenstein	Niedermenniger Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett Trocken	19 17	92
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The Herrenberg Kabinett Trocken AP19 (known internally as the "Egon" cask) comes from a parcel planted with 50 year-old vines situated just below the Estate. It offers an absolutely stunning nose of grapefruit, cassis, green herbs and chalky minerals. The wine is still somewhat hard and loaded with citrusy acidity on the palate but the quality of the feel in the zesty finish is already hinting at greatness to come as one discerns white minerals, flowery elements, ripe citrusy fruits, white peach, a hint of tangerine, fine herbs and spices. The feel in the after-taste is pure elegance and vibrancy. What an absolutely beautifully elegant dry Kabinett made in a refreshingly light style! 2021-2031 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

Fio Weinmanufaktur

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

2014er	Fio	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Trocken Fio	03 16	92
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The 2014er Fio was fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in large casks for 18 month before being bottled with minimal added sulfur in 2016. It will come on the market in 2018. It offers a ripe but quite inviting nose of backed apple, juniper berry and grapefruit. The wine proves superbly creamy and lively on the palate and leaves a beautifully fresh feel in the long finish. Now-2024+ (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

Weingut Fritz Haag

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	08 17	92+
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This offers a quite pure and aromatic nose made of smoke, grapefruit, lime and spices with a touch of apricot and licorice. The wine starts off on the smooth and fruity side on the palate before a zesty side pepped up by a touch of CO2 comes through and makes for a leaner structure in the highly spicy and nicely salty finish. This comparatively light expression of GG needs a couple of years to shine, but there is all the finesse to make for an outstanding and playful expression of dry Riesling at maturity. 2022-2031

2016er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Trocken GG	24 17	92
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This delivers an outstandingly creamy and complex nose of apricot cream, vanilla, yellow peach, mint, smoke and herbs. The wine coats the palate with ample juicy fruits, which gives it a beautiful sense of smoothness and delicacy. The finish is nicely dry in taste. This will only need a few years of bottle aging to integrate its creamy and smooth side. 2021-2028



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Weingut Julian Haart

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Julian Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling	07 17	93
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The 2016er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen was made from 100 year-old un-grafted vines and fermented down to 2 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. within legally dry levels. The wine is delicately ample and offers an inviting nose of cassis, star anise, herbs and fine spices. It proves nicely balanced on the palate and leaves a smooth and concentrated feel of spicy herbs on the palate. The finish is intense, with some great herbal elements in the after-taste. This delicate version of a GG proves a great success! 2021-2031+ (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

2016er	Julian Haart	Wintricher Ohlgsberg Riesling	08 17	93
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The 2016er Wintricher Ohlgsberg was made from almost 100 year-old un-grafted vines and fermented down to 3 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. within legally dry levels. This develops a reduced nose of quince, cinnamon, herbs and spices, with some fresher elements of cassis in the background. The wine is quite spicy and powerful on the palate and leaves an intense feel of spices in the still slightly tart finish (the wine saw some pre-fermentation cold soak). This needs quite some years to settle down and integrate, but should then prove a great expression of dry Riesling. 2026-2036 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

2016er	Julian Haart	Piesporter Riesling	12 17	92
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The 2016er Piesporter was made from parcels situated in the central part of the vineyard and was fermented down to 4 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. within legally dry levels. The wine develops a beautiful nose of cassis, passion fruit sorbet and smoky herbs. It proves beautifully well balanced and juicy on the palate, with good aromatic intensity and great finesse in the citrus-infused yet gorgeously silky finish. Now-2026 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

Weingut Reinhold Haart

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Reinhold Haart	Wintricher Ohlgsberg Riesling Trocken GG	40 17	94
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This seduces one with a very elegant and marvelously smoky nose driven by subtle hints of spices, herbs and anise at this early stage. The wine is beautifully focused and precise on the palate, a feeling reinforced by the fact that the wine is bone dry and offers beautiful zesty and animating acidity. The purity in the finish is quite breathtaking. This quite sharp wine will need quite a few years of bottle aging to fully develop and integrate some of its early firm and sharp edges. But make no mistake, this is a stunning piece of dry Riesling in the making for lovers of precise and delicately racy wines. 2024-2036

2016er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken GG	20 17	93
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Superbly smoky and fresh elements gradually give way to riper notes of pear, apricot and yellow peach on the nose as the wine expands in the glass. The wine is initially creamy and smooth on the palate but develops great presence and intensity in the very long and zesty finish. The purity and length in the after-taste are quite stunning. This needs a couple of year to integrate its richness. It will then turn out into a stunning expression of dry Mosel Riesling. 2021-2031+

Weinhof Herrenberg – Claudia Loch

(Schoden – Saar)

2016er	Herrenberg	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Trocken Steinmetzrausch	04 17	92
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This delivers a quite stunning nose of anise, herbs, spices, anise, ginger and some floral nuances. Juicy and mouth-coating yellow peach drives the aromatics and gives the mid-palate a quite creamy side. These intense flavors are however superbly wrapped into a beautifully spicy and zesty acidity which runs right into the very long, fresh and delicately powerful finish. The feeling of balance in this dry Riesling is simply superb. 2021-2031 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 36 – July 2017)



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Weingut Heymann-Löwenstein

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Uhlen R Riesling Trocken GG	N.A.	(92-95)
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This cask sample of Uhlen R reveals a delicately reduced nose of fresh pear, a hint of mango, grapefruit, cassis, licorice, violet, star fruit and ginger. The wine is beautifully focused and loaded with grip on the palate and leaves a stunningly reduced feel in the long finish. This oozes elegance, finesse and filigreed refinement, with quite some underlying power to add presence to the wine at maturity. This could be a superb Uhlen R in the making if the bottled wine delivers on its early promises. 2021-2028+

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Röttgen Riesling Trocken GG	09 17	92+
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This proves still rather reduced and only gradually reveals a beautiful nose made of grapefruit zest under-pined by a hint of passion fruit and fruit salad on the nose, all nicely wrapped into mineral and herby elements. The wine dances on the palate and leaves a medium-bodied and beautifully elegant and persistent feel of smoke and minerals in the delicately fruity even if slightly powerful finish. Despite the touch of power, the wine remains delightfully balanced right into the long after-taste. There is quite some upside here if the wines gains further in elegance with bottle age. 2021-2036

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Uhlen L Riesling Trocken GG	11 17	92+
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This offers a stunning even if still rather reduced nose of pear, grapefruit, start fruit, ginger and smoky elements. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate, where creamy fruits are nicely wrapped into a hint of acidity and some superb mineral and herby elements. The delicately powerful after-taste oozes refinement, under-toned freshness and multi-layered complexity. This is a gorgeous Uhlen L in the making and one with great upside potential as the wine gains in elegance at maturity. 2021-2028+

2016er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Uhlen B Riesling Trocken GG	10 17	92
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This offers a gorgeous nose of candied grapefruit zest, some star fruit, ripe pear and apple, all wrapped into the telltale classy touch of fine spices and herbs so typical of the Estate. The wine is medium-bodied on the palate and leaves a beautifully pure, spicy and mineral-loaded feel in the long and delicately powerful finish. This is a gorgeous wine in the making with a hint of power and nice saltiness in the after-taste. 2021-2036

Weingut Immich-Batterieberg

(Enkirch – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Immich-Batterieberg	Enkircher Zeppwingert Riesling	04 17	93
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The 2016er Enkircher Zeppwingert comes from over 60 year-old vines in the terraced part of the vineyard next to the Ellergrub which has not gone any Flurbereinigung and was fermented to fully dry levels (it has 2 g/l of residual sugar). This offers a nicely ample yet delicate nose made of grapefruit zest, pear, aniseed herbs, spices and smoke. The wine is packed with minerals and herbs wrapped into ripe fruits. It leaves a gorgeously spicy feel in the long finish with quite some creamy-zesty tension at play. While on the shy side at this early stage, this will be a smasher at maturity. 2021-2036

2016er	Immich-Batterieberg	Enkircher Steffensberg Riesling	03 17	92
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The 2016er Enkircher Steffensberg comes from prime parcels still planted with over 60 year-old un-grafted vines and was fermented to dry levels (it has 8 g/l of residual sugar). This offers a gorgeous even if still reduced nose of cassis, grapefruit, earthy spices and a fleeting hint of orange zest in the background. The wine is still slightly raw on the delicately zesty palate but a stunningly complex and creamy feel in the finish already more than hints at greatness to come, especially as the wine integrates aromatically on the palate. This only needs some patience to shine. 2021-2036



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Weingut Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt

(Morscheid – Trier-Ruwer)

2016er	von Kesselstatt	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Trocken GG	30 17	92
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This delivers a superbly smoky nose of gooseberry, mint, smoke and anise. The wine delivers these fruity and herby elements with great presence on the medium-bodied palate, and proves nicely balanced tight into the very long finish. Only a touch of tartness is still in integration, before this outstanding piece of dry Ruwer Riesling will deliver its full potential. 2019-2026

Weingut Knebel

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

2016er	Knebel	Winniger Röttgen Riesling Trocken GG	08 17	(92-95)
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A mere 700 liters were produced of the Estate's first Röttgen GG. This wine delivers a stunning nose of candied grapefruit, passion fruit and fine aniseed herbs. The wine is nicely balanced on the palate and driven by gorgeous flavors of herbs and minerals. Far from being broad, this remains elegant and superbly balanced, with great finesse and playfulness in the finish. This is hugely impressive. 2021-2031

2016er	Knebel	Winniger Uhlen Riesling Trocken GG	09 17	(91-94)
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A mere 700 liters was produced of the Estate's first Uhlen GG. The wine offers a beautiful nose of pear, grapefruit, fine aniseed herbs and spices. It proves delicately ample and refined on the palate, where laurel is wrapped into succulent fruity flavors including pear, grapefruit and melon. The finish delivers great presence and leaves one with a great multi-layered and slightly powerful feel in the after-taste. This is a gorgeous dry Riesling in the making. 2021-2031

Weingut Peter Lauer

(Ayl – Saar)

2016er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Kupp Riesling Fass 18 GG		94
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The 2016er Ayler Kupp GG develops a gorgeous nose made of pear, white peach, mirabelle, greengage, oregano, tea and smoke. The wine is beautifully balanced as it develops great presence on the superbly focused palate. This will gain in presence with age and prove a stunner of a wine in a delicately intense style at maturity. 2021-2031

2016er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Schonfels Riesling Fass 11 GG		92
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The 2016er Ayler Schonfels GG develops a ripe nose of grapefruit zest, ginger, sage, star fruit and minty herbs. The wine is beautifully elegant on the palate where aniseed herbs, mirabelle and grapefruit drive the aromatic profile. It leaves a stunning even if slightly warm feel of herbs and spices in the long finish. This is a gorgeously delineated and intense dry Riesling in the making. 2021-2031

2016er	Peter Lauer	Biebelhausener Feils Riesling Fass 13 GG		92
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The 2016er Biebelhausener Feils GG develops a beautiful nose of mirabelle, pear, white flowers, licorice and smoke. The wine is elegant and zesty on the palate, where date, apricot and passion fruit drive the aromatic profile. It leaves a gorgeously smooth and elegant feel in the quite powerful finish. This is a great wine for lovers of slightly bigger but no less refined expressions of dry Saar Riesling. 2021-2036



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Weingut Schloss Lieser

(Lieser – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Schloss Lieser	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken GG	26 17	94
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Smoky and bacon-driven residues of spontaneous fermentation quickly give way to beautiful scents of orange blossom, yellow peach, almond cream, mint and smoke on the nose. The wine is packed with flavors and delivers these with plenty of freshness and intensity and without any undue power on the palate. The length is outstanding and stunningly animating, with lime and ginger spices adding an extra dimension to the experience. This is a great success to let age a few years to fully blossom. 2021-2036

2016er	Schloss Lieser	Lieserer Niederberg Helden Riesling Trocken GG	23 17	93
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Still marked by smoky and bacon driven residues of spontaneous fermentation, this only gradually reveals superbly fresh scents of yellow peach, smoke, anise, cassis and spices. The wine is packed with intense tartness and zesty fruits, which gives it some weight at this early stage. The finish is still restrained and in need of expansion. This classy effort only needs a couple of years of bottle aging to fully shine. 2021-2031

2016er	Schloss Lieser	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	25 17	93
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This offers a great fresh feel of pear, grapefruit, flowery elements and a hint of smoky slate. The wine develops good presence on the palate and leaves a gorgeous long feel in the refined finish. While already quite approachable now, this will gain in presence and definition as it matures over the coming years. 2021-2031

2016er	Schloss Lieser	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Trocken GG	22 17	92+
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Nutty residues of spontaneous fermentation gradually give way to beautiful scents of dried flowers, dried apricot, white peach, smoke and spices on the nose. The wine develops great tension on the palate, a feeling which is amplified both by the lime-driven acidity and the tartness. It appears almost on the lean and smoky side in the finish, yet there is everything packed deep into this wine for it to develop positively over the coming years. Patience is needed for this beautiful mineral Himmelreich in the making. 2021-2031

2016er	Schloss Lieser	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	24 17	92+
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This offers a great nose of cassis, peach and floral elements. The wine is straight but also quite tart on the palate and leaves a great and quite intense feel in the long finish. The wine is still quite primary and needs to integrate its bigger side. But the potential is quite high. 2021-2031

Weingut Carl Loewen

(Leiwen – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Carl Loewen	Longuicher Maximiner Herrenberg Riesling Trocken "1896" Alte Reben	11 17	94
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This offers a stunning nose of grapefruit, ginger, white peach and herbs. The wine is still rather shy on the palate but the finesse and complexity are simply staggering as minerals and fine spices provide the blanket for stunning fruity flavors of pear and juicy grapefruit. The finish is all about presence, elegance and finesse. This dry Riesling combines the best of its 2015 and 2014 counterparts to offer a great expression of Riesling which will be, no doubt, among the highlights of the vintage. 2021-2031 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

2016er	Carl Loewen	Longuicher Maximiner Herrenberg Riesling Trocken GG	13 17	93
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This delivers an absolutely gorgeous and captivating nose of smoke, aniseed spices, cardamom, smoke and dried flowers. The wine is packed with complexity on the palate yet offers an incredibly refined and airy side. Superb zesty notes of grapefruit and lime make for a delicious and refreshing experience right into the stunningly long finish. The after-taste is all about zest and minerals. This is a great piece of dry Riesling in the making. 2022-2031



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2016er	Carl Loewen	Leiwener Laurentiuslay Riesling Trocken	10 17	92
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This golden-green colored wine delivers a gorgeous nose of grapefruit, lemon zest and fine spices. The wine is gorgeously elegant and refined on the palate, with great freshness and elegance. The finish is smooth and driven by an underlying touch of freshness. This is the finest dry Laurentiuslay we have ever tasted. 2021-2031 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 35 – June 2017)

2016er	Carl Loewen	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Trocken GG	12 17	92
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This offers an almost opulent yet beautifully refined nose with yellow peach, vanilla cream, coconut, Limoncello and spices. The wine coats the palate with juicy, fresh and pure flavors of peach, grapefruit and spices. The finish may seem slightly on the baroque and intense side of things at the moment. But give this wine time and you will have a great piece of fruit-driven dry Riesling. 2021-2031

Weingut Dr. Loosen

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2014er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Prälat Riesling Trocken Alte Reben Reserve GG	72 16	96
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The 2014er Erdener Prälat Reserve GG is made from very old un-grafted vines. It was fermented in oak with ambient yeasts and aged on its gross lees for 24 months before being bottled. The wine develops a stunning nose of grapefruit zest, passion fruit, star fruit, pear, tangerine and fine spices. The complexity of this wine is quite breathtaking. Layers upon layers of fine fruits and minerals hit one on the still rather suave palate. The finish is airy, long and stunningly multi-layered. What a great wine in the making! 2019-2034

2014er	Dr. Loosen	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Trocken Alte Reben Reserve GG	73 16	94
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The 2014er Ürziger Würzgarten Reserve GG is made from parcels of very old un-grafted vines in the prime Urglück, Maxberg, Layenhaus and original Würzgarten sectors. It was fermented in oak with ambient yeasts and aged on its gross lees for 24 months before being bottled. This offers a rather spicy feel of coconut, pineapple, candied grapefruit, pear, minty herbs and fine spices on the nose. The wine proves beautifully balanced on the palate and leaves some powerful flavors of herbs and spices in the tart and assertive finish. This is a great dry Riesling in the making! 2021-2034

2014er	Dr. Loosen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken Alte Reben Reserve GG	01 17	92+
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The 2014er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Reserve GG is made from very old un-grafted vines in the prime Laychen (central part) and Sandpichter (near Zeltingen) sectors. It was fermented in oak with ambient yeasts and aged on its gross lees for 24 months before being bottled. This offers an almost Chablis-like nose of almond, juniper berry, coconut, vanilla cream and spices on the nose. The wine delivers a great spicy feel of almond cream on the palate and leaves a gorgeously balanced feel in the still quite tart finish. 2019-2029

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Trocken Alte Reben GG	41 17	(91-94)
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The 2016er Ürziger Würzgarten GG is made from parcels of very old un-grafted vines in the prime Urglück, Maxberg and Layenhaus sectors, and was fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in oak for almost 12 months. This offers a gorgeous nose of strawberry, pink grapefruit, tangerine, yellow peach, anise, fine spices and herbs. The wine is delicately creamy and superbly refined on the palate and leaves a clean and nicely fruity feel in the long finish. This lives from elegance and finesse rather than pure power. 2021-2031

2016er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Prälat Riesling Trocken Alte Reben GG	39 17	(91-93)
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The 2016er Erdener Prälat GG is made from very old un-grafted vines, and was fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in oak for almost 12 months. This offers a gorgeous nose of pear, mango, grapefruit, passion fruit, brown sugar, apricot blossom, fine spices and flint stone from reduction. The wine is slightly bold on the palate and leaves a juicy and clean feel in the long and nicely firm and bold finish. The after-taste is nicely long and elegant. 2021-2031



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Weingut Materne & Schmitt

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

2016er	Materne & Schmitt	Lehmener Lay Riesling	08 17	92+
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The 2016er Lehmener Lay is fermented bone-dry (less than 2 g/l of residual sugar) from the finest terraced parts of the vineyard planted with over 40 year-old vines. The wine proves superbly elegant on the nose with pear, herbs and fine spices. The wine is delicately creamy on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of fine spices and licorice in the delicately full-bodied finish. This classy effort delivers great presence without undue power and presents quite some upside, especially as it will mellow away and integrate aromatically with age. 2024-2036

2016er	Materne & Schmitt	Winninger Hamm Riesling	06 17	92
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The 2016er Winninger Hamm is a full dry Riesling (4.2 g/l of residual sugar) which comes from two new parcels added in 2016 and planted with well over 50 year-old vines in the terraced parts of the vineyard. A part (one quarter) of the wine was fermented and aged in a used 300-liter cask. It offers gorgeous scents of greengage, gooseberry, cassis, ginger and flowery elements wrapped into quite some smoky elements on the nose. The wine proves elegant and medium-bodied on the palate and leaves a gracefully zesty feel of tart minerals, greengage and fine spices in the superbly airy and elegant finish. This beauty with not more than 11.5% of alcohol is still a little bit rough on the edges and will really benefit from bottle aging. 2024-2036

Weingut Melsheimer

(Reil – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Melsheimer	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Trocken Molun	18 17	92
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The 2016er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Trocken Molun is fermented with ambient yeasts in traditional large casks and benefited from the declassified fruit from the Langeberg. It develops a rather intense nose of herbs and fine spices. The wine proves delicately sharp and juicy on the palate and is still on the tart side in the finish at this early stage. The overall balance in the after-taste is hugely impressive, as it develops beautiful citrusy fruits and pear together with aniseed herbs and fine spices. This just needs some time to develop its full balance. Lovers of structured wines with character should plunge on this effort! 2019-2026+

2015er	Melsheimer	Riesling Vade Retro	(No AP)	92
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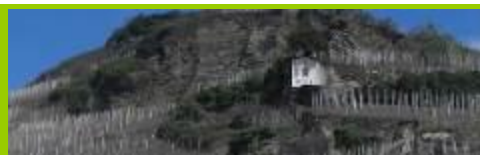
The 2015er Riesling Vade Retro is a cheeky wordplay on everything lovers of fruity wines should hate from "vin nature" as this bone-dry wine was fermented and aged in traditional wooden cask with ambient yeasts and without any sulfur added at any stage. It was consequently refused an AP number because of its lack of typicity. This offers a beautiful and delicately oxidative nose of almond, juicy apple tart, lemon curd and smoky slate. The wine develops a racy and sharp side on the palate until ripe baked apple, grapefruit and delicately vanilla pod elements emerge and accompany one right into the finish. This is a stunning effort in an oxidative yet fresh style not unlike some of the Jura wines. This is highly recommended for lovers of this style ... and for sceptics who are looking to taste an enjoyable "vin nature." Now-2025

Weingut Markus Molitor

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Markus Molitor	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese *** (White Capsule)	32 17	96
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This immediately catches one's attention as delicately spicy elements give way to subtly multi-layered scents of candied grapefruit, tangerine, cassis and violet on the nose. The wine shows stunning lightness on the palate, yet is packed with complexity, intensity and freshness. It develops great presence and depth in the hugely long and superbly delineated finish. This is a mind-blowingly good dry Riesling in the making! 2021-2036



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2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese ** (White Capsule)	43 17	95
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This delivers a stunning nose of smoke, vineyard peach, candied grapefruit, pear, cassis, yellow flowers, anise and dried spices. The wine is delicate on the palate, where a most gorgeously juicy side is beautifully wrapped into a touch whipped cream. The finish is simply to die for: airy, delicate and above all superbly refined. What a great dry Riesling in the making! 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese (White Capsule)	19 17	94+
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This offers a superbly deep, complex and refined nose including dried flowers, whipped almond cream, a touch of smoke, vineyard peach, cassis and grapefruit. While fully present everything about this splendid nose is subtle and refined. The wine is superbly playful with a creamy and light texture and great complexity and finesse on the palate. The finish is breathtakingly long and pure, even if still slightly reduced at this early stage. But make no mistake, this is a great airy and dry Riesling in the making. 2023-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese (White Capsule)	36 17	94
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This immediately catches one's attention with an absolutely gorgeous and refined nose made of dried flowers, smoke, vineyard peach, pear, cassis, mint and almond. The wine is beautifully complex but delivers this with purity, finesse and lightness on the palate. There is enough dry extract to give the wine great structure and yet, at the same time, the finish is all about freshness and lightness as one is just left with flowers, smoke and almond in the after-taste. This beautiful dry Riesling is simply breathtakingly good. 2021-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese *** (White Capsule)	40 17	94
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This offers a quite fruit-driven and aromatic nose which includes pineapple, canned yellow peach, grapefruit, almond cream, and a touch of toffee. The wine coats the palate with juicy creamy, almond and spices and leaves one with a great sense of energy and intensity in the very long and impressive finish. What a breathtaking effort. 2020-2026+

2016er	Markus Molitor	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Spätlese (White Capsule)	21 17	93
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Still quite restrained at first, this develops a most beautiful and complex nose of herbs, mint, vineyard peach, passion fruit sorbet, flowers and almond cream. The wine has great presence on the palate, and shines through precision and focus. Notes of grapefruit, lime and minty herbs add to the multidimensional side of this beautiful dry Riesling. The finish is ethereally light and refined. 2021-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett Fuder 6 (White Capsule)	41 17	93
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This delivers a gorgeous nose of apricot blossom, vineyard peach, candied grapefruit, mint, green herbs and whipped almond cream. The wine is finely creamy and smooth on the palate, where ample fruits including yellow peach drive the aromatic profile. This finish of this beautifully creamy yet dry Riesling shines through lightness and complexity. What a beauty! 2021-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese (White Capsule)	69 17	92+
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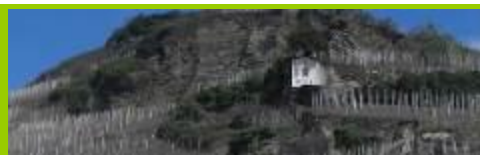
Quite reductive at first, this only reluctantly reveals some ripe fruits including pineapple, passion fruit, yellow peach, greengage and a touch of mango packed into smoke and minty herbs on the nose at this early stage. The wine coats the palate with ample juicy and creamy fruits. Some cassis lurks in the background in the long and smooth finish, only waiting to come out at maturity. There is quite some upside here once the fresher side will have emerged over the coming years. 2023-2036

2016er	Markus Molitor	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Spätlese (White Capsule)	16 17	92
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Quite fruity and spicy at first, this develops more complexity as it grows in the glass and notes of yellow peach, quince, smoke, green herbs, white mint and tar kick in. The wine proves ample, packed with fruits and shows quite some presence on the palate. Yet the finish is superbly fresh and long. This only needs a few years of cellaring in order to fully shine. 2021-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Kinheimer Hubertuslay Riesling Auslese ** (White Capsule)	78 17	92
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This shows a beautiful and fresh nose driven by grapefruit, lime, fresh herbs, smoke and mint. The wine is straight and zesty on the palate, where it reveals great presence underpinned by a touch of ripe and creamy fruits. A touch of power but without any undue weight comes through in the long, focused and fruit-driven finish. 2021-2031



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2016er	Markus Molitor	Mosel Riesling Alte Reben (White Capsule)	24 17	92
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Slightly reductive at first, this only gradually opens up to reveal ripe notes of fruits including yellow peach, apricot and strawberry. A touch of smoke and spices comes through with airing and adds depth to the nose. The wine is very delicate and superbly focused on the palate, where white flowers and herbs come through. It leaves a very long and zest infused feeling in the finish. This beautifully light and complex expression of dry Riesling only needs a few years of bottle aging to blend its elements and show its full potential. 2021-2031

2016er	Markus Molitor	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett (White Capsule)	26 17	92
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This is initially rather discreet and only slowly reveals notes of yellow peach, candied grapefruit, raspberry, white flowers and spices. The wine proves as light as a feather with however great aromatic intensity and a most attractive touch of passion fruit driven acidity on the palate. The delicious finish is intense, smoky and beautifully long. This elegant and light dry Riesling will gain in complexity with age and should prove a little beauty at maturity. 2021-2031

Weingut Martin Müllen

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken **	27 17	93+
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The 2016er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Spätlese Trocken ** was made from the third terraced parcel (the words "3te Terrassen" appears in small print on the label). It develops a rather bold and beautiful nose of pear, grapefruit, herbs and spices. The wine is still quite primal on the palate, where minerals and herbs drive the aromatics at this early stage. However, all these fruity and herbal elements blend together with great finesse in the long and refined finish. This great wine made in a slightly bolder but no less elegant style will prove remarkable at maturity. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken *	28 17	93
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The 2016er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Spätlese Trocken * was made from the first and second terraced parcels and fermented in 500 liters fully-used oak wooden casks. It develops a beautiful nose of peach, pear and Provence herbs. The wine proves superbly balanced on the palate, where a smooth side and elegant comes through and leads to a refined feel in the finish. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Paradies Riesling Spätlese Trocken	22 17	92
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The 2016er Kröver Paradies Spätlese Trocken is marked by spontaneous fermentation at first. This gives way to great scents of grapefruit, yellow peach, apricot blossom, pear, spices and herbs. The wine is beautifully elegant on the palate and leaves a great feel of gooseberry and peach in the deliciously well-balanced finish. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Riesling Trocken Revival	21 17	92
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The 2016er Riesling Trocken Revival comes from the best parcels of the Estate (Trarbacher Hühnerberg and Kröver Paradies) and is made using methods from a century ago, i.e. basket pressing, long fermentation with ambient yeasts in traditional casks and blending of the casks after fermentation. It delivers a beautiful nose of pear, mirabelle, herbs and spices. The wine is nicely playful and elegant on the palate, where juicy pear mingles with herbs and zesty grapefruit-driven acidity. The finish is still quite tart at this early stage, so that it is better to leave this wine alone for a few years. 2021-2036

2016er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Kabinett Trocken *	17 17	92
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The 2016er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Kabinett Trocken * was harvested at a moderate 84° Oechsle. It offers a beautiful nose of grapefruit, pear, aniseed herbs and fine spices. The wine is beautifully light and playful on the palate and leaves an herb-infused feel in the finish. The wine is still quite reductive but full of promises. 2021-2031

2016er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken	26 17	92
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The 2016er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Spätlese Trocken is still marked by some residues of spontaneous fermentation. The wine develops stunningly elegant scents of pear, aniseed herbs, grapefruit and smoke. It is beautifully balanced on the palate and leaves a gorgeous zesty and refined touch of herbs in the long finish. This beautiful wine still proves rather backward but should develop positively over the coming years. 2021-2036



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Weingut von Othegraven

(Kanzem – Saar)

2016er	von Othegraven	Kanzemer Altenberg Riesling Trocken GG	23 17	93
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Still slightly reductive and marked by residues of spontaneous fermentation, this develops a light flowery nose with aniseed herbs, vineyard peach, smoke, and thyme after some airing. Though light in structure, the wine develops very intense spicy flavors on the palate. Lime and salty elements add to the zesty power running through the wine and up to the very long finish. This is a superb expression of highly focused and razor-sharp dry Saar Riesling. 2023-2036

2016er	von Othegraven	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Trocken GG	22 17	92+
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This still proves quite reduced at this early stage, and it only gradually reveals tons of spices, including ginger, cardamom and curry, soon followed by yellow peach and pear. The wine is delicately creamy but also zesty on the palate, and delivers its full grace in the very long, immensely spicy and fresh finish. The after-taste lasts for minutes on end. This hugely impressive dry Bockstein will need a few years to develop aromatically and deliver its full potential. 2021-2031

Weingut Paulinshof

(Kesten – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Paulinshof	Brauneberger Kammer Riesling Trocken GG	16 17	92
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This offers a beautifully elegant and fresh nose of herbs, mint, greengage, white peach, grapefruit and cassis. The wine is packed with fresh flavors of smoke and spices as well as just a touch of fruits on the palate. This is superbly playful, zesty and pure in the very long and smoky finish. This has all the elements to develop into a fresh and elegant top dry Riesling within a few years. 2021-2031

Weingut von Schubert – Maximin Grünhaus

(Mertesdorf – Trier-Ruwer)

2016er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Trocken GG	09 17	94
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This delivers a stunningly flowery and fresh nose with great complexity at play, including smoke, white peach, mint, almond and anise. The wine dances on the palate with sublime smoky flavors lifted up by a most glorious touch of tickly acidity. The finish is immensely long and smoky. The lightness, purity and freshness of this dry Ruwer Riesling are quite marvelous. What a huge success made in a beautifully elegant and ethereal style! 2024-2036

2016er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Trocken GG	08 17	93
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Quite reductive at first, this only gradually offers fresh and cool notes of gooseberry, smoke, cassis, flowers, mint and white peach. The wine is then, almost surprisingly, playful and fruity on the palate with juicy notes of yellow peach, tangerine and spices. It remains focused and pure in the very long and zippy dry finish. This wine is still hugely primary at this early stage, as Abtsberg wines often are, and it will need a couple of years of bottle aging to reveal its full potential. It should then prove a smashing piece of dry Ruwer Riesling made in an ethereally but no less satisfying style. 2021-2036



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Weingut Selbach-Oster

(Zeltingen – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Riesling Kabinett Trocken	32 17	92
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The 2016er Zeltinger Kabinett Trocken was harvested at 86-87° Oechsle in the steep hill part of the Zeltinger Himmelreich. This little jewel offers a gorgeous nose of white and yellow peach, fine spices and smoky slate. The wine is superbly juicy and elegantly focused on the palate. A great touch of acidity without any undue sharpness adds precision to the beautifully balanced and slender body. Juicy fresh fruits bring pep to the delicately tart finish. What a superb elegant dry Riesling in the making! 2018-2026 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 36 – July 2017)

Weingut Van Volxem

(Wiltingen – Saar)

2016er	Van Volxem	Wiltinger Gottesfuss Riesling Alte Reben GG	18 17	95
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The 2016er Wiltinger Gottesfuss Alte Reben GG is a dry Riesling made from very old un-grafted vines. It offers a hugely elegant feel of grapefruit, lime, gooseberry, herbs and thyme. The wine is beautifully focused yet superbly playful on the palate and leaves a stunning feel of herbs and spices in the elegant finish. The after-taste seems endless as more subtle flavors of lime, star fruit, herbs and pear make for a great feel in the long finish. This is a simply stunning dry Riesling in the making! 2021-2036

2016er	Van Volxem	Kanzemer Altenberg Riesling Alte Reben GG	19 17	93+
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The 2016er Kanzemer Altenberg Alte Reben GG develops a delicately creamy nose with infused pear, lemony elements, star fruit, dried herbs and a hint of melon. The wine is hugely backward on the palate but already hints at greatness to come as ripe, fine herbs and ripe acidity make for a wonderful interplay right into the delicately powerful finish. The after-taste is smooth and beautifully balanced. 2021-2036

2016er	Van Volxem	Scharzhofberger Riesling P GG	17 17	93
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The 2016er Scharzhofberger P GG is a dry Riesling made exclusively from fruit out of the prime and cooler Pergentsknopp sector (hence P) within the Scharzhofberg. It proves remarkably backward and only gradually reveals deep complex scents of herbs, lemony elements, pear and white flowers. The wine proves beautifully smooth and elegant on the palate, where ripe pear, a hint of melon and fine spices emerge from the glass. The finish is superbly elegant and smooth. This will need some time to develop aromatically and gain in focus. But the wait will be well worth it. This is a smashing and remarkably focused and elegant rendition of Scharzhofberger P in the making, one which may not be as "loud" as some past efforts but much more refined. 2021-2036

2016er	Van Volxem	Wiltinger Volz Riesling GG	12 17	92+
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Volz refers to a former single-vineyard classified in the highest category on the taxation maps in the 19th century and which is part of the Wiltinger Braunfels today. This offers a gorgeous nose of pear, grapefruit zest, fine herbs and spices. The wine proves gorgeously smooth and refined on the palate and leaves a beautifully clean and fresh feel of herbs, grapefruit, pear and minerals in the long finish. 2019-2026

2016er	Van Volxem	Scharzhofberger Riesling GG	14 17	92
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The 2016er Scharzhofberger GG develops a delicately ripe nose of grapefruit, white flowers, herbs, fine spices and minerals. The wine develops beautiful presence and elegance on the focused and zesty palate. Delicately smooth fruit kicks in towards the finish, making for a great, playful and multi-layered expression of dry Scharzhofberger. Far from being big, this plays on finesse and precision. 2021-2036



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Weingut Vollenweider

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2015er	Vollenweider	Schimbock	11 16	92
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The 2015er Schimbock is a legally dry Riesling (the Estate did away with the mention of Riesling on the label as it was the habit before 1971) from the similarly named parcel in the Trabener Würzgarten. The wine saw extensive aging on its lees and was only bottled in November 2016 and only released in fall 2017. This hay-colored wine offers a beautiful nose of candied grapefruit zest, mirabelle, passion fruit, flowery elements and earthy spices. It develops great presence on the precise and creamy palate and leaves a mouth-watering and tart feel in the slightly powerful finish. This superb wine only needs a few years to fully develop its waxy and complex potential. 2020-2030

Weingüter Geheimrat J. Wegeler

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Trocken GG	11 17	92+
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The 2016er Bernkasteler Doctor Trocken GG delivers a beautiful nose of white peach, pear, fine herbs and spices. The wine is hugely complex, spicy and above all silky on the palate, and leaves a beautifully refined and elegant feel of minerals, succulent fruits and herbs in the long and engaging finish. This is not a "loud" wine but a truly beautiful and elegant dry Riesling in the making. 2019-2031

Weingut Weiser-Künstler

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2016er	Weiser-Künstler	Enkircher Ellergrub Riesling Trocken GE	04 17	93
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This offers a most beautiful and refined nose of bergamot, vineyard peach, sage, minty herbs, yuzu and smoke as well as some residues of spontaneous fermentation. The wine is very delicate and elegant on the palate where an almond-infused creamy side already provides the right balance to the precise and focused structure. The long finish is intense, smoky and remarkably refined. 2021-2036

2016er	Weiser-Künstler	Trabener Gaispfad Riesling	05 17	92
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The 2016er Trabener Gaispfad was fermented down to 9 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a gorgeous and fruity nose of greengage, pineapple, cassis and canned yellow peach, all wrapped up in smoky herbs and spices. The wine proves beautifully refined on the palate, where some smooth fruits nicely buffer off an overall zesty and dynamic structure. The finish is very long, smoky and beautifully infused with herbs. The after-taste is full of freshness, purity and focus. This great Riesling only needs a few more years to fully shine. 2021-2031



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Beyond Mosel – Highlights from the Bad Kreuznach Auction

Besides the Trier Auctions, the VDP also holds an Auction in Bad Kreuznach, where the producers from the Ahr, Nahe, Pfalz and Rheinhessen auction off some of their gems.



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The Independent Mosel Review

We provide here tasting notes for highlights of the Auction held in Bad Kreuznach on September 17, 2017. This includes wines from the following Estate:

A. Christmann

Dr. Crusius

Diel

Dönnhoff

Emrich-Schönleber

Hermannsberg

Keller

Kruger-Rumpf

Joh. Bapt. Schäfer

Schäfer-Fröhlich

Schätzel

Wagner-Stempel

Wittmann

Neustadt (Pfalz)

Traisen (Nahe)

Rümmelsheim (Nahe)

Oberhausen (Nahe)

Monzingen (Nahe)

Niederhausen (Nahe)

Flörsheim-Dalsheim (Rheinhessen)

Münster-Sarmsheim (Nahe)

Rümmelsheim (Nahe)

Bockenu (Nahe)

Nierstein (Rheinhessen)

Siefersheim (Rheinhessen)

Westhofen (Rheinhessen)



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Bad Kreuznach Auction 2017 – Highlights

Weingut A. Christmann

(Neustadt – Pfalz)

2016er	A. Christmann	Königsbacher Ölberg-Hart "Kapelle" Riesling Trocken GG	35 17	Auction	91
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This offers a nicely refined set of aromatics including yellow peach, almond cream, dried herbs and candied grapefruit on the nose. The wine is nicely creamy and gorgeously complex with plenty of spices and a touch of herbs on the palate. The finish is balanced and beautifully structured. 2021-2031

Weingut Dr. Crusius

(Traisen – Nahe)

2016er	Dr. Crusius	Schlossböckelheimer Felsenberg Riesling Spätlese	32 17	Auction	94
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The 2016er Schlossböckelheimer Felsenberg Spätlese was harvested at 91° Oechsle from fruit partially affected by botrytis on November 2. It delivers a beautifully expressive and complex nose of exotic fruits such as mango, pineapple and guava, and apricot blossom, whipped cream and a touch of toffee. The wine coats the palate with juicy yellow peach, bergamot and a touch of pear. The wine is ethereally pure and marvelously juicy and delicate right into the finish. This clearly flirts with Auslese GK presence but does this with great finesse and subtlety. 2026-2046

Schlossgut Diel

(Rümmelsheim – Nahe)

2016er	Diel	Dorsheimer Pittermännchen Riesling Spätlese	10 17	Auction	94
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This still proves quite primary and marked by residues of spontaneous fermentation. It only gradually reveals a most beautiful nose made of almond cream, vineyard peach, smoke, bergamot and floral nuances. The wine develops great depth and juicy presence with Auslese richness on the palate where exotic fruits are superbly wrapped into a ripe and juicy kick of acidity. This leads to an elegant, playful and refreshingly airy feel in the finish. This is a fabulous wine in the making. 2024-2041

Weingut Hermann Dönnhoff

(Oberhausen – Nahe)

2016er	Dönnhoff	Oberhäuser Brücke Riesling Auslese GK	14 17	Auction	97
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The 2016er Oberhäuser Brücke Auslese GK was made from very late harvested fruit initially earmarked for Eiswein. It starts off on a stylishly restrained side and only gradually reveals a mind-blowing nose made of ripe and exotic fruits including apricot, yellow peach and quince with a touch of honey blended into most graceful and fresh notes of grapefruit zest, tangerine and lime. The wine offers stunningly juicy presence on the palate, where intense flavors of whipped cream, apricot and a touch of raisin are wrapped into a nice concentrated feel from the high level of dry extracts. The strikingly intense and extraordinarily long finish is all about dried exotic fruits and a most fascinating zesty acidity, which makes for a great Eiswein-like after-taste. This is a magnificent dessert wine in the making. 2023-2046



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Weingut Emrich-Schönleber

(Monzingen – Nahe)

2016er	Emrich-Schönleber	Monzinger Auf der Ley Riesling Trocken GG	12 17	Auction	94
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Served out of a magnum (the wine was sold at the Nahe Auction only in magnums and double-magnums), this delivers a great and superbly perfumed nose of spices, grapefruit zest, orange blossom and vineyard peach as well as some richer elements of almond cream and a touch of pear with airing. The wine is juicy and appears almost light in texture. Creamy fruits add quite some charm to this very elegant and refined wine. The intensity only comes through in the breathtaking finish. This is a quite superb piece of dry Riesling in the making. 2024-2036

Gut Hermannsberg

(Niederhausen – Nahe)

2015er	Hermannsberg	Schlossböckelheimer Kupfergrube Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	120 16	Auction	97+
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The 2015er Schlossböckelheimer Kupfergrube TBA was made from an early selection of botrytis harvested at a massive 236° Oechsle. This massive wine offers a stunning and powerful nose of raisin, pineapple, candied grapefruit, apricot, toffee and strawberry. The exotic side comes even more through on the palate where the wine is all about intense and concentrated notes of raisin, date, mango and passion fruit. This is still massively sweet, oily and almost syrupy on the mid-palate but the racy acidity coming through in the finish makes for a gorgeous and quite irresistible experience. This has already a great balance but it is nonetheless best left alone for more than a decade to allow it to fully integrate and show its best. There is huge potential in this TBA seem made for eternity. 2030-2100+

Weingut Keller

(Flörsheim-Dalsheim – Rheinhessen)

2016er	Keller	Niersteiner Pettenthal Riesling Trocken GG	38 17	Auction	97
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This immediately catches one attention through its magnificent cool nose made of mint, white flowers, smoke, sea breeze and orange blossom. The wine is ethereally light and airy on the palate yet offers immense complexity and intensity. One is then left with stunning salty, smoky and spicy elements in the hugely persistent finish. The wine literally takes one's breath away as it leaves one with a great feeling of freshness and multi-layered complexity in the after-taste. This is a magnificent dry Riesling in the making! 2026-2041

2014er	Keller	Westhofener Morstein Spätburgunder Trocken GG	54 16	Auction	96
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Light red-purple in color, this Spätburgunder offers a most beautiful and complex nose of red berry fruits including raspberry and redcurrant as well as rose petal, spices, Morello cherry and blueberry. This is superbly elegant on the palate, where it does not try to through power but shines through multi-layered finesse and subtlety. The freshness packed into the wine is quite stunning, and leads to myriads of fruit nuances right into the magnificent and long finish. There is still a light touch of tannins in the background which only needs a couple of years to fully integrate. This should then turn into a breathtaking piece of Spätburgunder! 2020-2034

2016er	Keller	Niersteiner Hipping Riesling Kabinett	21 17	Auction	93
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The 2016er Niersteiner Hipping Kabinett delivers some fine nuances of reduction, spices, green herbs and white peach on the nose at first. With airing, it gains in presence and develops more intensity and a slight touch of richness with some yellow fruits and whipped almond cream. The wine offers good presence on the palate with some creamy fruits wrapped into superb freshness and lightness in the juicy long finish. 2024-2036



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Weingut Kruger-Rumpf

(Münster-Sarmsheim – Nahe)

2016er	Kruger-Rumpf	Münsterer Im Pitterberg Riesling Spätlese	37 17	Auction	92
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The 2016er Münsterer im Pitterberg Spätlese was made from clean fruit harvested late at approx. 93-94° Oechsle. A smoky reduction gives way to superb fresh notes of anise, herbs and green apple with some further underlying maturity lurking around as a touch of exotic fruits slowly comes through. This is especially noticeable on the palate where more ripeness is at play. A juicy and still slightly compact texture leads to a beautifully delineated finish offering much freshness and intensity. 2024-2036

Weingut Joh. Bapt. Schäfer

(Rümmelsheim – Nahe)

2015er	Joh. Bapt. Schäfer	Dorsheimer Goldloch Riesling Auslese GK	16 16	Auction	93
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The 2016er Dorsheimer Goldloch Auslese GK was made from shriveled grapes harvested at 107° Oechsle. It shows a hugely concentrated and honeyed nose made of pink grapefruit, passion fruit and lime wrapped into a touch of volatile acidity. The wine is still quite compact and structured on the palate, and only gradually reveals its intensely exotic presence driven by dried apricot, honey and toffee. This carries right into the dynamic, fresh and long finish. This beauty gives all signs of starting to shut down. It is therefore best left alone for many years in order to reach its drinking window. 2025-2045

Weingut Schäfer-Fröhlich

(Bockenau – Nahe)

2015er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Bockenauer Felseneck Riesling Feinherb Unterm Brunnchen	28 16	Auction	94
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The 2015er Bockenauer Felseneck Feinherb Unterm Brunnchen is an off-dry Riesling (with less than 18 g/l of residual sugar) made from a steep part of the Felseneck vineyard. It still proves quite reductive at first and only gradually reveals its spicy, smoky and mineral nose with some nuances of mint, anise, orange zest and cardamom. The wine is superbly playful and superbly balanced on the palate. Fruity flavors are wrapped into quite some spices in the very long, pure and elegant finish of this stunning piece of off-dry Riesling. 2020-2035

2016er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Bockenauer Felseneck Riesling Auslese GK	28 17	Auction	92+
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The 2016er Bockenauer Felseneck Auslese GK was made from equal parts of ripe golden-yellow grapes and dried raisin-like ones. It is still massively closed and only delicately reveals ripe fruit-driven notes of litchi, pear and tangerine as well as grapefruit and anise. The wine has quite some presence on the palate where it delivers juicy botrytis notes of exotic fruits. The finish is comparatively smooth, light and creamy. This superb dessert wine may well gain in presence and complexity at maturity and eventually warrant a higher rating. 2026-2046

Weingut Schätzel

(Nierstein – Rheinhessen)

2015er	Schätzel	Niersteiner Pettenthal Riesling Auslese	10 16	Auction	94+
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This 2015er Niersteiner Pettenthal Auslese Auction was made from a blend of grapes harvested at a refreshingly 75° Oechsle (i.e. Kabinett) and some TBA material harvested at 180° Oechsle. The resulting wine displays 180 g/l of residual sugar and 12.5 g/l of acidity. Light golden in color, this possess a truly remarkable and highly concentrated nose of dried apricot, honey, pink grapefruit, beeswax and mango. The wine is quite powerful and intense on the palate, where highly rich flavors of raisin, honeyed exotic fruits and quite some acidity hit one's taste buds. The finish has huge presence and focus. The whole experience is quite impressive, and this only needs time to fully integrate its sweetness and acidity, which are fighting one against the other at this early stage. It may even become a classic in a decade's time if the wine manages to blend its different components and gains in depth. 2025-2040+



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2016er	Schätzel	Niersteiner Pettenthal Riesling Kabinett	03 17	Auction	93
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The 2016er Niersteiner Pettenthal Kabinett Auction is made from two separate selections (done on two different days in September) harvested at an average of 86° Oechsle in a very steep, north-east facing parcel of the vineyard. The wine is initially quite restrained and only gradually opens up to deliver beautiful complex aromatics including smoke, orange blossom, tangerine and floral nuances as well as almond and pear after a few minutes. It delivers some lovely flavors of creamy juicy yellow peach with Spätlese intensity on the palate. The wine remains however beautifully playful and as light as water in the pure and mint-infused finish. This is a superb playful wine in the making. 2024-2036

Weingut Wagner-Stempel

(Siefersheim – Rheinhessen)

2016er	Wagner-Stempel	Riesling Trocken EMT	26 17	Auction	91
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Made from 45 year-old vines, the 2016er Riesling Trocken EMT delivers a ripe and fruit-driven nose of quince, yellow peach, apple and almond cream with a touch of coconut in the background. The wine shows good presence and mouth-coating pear elements on the slightly soft palate. It gains in power towards the very long, slightly herbal and tart finish. A hint of pear in alcohol and dried spices come through in the after-taste. This needs a few more years in the bottle to fully shine. 2020-2026

Weingut Wittmann

(Westhofen – Rheinhessen)

2016er	Wittman	Riesling Trocken Alte Reben La Borne	24 17	Auction	92
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Made from a parcel in the Westhofener Morstein, this offers a superbly spicy and fresh nose of white pepper, green herbs, gooseberry, grapefruit and lime. Some notes of smoke, minty herbs and greengage come out with more airing as the wine develops in the glass. It shows good presence on the medium-bodied palate. The finish is still compact and delivers tannins, herbs and quite some tartness at this early stage. This will need quite some years to fully integrate. 2022-2031



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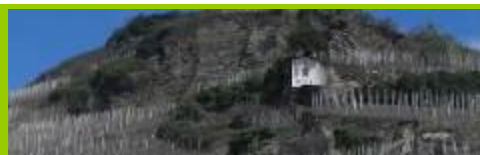
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Bad Kreuznach Auction 2017 - Results

Wine			Hammer Price *				
			37.5cl	75cl	150cl	300cl	600cl
<u>2015er</u>	H.-J. Kreuzberg	Spätburgunder Trocken Devonschiefer Réserve		62			
<u>2015er</u>	J.J. Adeneuer	Walporzheimer Kammer Spätburgunder Trocken GG			155	365	
<u>2015er</u>	Nelles	Heimersheimer Burggarten Spätburgunder Trocken GG B52				430	
<u>2015er</u>	Jean Stodden	Mayschossener Mönchberg Spätburgunder Trocken GG		160			
<u>2015er</u>	Meyer-Näkel	Walporzheimer Kräuterberg Spätburgunder Trocken GG				470	
<u>2014er</u>	Deutzerhof	Spätburgunder Trocken Grand – Réserve – 30 Monate Barrique		31			
<u>2015er</u>	Keller	Westhofener Morstein Spätburgunder Trocken Felix GG		550			
<u>2016er</u>	Keller	Niersteiner Pettenthal Riesling Trocken GG		275			
<u>2016er</u>	Keller	Niersteiner Hipping Riesling Kabinett		155			
<u>2016er</u>	Wagner-Stempel	Riesling Trocken EMT		60			
<u>2016er</u>	Wittmann	Riesling Trocken Alte Reben La Borne		125			
<u>2016er</u>	Schätzel	Niersteiner Pettenthal Riesling Kabinett		55	185		
<u>2016er</u>	Schätzel	Niersteiner Pettenthal Riesling Auslese			390		
<u>2016er</u>	A. Christmann	Königsbacher Ölberg-Hart "Kapelle" Riesling Trocken GG		75	165		
<u>2016er</u>	Emrich-Schönleber	Monzinger Auf der Lay Riesling Trocken GG		75	165		
<u>2016er</u>	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Bockenauer Felseneck Riesling "Unterm Brunnchen"		120			
<u>2016er</u>	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Bockenauer Felseneck Riesling Auslese GK	125				
<u>2016er</u>	Dr. Crusius	Schlossböckelheimer Felsenberg Riesling Spätlese		26			
<u>2016er</u>	Kruger-Rumpf	Münsterer Im Pitterberg Riesling Spätlese		26			
<u>2016er</u>	Diel	Dorsheimer Pittermännchen Riesling Spätlese		40	100	300	
<u>2016er</u>	Dönnhoff	Oberhäuser Brücke Riesling Auslese GK	66	155	410		
<u>2016er</u>	Joh. Bapt. Schäfer	Dorsheimer Goldloch Riesling Auslese GK	30	90			
<u>2016er</u>	Hermannsberg	Schlossböckelheimer Kupfergrube Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	1,050		10,600		

* Hammer prices are expressed in euros (€) and exclude any commissions, VAT and shipping costs.



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Beyond Mosel – Other Recommended Wines

We summarize here tasting notes of German wines beyond Mosel from current releases (mostly 2016 for white and 2015 for red) which we were able to taste and which we can recommend on quality grounds.

Weingut Georg Breuer

(Rüdesheim – Rheingau)

2016er	Georg Breuer	Rauenthaler Nonnenberg Riesling	03 17	95
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The 2016er Rauenthaler Nonnenberg was fermented to fully dry-tasting levels (9 g/l of residual sugar). It develops a sublimely ample and elegant nose as grapefruit and lemon as well as pear and greengage woo for one's attention with quite some herbs-infused scents. The wine is superbly juicy and elegant, with good zest but no hard edges, on the palate and leaves a gorgeously playful feel of fine herbs and classy elements of citrusy fruits in the long and very subtle finish. This proves gorgeously elegant without any undue power or presence. It is simply at ease with itself, the typical hallmark of a Grand Vin. This will only show its true colors with age even if it is already remarkable enjoyable at this young age. 2026-2041

2016er	Georg Breuer	Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg Riesling	01 17	93+
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The 2016er Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg was fermented to fully dry levels (3.9 g/l of residual sugar). It develops a delicately ample even if still completely reduced nose of candied grapefruit puree, pear, laurel and, deep below, some cassis and aniseed herbs. The wine starts off on a beautifully smooth and fruity side on the palate before it gains in grip and multi-layered presence as elements of bergamot, oregano and minerals come through. The finish is delicately smooth, refined, subtle and yet loaded with great complexity and quite some presence. This stunning effort in the making will need a solid decade to fully integrate its elements. There is quite some upside if the wine retains its complex and refined side in the finish over time. 2026-2046

2016er	Georg Breuer	Rüdesheimer Berg Rottland Riesling	05 17	93
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The 2016er Rüdesheimer Berg Rottland was fermented to full legally dry levels (5.6 g/l of residual sugar). It still proves very much on the reductive side but already hints at beauty to come. The nose is driven by minerals and herbs, with an underlying touch of mirabelle, greengage, cassis, grapefruit and pear only waiting to shine through. The wine proves gracefully playful and stylish in its slightly ample presence on the palate, but the finish is all about sizzled focus and elegance. This magnificent dry Riesling in the making will please lovers of presence and elegance. 2024-2036

2016er	Georg Breuer	Riesling Terra Montosa	02 17	92+
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The 2016er Terra Montosa is a legally dry wine (with 6.5 g/l of residual sugar) made of declassified casks ear-marked for the single-vineyard Grand Cru bottlings of the Estate. The wine develops a beautifully inviting nose of delicately creamy pear, quince and grapefruit, all wrapped into some minerals, fine aniseed herbs and spices. The wine proves gorgeously balanced and delicately zesty on the palate, where grapefruit puree and a hint of cassis gives the wine a great refreshing side right into the delicately tart and beautifully balanced finish. The finish is still slightly reduced with herbs as well as salty and chalky elements driving the aromatic profile. This is a huge success and our finest Montosa to date. The upside is superb if the wine retains its finesse at maturity. 2024-2036

2016er	Georg Breuer	Riesling Rauenthal Estate	06 17	90
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The 2016er Rauenthal Estate is a legally dry wine (with 3.9 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit harvested in the Estate's Rauenthaler Nonnenberg. This offers a still slightly reduced and only hints at scents of pear, grapefruit, Provence herbs, spices and smoky elements at this stage. The wine is elegantly playful and delicately zesty on the palate and leaves a smooth and subtle feel of herbs and spices in the long and classy finish. This is a beautiful wine only needs a few years to fully blossom. 2019-2031

2016er	Georg Breuer	Riesling Rüdesheim Estate	04 17	90
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The 2016er Rüdesheim Estate is a fully dry-tasting wine (with 9 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit harvested in the Estate's secondary vineyards in Rüdesheim. It develops a rather elegant and subtle nose of fresh herbs, pear, grapefruit and smoky elements still buried deep into the wine. The wine develops great presence and focus on the palate and leaves a beautifully clean and exquisite feel of herbs in the medium-long but nicely sizzled finish. 2021-2031+



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2015er	Georg Breuer	Spätburgunder Pinot Noir	30 16	89+
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The 2015er Spätburgunder Pinot Noir comes from vineyards in Rüdesheim and was aged in a blend of on average 2.5 year-old barrique for 12 months. It develops a ripe nose of cherry, strawberry jam and some aniseed Provence herbs. The wine is nicely focused on the palate, with a touch of herbs and fine spices wrapping some notes of ripe cherry. The finish is still slightly on the firm side but should expand nicely after a few years of bottle aging. This beautiful effort has quite some upside potential if it manages to integrate its oak at maturity. 2020-2035

2016er	Georg Breuer	Riesling GB Charm	02 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Charm is dry-tasting wine (with 14 g/l of residual sugar) from Riesling made from fruit out of Rüdesheim, Rauenthal and Mittelheim. It proves already quite open for business as it develops an attractive nose made of smoke, aniseed herbs, pear and fine herbs. The wine is delicately zesty and playful on the palate, with just a touch of silky cream nicely balanced by a kick of acidity. The finish is delicately direct, elegant and long. 2018-2026

2016er	Georg Breuer	Riesling GB Sauvage	01 17	88
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The 2016er Riesling Sauvage is a fully dry Riesling made from fruit out of Rüdesheim, Rauenthal and Mittelheim. It offers a gorgeous nose of cassis, pear, some aniseed herbs and fine spices. The wine is nicely balanced and elegant on the palate, and leaves a feeling of bright fruits in the crisp medium-long finish. This gorgeous effort reminds us of the Estate's 1997. While already very elegant now, it will gain in balance and finesse with a year of bottle aging. 2018-2026

2015er	Georg Breuer	Spätburgunder GB Rouge	24 16	88
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The 2015er Spätburgunder comes essentially from vineyards in Rüdesheim, Rauenthal and Geisenheim and is aged in *Doppelstück* (2.400 liters). The wine develops a delicately ripe and nicely inviting nose of cherry, cooked strawberry, fine Asian spices and some herbs. It is beautifully well balanced on the palate, with good silk and just a touch of firm tannins in need of integration. This beautifully balanced effort can be enjoyed now but will also benefit from a few years of aging. This is a gorgeous success. Now-2021

Weingut Koehler-Ruprecht

(Kallstadt – Pfalz)

2016er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken R	15 17	98+
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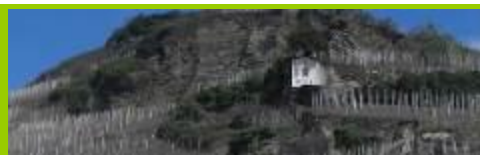
The 2016er Kallstadter Saumagen Auslese Trocken R will only be released in 2022. It exhibits an absolutely smashing, very delicate and refreshingly cool nose of white minerals, flowers, minty herbs and tons of spices. The wine dances on the playful, fresh and super elegant palate yet it also has great structure, presence and grip. It is still compact and austere, something completely normal at such an early stage, but already hints at the grandness to come. Make no mistake, this Auslese Trocken R is set to become a mythical R bottlings alongside the all-time greats (2004, 2001, 1998, 1996, 1990) and a worthy successor to the immense 2004 (which we highlighted as a [wine of the month](#) in 2014). What a stunner in the making! 2026-2046+

2016er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken	14 17	96+
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The 2016er Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken will only be commercially released as of September 2018. It offers a quite spicy and refreshing nose of almond cream, dried flowers, coconut, gooseberry, herbs and white minerals. The wine intense, full of grip and yet at no point weighty on the palate. Bracing acidity eventually comes through and adds length and some power to this overall very delicate and highly elegant expression of dry Riesling. The finish is very pure and fully dry. This wine has immense potential, but will have to be cellared for a good decade to deliver upon it. 2026-2046

2015er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Beerenauslese	09 16	96
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The 2015er Kallstadter Saumagen Beerenauslese was made from a selection of bunches (and not berries) of shriveled grapes done directly in the vineyards. A whiff of volatile acidity quickly gives way to a hugely complex and deep nose made of orange peel, rhubarb, dried apricot, tangerine, mango, gingerbread, honey and candied grapefruit. The wine delivers layers upon layers of caramel, grilled pineapple, passion fruit, mango and honey on the smooth and intense palate. Notes of toffee, butter cream and orange in the finish add charm to the gorgeous complexity of this great concentrated BA. This is a great noble-sweet wine in the making by Koehler-Ruprecht. 2023-2035+



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2016er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken	13 17	96
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The 2016er Kallstadter Saumagen Spätlese Trocken will only be commercially released in May 2018. It offers a stunning and already magnificently complex nose of whipped cream, dried flowers, candied peach, spices and almond. The wine shows great presence and immense grip without any undue power on the palate (the wine only has 12% of alcohol). It is packed with huge complexity and the finish is super fresh and animating. The acidity is fully ripe yet still quite sharp at this early stage, giving the wine a beautifully austere side, always a great sign in a young dry Riesling. The after-taste is all about grapefruit zest and chalky minerals. This is a dazzling piece of dry Riesling in the making and one of the finest Spätlese Trocken ever at this Estate! 2024-2046

2014er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken	13 15	95
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This offers a most delicate nose of candied grapefruit, elderberry, tangerine, blood orange, dried flowers, cassis and coconut cream. The wine delivers huge finesse and delicacy wrapped into a smooth and very subtle structure on the palate. This is all about elegance, and at the same time there is huge length, presence and focus. The wine proves fully dry and leaves one with salty and spicy elements in the remarkably animating after-taste. This is a great Saumagen Spätlese Trocken in the making. 2020-2039

2014er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken R	15 15	94+
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The 2014er Kallstadter Saumagen Auslese Trocken R will only be released commercially in 2020. It offers a most intense nose of smoke, beeswax, apricot, raspberry and spices. The wine is driven by some coconut cream and pineapple juice on the smooth and delicately creamy palate. Yet the finish is firmer, with minerals, spices and herbs still giving the wine an almost austere side with quite some grip and powerful zesty and spicy elements in the after-taste. This is actually quite far from being ready but all elements are there for a smashing dry Riesling. 2024-2044

2015er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese R	10 16	94
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The 2015er Kallstadter Saumagen Auslese R is made from fruit harvested at 115-118° Oechsle, and was fermented down to 8.5% of alcohol, i.e. fully fruity-styled Auslese levels. It will only be released commercially in April 2018. This offers a superbly aromatic, complex and animating nose which is made of passion fruit, apricot, mango and melon. The wine coats the palate with hugely honeyed notes of exotic fruits, strawberry and butter cream. It has the presence and intensity of a BA, yet the finish retains the full energy and freshness of a high end Auslese. This is quite a stunning noble-sweet wine in the making. 2025-2055

2014er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken	14 15	94
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This is currently comparatively closed and only timidly hints as its beautiful nose made of candied peach, elderberry, raspberry, grapefruit zest, ginger, cherry and almond. The wine is delicately juicy and smooth on the palate, where more almond paste, coconut cream and pineapple show up. The finish is very long and offers good grip and intensity. There is still a touch of tartness in the background in need of integration, so that this will only fully shine in a few years' time. 2022-2039

2015er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken R	24 16	94
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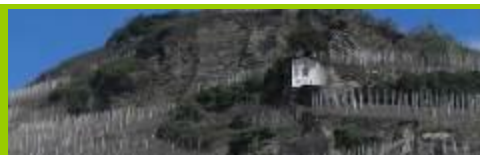
The 2015er Kallstadter Saumagen Spätlese Trocken R was bottled comparatively late, in December 2016 and will only be released commercially in 2019. It offers a most fascinating nose of flowers, dried fruits, herbs, mint, pear and a touch of quince. The wine proves rather intense and full-bodied on the palate, but the balance of this comparatively opulent dry Riesling is quite fascinating. It offers juicy pear, grapefruit and quince. It has energy, presence and power, but all this is superbly packed into quite some freshness and even focus in the very long and intense finish. This superbly fascinating wine will prove irresistible to the lovers of riper expression of dry Riesling. 2023-2035

2016er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Kabinett Trocken	17 17	93+
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The 2016er Kallstadter Saumagen Kabinett Trocken was bottled at the beginning of September. This immediately catches one's attention through a superbly elegant and refined nose made of dried white flowers, white peach, curcuma, gooseberry and ginger-driven spices. The wine is very delicate on the palate with subtle notes of white peach and zesty fruits wrapped into minty herbs. It delivers a great and fresh feel with animating tartness and zest in the playful and focused. This is a great light dry Riesling which only needs a few years in the bottle to fully shine. 2023-2036

2014er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Kabinett Trocken	12 15	92+
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This delivers a most beautifully aromatic and attractive nose of elderberry, yellow fruits, gingerbread, mirabelle and beeswax. The wine proves hugely complex on the palate, where its delicate waxy texture is lifted up by a most wonderful grapefruit and lime driven acidity. The finish is superbly long and highly focus. This is astonishing effort has even some upside potential as the wine is still not fully at its peak. 2020-2034



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2015er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese	15 16	92
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The 2015er Kallstadter Saumagen Auslese was harvested at a whopping 115° Oechsle and fermented down to a lower level of residual sugar (it boasts 10% of alcohol). It offers a delicate and ripe nose made of ginger cake, cooked apple, mirabelle, greengage and freshly cut herbs. The wine delivers a honeyed and dense structure with good fruity presence underpinned by nut, candied mango and ginger on the palate. The finish is intense and almost powerful, yet there is great freshness and finesse in the background. 2023-2045

2015er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken	25 16	92
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This offers superbly attractive and even refreshing elements within a core of ripeness on the nose as notes of grapefruit, candied lime, white minerals and mint give slowly way to mirabelle, yellow peach and dried spices after airing. The wine proves powerful but this is superbly harnessed by good structure on the palate. Notes of tar and licorice emerge in the powerful finish. Even if slightly on the richer and broader side, this Auslese Trocken manages to retain good focus and balance. It will best be served with richer food when it will have reached maturity, in a few years. 2020-2030

2011er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken R	15 12	92
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This offers a quite aromatic and fruit-driven nose of praline, pear, quince puree, mirabelle, acacia honey and flowers. The wine is smooth and delicate on the palate where it unfolds subtle flavors of ripe yellow fruits wrapped into a creamy and delicate texture. The finish is very long, quite smooth and seemingly soft, yet the after-taste is nicely dry and delicately structured. This will please lovers of creamy and smooth Riesling. Now-2031

2015er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Kabinett Trocken	22 16	91
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This delivers a beautiful and attractive nose of flowers, pineapple, candied grapefruit and a touch of tar. The wine coats the palate with a myriad of juicy yellow fruits as well as a touch of honey and beeswax. This juicy and smooth experience is pepped up by an animating and even slightly powerful acidic structure in the finish. The after-taste is all about licorice and pear. This needs a couple of years to find its balance and will then best be paired with hearty food. 2023-2030+

2016er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Riesling Kabinett Trocken	03 17	90
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The 2016er Kallstadter Kabinett Trocken was made exclusively from grapes harvested in the Steinacker and Annaberg, and was bottled at the end of June. It delivers a beautiful nose of yellow peach, grapefruit, floral elements and mint. The wine is superbly balanced and delicately smooth, as well as fresh and juicy on the palate. It leaves a light and fully dry feel in the very long and spicy finish. This is an outstanding dry Riesling. 2021-2031

2014er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Riesling Kabinett Trocken	11 15	90
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The 2014er Kallstadter Kabinett Trocken comes from grapes harvested in the Steinacker and Annaberg as well as some declassified fruit from the Saumagen. This offers an elegant nose of grapefruit, orange, spices, herbs and candied peach. The wine proves delivers plenty of fresh flavors elements including citrus, grapefruit and herbs on the palate, all wrapped into a delicate creamy texture. Some nervy acidity comes through in the after-taste, and make for a bone dry and very pure and long finish. There is still a light touch of tartness in the background, yet this will be nicely integrated in just a few of years. This is really impressive, and has already developed quite positively since release. 2019-2034

2016er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese	16 17	90
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The 2016er Kallstadter Saumagen Spätlese is a fruity-styled Spätlese made with a comparatively low 37 g/l of residual sugar which will be released commercially in December 2017. It offers a very delicate and superb nose made of spicy pear, mint, yellow peach and apple as well as a touch of honey. The wine is nicely creamy and juicy on the palate with quite some primary fruits. The finish proves nicely playful and juicy as an attractive kick of acidity lifts up the creamy side in the long and structured finish. This only needs a couple of years of bottle aging to fully shine. 2021-2031

2015er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken	23 16	90
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This offers a hugely aromatic and ripe nose of mirabelle, pear, yellow peach, candied grapefruit and a touch of coconut cream, all wrapped into ginger herbs and tar. The wine is full-bodied, quite luscious and driven by very ripe notes of yellow and exotic fruits on the palate. The finish proves powerful and gives way to a macerated fruits wrapped into some alcoholic warmth in the after-taste. This will particularly please lovers of ostentatious and bigger expressions of dry Riesling. 2022-2030



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<u>2015er</u>	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Riesling Kabinett Trocken	18 16	89
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The 2015er Kallstadter Kabinett Trocken comes from grapes harvested in the Steinacker and Annaberg. This wine has now started to shut down and only reveals a timid nose made of some flowery elements, almond, pineapple and coconut. The wine is creamy and juicy on the palate, where it delivers mouth-coating ripe yellow fruits with quite some structure for a "mere" village wine. The finish proves smooth, delicate and with good grip and presence and leave's one with a nicely minty and fresh feel in the after-taste. 2020-2025+



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Let's Talk About Sekt – Recent Releases

We published a major article on Sekt in the Issue No 30 (Mar 2016) with full historical and background information to help you understand the story behind the Sekt as well as how to decipher the labels and know what you will get to taste. In addition it includes detailed tasting notes for over 60 leading Sekt in Germany, among which 24 were of truly outstanding quality.

We have been able to taste more Sekt recently. We summarize the corresponding tasting notes of the latest tasted Sekt here below.

Weingut Immich-Batterieberg

(Enkirch – Middle Mosel)

2014er	Immich-Batterieberg	Spätburgunder Sekt Brut Nature Rosé Jour Fixe	12 17	90
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The 2014er Spätburgunder Sekt Brut Nature Rosé Jour Fixe is made from Estate holdings in the Enkircher Monteneubel vineyard. It was disgorged without any dosage or added SO₂ in August 2017 (the disgorgement date is not provided on the label). This deep pink-colored Sekt delivers a beautiful nose of strawberry, rose petal and fine herbs. The wine develops good fruity presence on the palate, with moderate acidity underlined by some still active mousse. Give it a year in the bottle and this superb Sekt, in fact the finest Rosé we ever had from the Mosel, will fully shine. This is however a serious Sekt and best served with food. 2018-2022

Weingut Peter Lauer

(Ayl – Saar)

1996er	Peter Lauer	Saar Riesling Sekt Réserve Natur	28 16	90
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The 1996er Saar Sekt Réserve Natur AP28 16 comes from secondary hills around Ayl and remained on its fine lees until it was disgorged without any dosage in June 2017 (the disgorgement date is provided on the label). This bright yellow-colored Sekt starts off on the backward side, with some smoke, tea and hay, before revealing a quite appealing and complex nose of white peach, pear, grapefruit and Provence herbs. It proves remarkably smooth on the palate (certainly for a 1996, one of the most acidic vintages of recent times) as it went through at least partial malolactic fermentation. This gives this Sekt a great winery side lifted up by a nicely integrated mousse. This feeling runs right into the bone dry, herbal and nicely backward finish. This beautifully mature Sekt needs food. Now-2019

Weingut Melsheimer

(Reil – Middle Mosel)

2013er	Melsheimer	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Sekt Brut	26 16	90
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The 2013er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Sekt Brut AP26 16 comes from a still wine which has spent almost two years in oak casks before undergoing its second fermentation in bottle. This bottle comes from a batch disgorged with a dosage of 8 g/l in April 2017 (the disgorgement date is not provided on the label). This offers a beautiful nose of candied grapefruit, ginger, aniseed herbs and smoky slate. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate where an active mousse lifts up the zesty flavors. The finish is almost fully dry tasting and tart at this early stage. This outstanding Sekt only needs a year of bottle aging after disgorgement in order to fully shine. 2018-2024

2011er	Melsheimer	Sekt Brut Nature Cuvée Prestige	01 17	90
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The 2011er Cuvée Prestige is made from equal parts of Spätburgunder and Riesling and was left on its lees for 5 years before being disgorged in January 2017 (the disgorgement date is provided on the bottle). This offers a beautiful nose of mirabelle, greengage, toffee and herbs. The wine is still slightly sharp on the palate but leaves a great touch of underbrush, pear and fine herbs in the fully dry and delicately baroque yet stylish finish. 2019-2026



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<u>2013er</u>	Melsheimer	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Sekt Zéro Dosage	08 17	89+
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The 2013er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Sekt Zéro Dosage AP08 17 comes from a still wine which has spent almost two years in oak casks before undergoing its second fermentation in bottle. This bottle comes from a batch disgorged without any dosage in April 2017 (the disgorgement date is not provided on the label). It offers a superb nose of star fruit, grapefruit, passion fruit and minty herbs wrapped into some fine spices. The wine still develops a rather sharp and active mousse on the palate and in the finish but the overall balance and vibrancy are superb. This needs ideally two years of bottle aging after disgorgement to fully shine, and there is even quite some upside potential. 2019-2026



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Mature Wines – Wines Commercially Available at the Estates and Featured in this Issue

Mature Riesling is one of the greatest pleasures in the world of fine wines and we have been on air to encourage readers to enjoy more mature Riesling. One of the common issues faced by wine lovers or importers is access to such mature bottles. The great thing is that many Estates regularly release mature Riesling from their cellars.



We provide here the tasting notes of wines still commercially available at the Estates and which we published in this Issue. We encourage you to contact the Estates, their agents or importers in your country should you be interested.

NB: Riesling needs time. Some of the mature Riesling featured here may still benefit from further aging. This will be reflected in the tasting note and the estimated drinking window.

Weingut Peter Lauer

(Ayl – Saar)

1996er	Peter Lauer	Saar Riesling Sekt Réserve Natur	28 16	90
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The 1996er Saar Sekt Réserve Natur AP28 16 comes from secondary hills around Ayl and remained on its fine lees until it was disgorged without any dosage in June 2017 (the disgorgement date is provided on the label). This bright yellow-colored Sekt starts off on the backward side, with some smoke, tea and hay, before revealing a quite appealing and complex nose of white peach, pear, grapefruit and Provence herbs. It proves remarkably smooth on the palate (certainly for a 1996, one of the most acidic vintages of recent times) as it went through at least partial malolactic fermentation. This gives this Sekt a great winey side lifted up by a nicely integrated mousse. This feeling runs right into the bone dry, herbal and nicely backward finish. This beautifully mature Sekt needs food. Now-2019

Weinbau Dr. Lippold

(Ürzig – Middle Mosel)

Dr. Lippold is a tiny Estate in Ürzig. Besides a successful career as winemaker and oenologist, Dr. Enno Lippold took over two small parcels of vineyards in his homeland Ürzig in the 2000s. There are respectively situated in the prime Neuberg and the Weltersberg parts of the Würzgarten. Dr. Lippold produces traditionally made wines with the helping hand of local grower Benedikt Pfeiffer. He typically releases many of its wines rather late, sometimes years after the vintage, as one of his credos is that Mosel greatness comes with age. The style is one of lightness and elegance.

2010er	Dr. Lippold	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Beerenauslese Alte Reben		94
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The 2010er Ürziger Würzgarten BA Alte Reben develops a beautiful nose of mint, gooseberry, white peach, pineapple, coconut and quite some earthy spices. The wine is beautifully playful and elegant on the palate, with the presence and raciness of a high-end Auslese. The finish is beautifully lively and has the depth and the great elegance of a fruity Eiswein. This is a gorgeous wine made in a slightly sturdy but no less satisfying style. Now-2030



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2003er	Dr. Lippold	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Auslese Alte Reben vom Weltersberg	02 04	92
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This offers a gorgeous nose of cassis, herbs and smoke. The wine is beautifully elegant and refined on the palate and leaves a gorgeously smooth feel of melon, cassis, slate and herbs in the surprisingly elegant refreshing finish. This is a great success! Now-2028

2010er	Dr. Lippold	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Auslese Alte Reben	03 14	91
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The 2010er Ürziger Würzgarten Auslese Alte Reben develops a surprising nose of camphor, gooseberry, mint, underbrush and herbs. The wine is slightly bold with minty herbs and sharp acidity on the palate but this is nicely balanced by a touch of whipped cream and mirabelle. The finish is precise and quite refreshing, with gooseberry mingling with riper flavors of greengage and some spices. This is nicely made in a sharp and delicately restrained style. Now-2025+

Weingut Joh. Jos. Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2003er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese GK	10 07	95
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This hay-colored wine offers a stunning nose of melon, pear puree, star fruit and pineapple, all wrapped into gorgeous beeswax, herbs and a hint of wet slate. The wine is delicately creamy on the palate, where a nice touch of acidity lifts up the flavors of pear, pineapple and laurel on the palate. The finish is impeccably balanced and leaves on with airy feel of tangerine, pear and fine herbs. The sweetness, while still there, has beautifully mellowed away into the wine. This is a gorgeous dessert wine to enjoy over the coming decade. Now-2043

2003er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	03 05	93
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This hay-colored wine offers a beautifully refined nose of mirabelle, melon, apricot blossom, star fruit, beeswax and a hint of smoky slate. The wine is nicely elegant and silky on the palate and leaves a gorgeously pure and elegant feel of melon and a hint of honey in the long and waxy finish. A gorgeous touch of ripe acidity adds a touch of juiciness to the after-taste. This is a beautiful mature Auslese made in the timelessly elegant style of the Joh. Jos. Prüm Estate. Now-2033

2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese	06 11	92+
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This offers a beautiful nose of mirabelle, white peach, laurel and fine herbs. The wine is nicely smooth and delicately creamy on the palate, where a mouth-watering touch of ripe acidity lifts up the succulent but ripe flavors of white melon, star fruit and earthy spices. Far from being weighty, this Auslese retains the graceful lightness and finesse of the Joh. Jos. Prüm Estate and leaves one with an airy and delicately flowery feel of mirabelle, herbs and fine spices in the long and smooth finish. While already approachable now, this will certainly still develop over the coming years as the sweetness will recede with age. 2021-2041

Stiftungsweingut Vereinigte Hospitien

(Trier – Trier-Ruwer)

2011er	Vereinigte Hospitien	Scharzhofberger Riesling Auslese GK	24 12	93
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Harvested at 101° Oechsle, this 2011er Scharzhofberger Auslese GK hints at a beautiful nose of melon, pear, grapefruit and fine spices in the making. The wine is superbly playful and elegant on the medium bodied and delicately creamy palate and leaves a beautifully airy and juicy melon-infused feel in the long and flowery creamy finish. This is a gorgeous and delicate Auslese GK in the making. 2021-2036



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Weingüter Geheimrat J. Wegeler

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

<u>1997er</u>	Wegeler	Winkeler Jesuitengarten Riesling Vintage Collection	07 98	93
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This 1997er Winkeler Jesuitengarten Vintage Collection is a late-release (Fall 2017) set of bottles which have aged in the cellars of the Rheingau Estate owned by Wegeler. This golden-colored wine delivers a beautiful nose almond, apricot, aniseed herbs and fine spices. It proves luscious and elegant on the palate and leaves a gorgeously dry and smooth feel in the gorgeous finish. This is now a perfect food wine for instance for game dishes. Now-2027

<u>2007er</u>	Wegeler	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese Vintage Collection	21 11	92
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The 2007er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese Vintage Collection is a late-released (Fall 2017) set of magnums bottled late (hence the 2011 AP number) which have aged in the Estate cellars. This bright white-hay colored wine develops a beautiful nose of pear, star fruit, greengage and fine herbs. It still proves remarkably vibrant and mouth-watering on the palate and leaves a beautifully juicy and delicately creamy feel in the long finish. This is in a superb place now but will certainly provide much pleasure for the coming decades as well. Now-2037

<u>2007er</u>	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Kabinett Vintage Collection	19 08	90
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The 2007er Bernkasteler Badstube Kabinett Vintage Collection is a late-released (Fall 2017) set of bottles which have aged in the Estate cellars. The wine develops an attractive nose of quince, mirabelle, spices and a hint of slate. It proves beautifully precise on the palate and leaves a pure and zesty feel of pear, laurel and Provence herbs in the delicately intense finish. Now-2027



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Upcoming Mosel Fine Wines Issues: Topics to be Covered

Here is an *avant-goût* on what will be covered in the upcoming Issues:

January 2018	Look-Back & Background Stories <ul style="list-style-type: none">2016 Vintage Look-Back & Highlights by Category2017 Vintage – What is in Store?Background articles on Mosel and Riesling
March-April 2018	Mature Riesling <ul style="list-style-type: none">2008 "10-Years-After Retrospective"1998 "20-Years-After Retrospective"Notes from the Cellar
June-October 2018	2017 Vintage Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">Vintage ReviewDetailed Estate Reviews & Recommended WinesAuctions coverageDry German Riesling
In Parallel	Regular Postings on our Website and Social Media , including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">NewsWines of the MonthVintage Highlights2017 Growing ConditionsUpdates of our TN database (via CellarTracker)Interesting Articles from other Sources <p><i>Follow us on social Media (click on logo)</i></p> <div></div>