



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Issue No 45 Maturing Riesling

2009 Retrospective

Highlights from Past Decades

Historic Mosel Estates



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Issue No 45 – April 2019

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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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Contact Information

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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
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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

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 and "(No AP)" means that the wine was not given an AP (because it is not bottled as QmP).

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. 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
Region	Mosel Visiting Guide	Mosel Visiting Guide 2019	-
Estates	Defunct Mosel Estates	Issue No 45 (Apr 2019)	-
Estates	Fritz Haag Deep-Dive Interview	Issue No 44 (Jan 2019)	-
Vineyards	Uhlen gUs / PDOs A New Era for German Wine?	Issue No 44 (Jan 2019)	Click Here
Vineyards	Ruwer on the Up Large Solely-Owned Vineyard in New Hands	Issue No 42 (Aug 2018)	Click Here
Vineyards	Vineyard Classification The Classification Before the Classification	Issue No 39 (Jan 2018)	-
Estates	Keller takes over Prime Mosel Vineyard	Issue No 39 (Jan 2018)	Click Here
Wines	Deciphering the Modern German Wine Label	Issue No 34 (Apr 2017)	Click Here
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 - Lambertskirch 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)	-

Past issues are available to subscribers on simple request at info@moselfinewines.com.



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Table of Contents – Estates Covered in this Issue

An alphabetic overview (based on last names) of the Estates covered in this Issue with an indication in which section(s) they appear:

Estate	Section of Issue No 45			
	2009 10 Years After	Cellar Highlights	Defunct Mosel Estates	Mature Wines Commercially Available
Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan	Link			
Dr. Bergweiler			Link	
Richard Jos. Berres			Link	
Bischöfliches Konvikt Trier			Link	
Bischöfliches Priesterseminar Trier			Link	
Georg Breuer	Link	Link		
Jos. Christoffel jr.	Link		Link	
E. Christoffel-Berres			Link	
Franz Duhr / Duhr-Conrad-Fehres			Link	
Dönnhoff	Link			
Geschw. Ehses-Berres			Link	
Emrich-Schönleber	Link			
Karl Erbes	Link			
Gebert			Link	
Geltz-Zilliken	Link	Link		
Fritz Haag	Link	Link		
Reinhold Haart	Link	Link		
Dr. Hermann	Link			
Heymann-Löwenstein	Link	Link		
Hohe Domkirche Trier			Link	
Graf zu Hoensbroech			Link	
von Hövel	Link	Link		
Huesgen-Böcking			Link	
Immich-Batterieberg	Link			
Schloss Johannisberg	Link			
Karthäuserhof	Link			
Keller	Link	Link		
von Kesselstatt	Link	Link		Link

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Table of Contents – Estates Covered in this Issue (Cont'd)

Estate	Section of Issue No 45			
	2009 10 Years After	Cellar Highlights	Defunct Mosel Estates	Mature Wines Commercially Available
Koehler-Ruprecht	Link	Link		
Apollinar Joseph Koch			Link	
Peter Jakob Kühn	Link			
Peter Lauer	Link			
Le Gallais	Link	Link		
P. Licht-Bergweiler Erben			Link	
Schloss Lieser	Link	Link		
Loersch	Link	Link		Link
Carl Loewen		Link		
Dr. Loosen	Link	Link		
Lubentiushof	Link			
Hermann Ludes		Link		Link
Alfred Merkelbach	Link	Link		
Merrem			Link	
Markus Molitor	Link	Link		Link
Mönchhof	Link			
Martin Müllen	Link	Link		
Egon Müller	Link	Link		
Felix Müller			Link	
C. von Nell-Breuning		Link		Link
Nikolaihof	Link			
von Othegraven	Link			
F.X. Pichler	Link			
Joh. Jos. Prüm	Link	Link		Link
Peter Prüm			Link	
S.A. Prüm	Link			Link
Johann Peter Reinert	Link		Link	
Adolf Rheinart Erben		Link	Link	

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Estate	Section of Issue No 45			
	2009 10 Years After	Cellar Highlights	Defunct Mosel Estates	Mature Wines Commercially Available
Max Ferd. Richter	Link			
Dr. Ronde			Link	
Schloss Saarstein		Link		
Willi Schaefer	Link	Link		
Schäfer-Fröhlich	Link			
Carl Schmitt-Wagner			Link	
Freiherr von Schorlemer			Link	
Von Schubert – Maximin Grünhaus	Link	Link		
Selbach-Oster	Link	Link		
Später-Veit	Link			
Staatliche Weinbaudomänen Trier			Link	
Tobias			Link	
Trimbach	Link			
Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch		Link		
Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Link	Link		
Julius Treis		Link		
Bernd Van Volxem			Link	
Otto Van Volxem			Link	
Viermorgenhof		Link		Link
Vollenweider	Link			
Dr. Wagner	Link			
Wegeler	Link	Link		Link
Weiser-Künstler	Link			
Dr. F. Weins-Prüm			Link	
Wittmann	Link			



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Latest Vintages: An Update on 2017 – 2010

Mosel Riesling does age beautifully well but it does go through different phases, including "closed" / "muted" phases (see Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 27 from March 2015 for a detailed explanation). The profile and timing depend on the vintage and are quite difficult to generalize. We therefore provide an annual update on how the different vintages from the last decade are developing based on our own experience over the past year.

2017	The finest 2017 wines continue to be rather open for business. However, we are pretty sure that the acidity packed into these gorgeous wines will eventually lead them to close down before opening up at some time in the future. Enjoy the pure fruit as long as its lasts (or leave them in you cellar for many years)!
2016	Many of the 2016 wines have gained in presence and precision, and confirm our early raving of the vintage. Most continue to be utterly enjoyable, a trait shared with the 1997 vintage with which 2016 is often compared. Although only a few dry and off-dry wines have somehow become more muted (and slightly soft), we still feel that 2016 may eventually go through a closed phase after all.
2015	Most 2015 wines are now well and truly in their closed phase. The incredible depth of fruit makes that the fruity-styled wines remain enjoyable, but without any of the cut and finesse that will eventually prove their hallmark at maturity. The dry wines are really not in a good spot, being disjointed, powerful and not showing any of their early potential at this stage. We have an inkling that this great vintage will test our patience, like 1990 did.
2014	The heterogeneity of the 2014 vintage carried directly over onto the aging process. Except for a few light dry wines, the top wines made from clean fruit have shut down, as one would expect from these wines which are a remake of those from the 1990s. The wines affected by gin, saffron and mushroom flavors still remain comparatively open and offer a not unattractive almost Scheurebe style of fruit opulence. If you have not done so yet, we would opt to drink up these lesser wines except for the odd bottle and bury the little treasures of the vintage deep into the cellar.
2013	The fruity-styled 2013 wines are still completely hard and un-yielding, making the underlying acidity feel sharp and out of balance. The better dry wines have come out of their early armor of smoke and tannins if any but the acidity gives them an austere and sharp side. Also the top botrytized wines are in a quite muted phase, even if they may still prove quite enjoyable as the sweetness provides the right balance to the acidity. Overall, this is a vintage to lay down and wait for.
2012	The 2012 wines have put on some flesh and go through a "fattier" phase (so no real "hard closed" phase) which is not unlike what the 2007 went through. However, the zestier acidity cuts through this "weight" and makes many of these wines already quite enjoyable today. In particular, the fruity Kabinett and Spätlese as well as the off-dry and dry wines can already offer much pleasure even if they will only show their finesse and elegance in a few more years.
2011	While many fruity-styled 2011 wines are shut down and go through a quite difficult and muted phase, some of the drier wines start to slowly reveal some of the potential that we expected with age. Their low acidity makes for great food companionship now. The fruity wines are still really best left alone. Their comparatively low acidity combined with the high maturity of their fruit make them feel rich, opulent and often bulky, and thus not really enjoyable now. We expect that these will need at least a decade to integrate their sweetness and gain in harmony.
2010	Most 2010 wines firmed up by 2013 but the initially crisp acidity has given way to a much softer form of zest, providing further hope that these wines will turn out harmonious after all. Some off-dry wines continue to shine through fruit opulence, structure and a deliciously zesty but ripe acidity. Also some of the fruity-styled and sweet wines show signs that they could come out of their shell in a close future. In turn, the dry wines are still very much work in progress and continue to test our patience.



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10-Years-After Retrospective: 2009 – The Vintage at a Glance

The Growing Conditions

NB: A detailed account of the 2009 growing conditions can be found in Issue No 12 (July 2010).

The growing season proved quite a roller-coaster with early bud break, uneven flowering, dry summer and wet start into the autumn.

2009 ended well but was anything but plain sailing during the growing season. Everything started well and bud break was early. However, the weather turned for the worse around flowering, leading to veraison quite some pressure from rot, and hence yield losses. Fortunately, this was followed by seven weeks of dry weather which fastened the ripening process (the drought brought its set of issues especially with young vines).

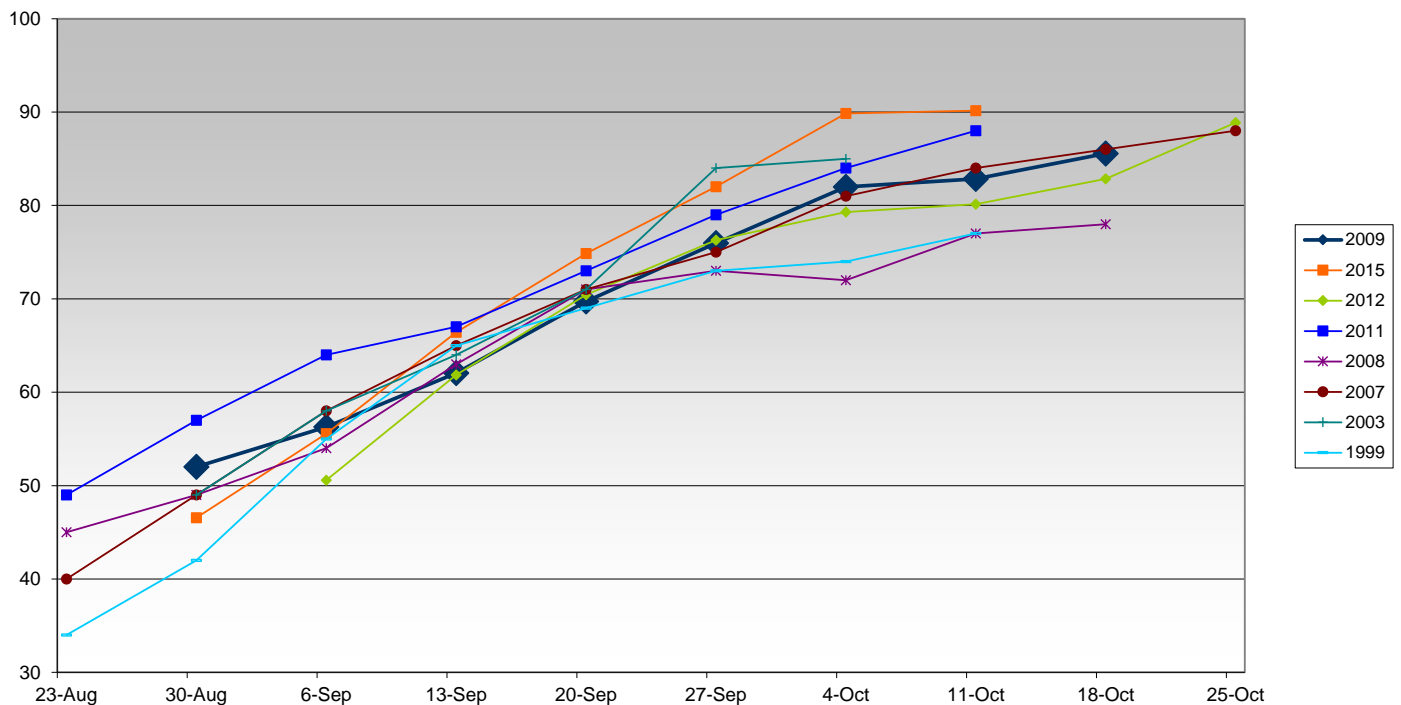
Fears of a remake of 2006 following the rain at the beginning of October were appeased as cold weather and even frost set in soon thereafter.

Rain and a tropical storm at the beginning of October led to fears of a remake of the 2006 vintage, a vintage characterized by widespread outbreaks of rot. Fortunately, not a week later, a spell of cold weather including widespread frost brought the long-needed appease in the ripening process.

Most of the harvest was done under good weather, allowing late harvesting Estates to bring in grapes until well into November.

Except for the high level of ripeness and the odd shower, the remaining harvest benefitted from a golden October ... and even golden November (one of the hottest on record). Growers had the time to make their selections in all categories. Late harvesting Estates did not finish until mid-November. Botrytized selections were possible but less so than initially expected after the rains of October. But this was compensated by a spell of frost before Christmas which allowed most growers to produce good quantities of Eiswein.

Evolution of Sugar Levels (° Oechsle) - 2009 vs Recent or Comparable Vintages (Bereich Trier)



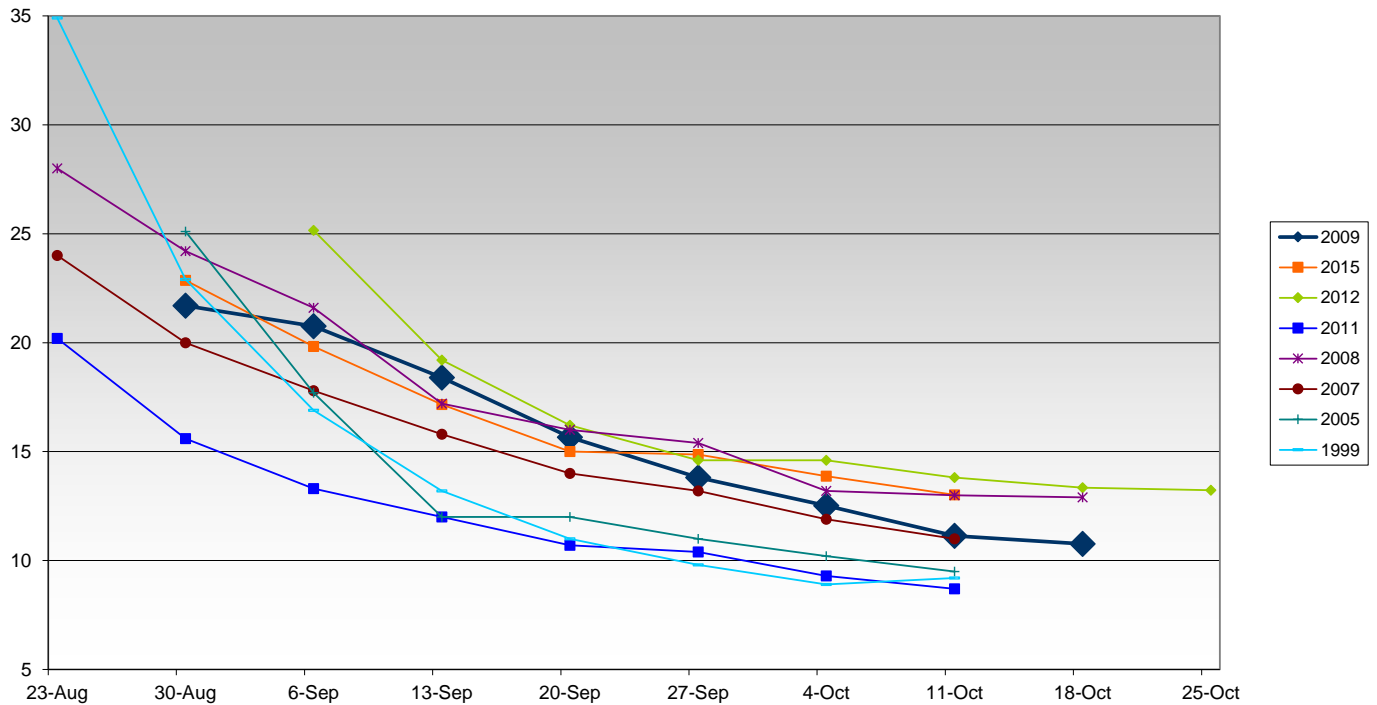


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Evolution of Total Acidity Levels (g/l) - 2009 vs Recent or Comparable Vintages (Bereich Trier)



Source: German Ministry of Agriculture - Rheinland-Pfalz

The Vintage Style

The 2009 wines were seen, in many respects, as a fresher version of the great 2007 vintage.

The 2009 growing season proved very different from that of the 2007 vintage, but the resulting wines showed quite some similarity in terms of grape sugar and acidity levels. 2009 wines were also marked by very pure flavors but, overall, the aromatics were fresher, courtesy of the cold weather and the frost in October, which essentially stopped the ripening process.

Clearly, the sweet spot of the vintage was at the Spätlese / Auslese level.

The vintage proved too ripe for yielding much real Kabinett. However, the aromatic purity and good zest of the wines made for fabulous Spätlese and clean Auslese wines, i.e. wines with 90-100° Oechsle. Here, the finest producers made some stunning wines. The Saar and Ruwer clearly had the edge over the Mosel, where the wines seemed sometimes somewhat bulky when young.

2009 proved a milestone for dry Riesling in the Mosel, both qualitatively and quantitatively.

One of the most remarkable facts about the 2009 vintage have less to do with the intrinsic quality of the vintage, but with opportunity. The Mosel had best known for its "fruity to sweet" wines since at least the 1950s and only gradually redeployed its finest grapes to the production of dry Riesling on a grand scale as of the mid-2000s. 2009 proved the first vintage where the acidity and internal structure of the wines were right for the production of high-end dry Riesling. Many Estates went for it and, for the first time, the region produced some truly remarkable dry Riesling in good quantity.

We advised our readers to focus on the finest Spätlese / Auslese and selectively buy into the dry / off-dry wines when alcohol was not too high.

2009 was a vintage to stock up on gorgeous Spätlese and Auslese wines as well as indulge into some of these dry and off-dry Riesling which were emerging from the region. We had to alert our readers at the time to check tasting notes to make sure that the wines were not too bulky or, in the case of dry and off-dry wines, too alcoholic and unnecessarily powerful. Regarding Kabinett, our advice was equally clear: Forget 2009 and stock up on the then still completely underrated 2008.



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10-Years-After Retrospective: 2009 Fruity / Sweet Wines Today – The Crowd-Pleaser



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The Independent Mosel Review

2009 perfectly complements the racy 2008 vintage: It is a big and overtly fruity vintage, full of crown-pleasing qualities.

Our 2008 retrospective underlined a great classically austere vintage in the making. 2009 is the complete opposite. The wines burst with succulent ripe flavors of fruit underpinned by ripe but good acidity. The balance is impeccable. The vintage is a crown-pleaser with great immediate fruit and notable sweetness. It is a great vintage to get into mature Riesling if you are not yet experienced (provided you do not object residual sugar).

The 2009 wines are much more open for business than the 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2005 at the same period.

Aromatically speaking, few wines require more cellaring. The only reason some may benefit from more cellaring is that the 2009 wines are often still loaded with residual sugar. The 2000s saw in general a trend towards ever increasing sugar levels: Some of the 2009er Kabinett wines have a massive 90 g/l of residual sugar, a level double that usually found today or in the 1990s.

The sweet spot is what we said upon release: The Spätlese and Auslese can be superbly pure ... but there is hardly any real Kabinett to be found.

Early on, we mentioned that the high quality of Spätlese and clean Auslese produced in 2009 and draw the attention of our readers that some of the finest Spätlese were actually bottled as Kabinett. The retrospective tasting comforted us in our advice. The finer Spätlese and Auslese are truly enjoyable and shine through bright fruit and deep delicately creamy flavors. There is hardly any true Kabinett to be found in 2009, even though Dr. Loosen tabled a remarkably racy 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Kabinett which ticks all the boxes.

Some superb noble-sweet wines were produced, but quantities are tiny.

Our tastings also underlined the quality of the finest of the noble-sweet wines. Some truly remarkable wines were produced, also because the vintage allowed for some Eiswein. The finest are pure, intense and very elegant. However, quantities are minimal and many of the finest wines are Auction lots, as the vintage did not yield much botrytis for the growers to play with.

The weakness of the vintage is the petrol notes which have appeared in some wines from this vintage with high levels of ripeness.

But 2009 is not all plain sailing. Besides sometimes massively high levels of residual sugar, some wines show clear notes of petrol, a result of the direct sunlight hitting the grapes during the long period of sunshine. It is clear that not all growers had yet adapted their canopy management to take into account the increasing sunshine during the growing season. Wines made from vineyards planted with single pole vineyards (such as Ürziger, part of Erden, etc.) fared better than those on wire (where the norm is to defoliate the grape area).

Clearly, the cooler Saar and Ruwer have the edge over the Mosel.

Unsurprisingly, the Ruwer and the Saar have the edge in a warmer vintage. The Ruwer proved particularly successful, as it proved a great vintage for its two flagship Estates, Karthäuserhof and von Schubert. In the Saar, Zilliken particularly confirmed the high early hopes we had set on its wines. However, there is no rule without exceptions. In particular, Willi Schaefer produced one of its finest collection ever, and so did Weingut Reinhold Haart, albeit in a quite forceful style.

All in all, 2009 offers much fun and will do so for many more years!



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10-Years-After Retrospective: 2009 Fruity / Sweet Vintage Highlights

2009 Vintage Highlights – Sweet and Noble Sweet Wines *

2009er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	01 10	<i>Auction</i>	98
2009er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Uhlen L Riesling Auslese lange GK	02 10	<i>Auction</i>	98
2009er	Dr. Hermann	Erdener Herrenberg Riesling Eiswein GK	15 10		97
2009er	Le Gallais	Wiltinger braune Kupp Riesling Auslese GK	24 10	<i>Auction</i>	97
2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Eiswein	29 10		97
2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Beerenauslese	17 10		96
2009er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Beerenauslese	07 10		96
2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Auslese	07 10	<i>Auction</i>	95+
2009er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese lange GK #15	15 10	<i>Auction</i>	95
2009er	Dr. Hermann	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese GK			95
2009er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Uhlen R Riesling Beerenauslese	03 10		95
2009er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Auslese Nr. 37 GK	12 10	<i>Auction</i>	95
2009er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Prälat Riesling Auslese GK	43 10		95
2009er	S.A. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese Fass 59	17 10	<i>Auction</i>	95
2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Mülheimer Helenenkloster Riesling Eiswein ** Fass 48	19 10		95
2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	15 10		95
2009er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese #14	14 10	<i>Auction</i>	93+
2009er	Schloss Lieser	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	17 10	<i>Auction</i>	93

* *Mainly Auslese GK and upwards but also any Spätlese or Auslese if it is an Auslese GK in all but name.*



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10-Years-After Retrospective: 2009 Fruity / Sweet Vintage Highlights

2009 Vintage Highlights – Fruity Wines **

2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese	04 10	<i>Auction</i>	96
2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Auslese Nr. 149	26 10		95
2009er	Alfred Merkelbach	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Auslese	14 10	<i>Auction</i>	94
2009er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Spätlese	19 10	<i>Auction</i>	94
2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Auslese	40 10		94
2009er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Spätlese	06 10		93
2009er	Schloss Lieser	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	11 10		93
2009er	Markus Molitor	Niedermenniger Herrenberg Riesling Spätlese (Golden Capsule)	16 10		93
2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Spätlese	41 10		93
2009er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Spätlese GK	04 10		93
2009er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	07 10		92
2009er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett	10 10		92
2009er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Grafenberg Riesling Kabinett	07 10		92
2009er	von Hövel	Scharzhofberger Riesling Auslese	05 10		92
2009er	Schloss Lieser	Lieserer Niederberg Helden Riesling Spätlese	10 10		92
2009er	Loersch-Eifel	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese	10 10		92
2009er	Dr. Loosen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett	61 10		92
2009er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett Alte Reben	16 10	<i>Auction</i>	93
2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Spätlese	04 16		93
2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	28 10		93
2009er	Johann Peter Reinert	Wiltinger Schlangengraben Riesling Auslese	23 10	<i>Auction</i>	93
2009er	Jos. Christoffel jr.	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese	04 10		92
2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese ** Fass 64	08 10		92
2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Veldenzer Elisenberg Riesling Kabinett	36 10		92
2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Kabinett	03 10		92
2009er	Willi Schaefer	Riesling	01 10		92
2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	13 10		92
2009er	Selbach-Oster	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese	16 10		92
2009er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Bernkasteler Lay Riesling Kabinett	09 10		92

** Mainly Kabinett and Spätlese but also any Auslese if made in a particularly light and elegant style.



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

10-Years-After Retrospective: 2009 Dry / Off-Dry Riesling – Big but Beautiful



The 2009 dry and off-dry Riesling are quite open for business and offer much pleasure in a big and bold style.

Our retrospective has shown that the overall quality of the vintage is remarkably high, and this despite its ripeness. The wines are fruity, big, sometimes ripe, sometimes refreshing but always bold and, quite frankly, very easy to enjoy. Despite their presence and boldness, the wines are only very rarely alcoholic. If big is your thing, you will love the vintage. If ripe fruit purity is your thing, you will too.

Despite the overall high quality, there are only few true classics emerging, most of them come from slate-driven soil.

The high average quality of the vintage expresses itself through the great pure flavors carried by the wines but also through the surprising tension between fresher and riper elements, in particular in the German dry Riesling made along GG lines. Here, bittersweet notes of quinine bring some freshness to the natural ripeness of the vintage. The result is quite appealing, even if not very focused. Only a handful of wines developed the sheer cut of great dry Riesling. Once again, the Georg Breuer and Keller Estates underline their brilliance by producing some true classics. This time, they are joined by a stunner from the Mosel, the Ruwer to be more precise, namely the GG from the Karthäuserhof Estate.

Less was sometimes more. A village wine from Keller shows that freshness was key for the vintage.

Our retrospective also highlighted the fact that less was probably more in 2009. The remarkable success of the "basic" von der Fels bottling by Keller is the best example: This wine, which costs a fraction of the Estate's highly regarded Grand Cru bottlings, proved more than their equal. Savvy readers should have a second look at this Estate bottling from Keller: It is capable of true greatness! On a more general note, we also found that quite often the "smaller" wines had aged as if not more harmoniously than the more ambitious bottlings at an Estate when we did our background article on dry Mosel Riesling. There may be some lessons to be learned here.

The off-dry wines (a Mosel specialty) fared particularly well in this vintage.

The big and slightly ripe structure of the 2009 vintage suited the off-dry Riesling style perfectly. The little residual sugar allowed growers to reduce the alcoholic strength. The residual sugar also allowed them to use fresher and racier grapes (with more acidity). Some of the finest producers of the genre used the opportunity to produce some truly remarkable wines. This includes Reinhold Haart, Geltz-Zilliken and above all Immich-Batterieberg. 2009 was the first vintage after the Estate's relaunch with Gernot Kollmann at its helm and the result has been magical. Both the Ellergrub and the Batterieberg are shining examples of delicately off-dry (some call this dry-tasting) Riesling.



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

2009 is the first vintage in which the Mosel produced some truly remarkable dry Riesling on a wide scale.

As we explained, 2009 was effectively the first vintage in which a large number of VDP growers (and other quality growers) set their heart to produce great dry Riesling AND found a vintage to match their ambitions. The fruit was ripe and pure, there was little botrytis and the acidity was comparatively mild. They also used their finest grapes to produce these dry wines. The result proves a resounding success as 2009 yielded some stunner, including one of the finest dry Riesling of the vintage (the Karthäuserhofberg GG by Karthäuserhof). But also other ambitious growers, in particular Geltz-Zilliken and Reinhold Haart, did remarkably well.

Overall, 2009 is a great vintage living from ripeness and big bold flavors.

10-Years-After Retrospective: 2009 Dry / Off-Dry Vintage Highlights

2009 Vintage Highlights – Dry / Off-Dry Riesling

2009er	Georg Breuer	Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg Riesling	01 10	98
2009er	Keller	Riesling Trocken G-Max	48 10	97+
2009er	Georg Breuer	Rauenthaler Nonnenberg Riesling	03 10	96
2009er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Trocken GG	27 10	96
2009er	Keller	Westhofener Kirchspiel Riesling Trocken GG	43 10	95
2009er	Dönnhoff	Niederhäuser Hermannshöhle Riesling Trocken GG	27 10	94
2009er	Emrich-Schöneleber	Monzinger Halenberg Riesling Trocken GG	11 10	94
2009er	Immich-Batterieberg	Enkircher Batterieberg Riesling	06 10	94
2009er	Immich-Batterieberg	Enkircher Ellergrub Riesling	05 10	94
2009er	Keller	Dalsheimer Hubacker Riesling Trocken GG	46 10	94
2009er	Keller	Riesling Trocken von der Fels	14 10	94
2009er	Keller	Westhofener Morstein Riesling Trocken GG	45 10	94
2009er	Georg Breuer	Rüdesheimer Berg Rottland Riesling	06 10	93
2009er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Trocken GG	16 10	93
2009er	Reinhold Haart	Wintricher Ohlgsberg Riesling	35 11	93
2009er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Bockenaauer Felseneck Riesling Trocken GG	29 10	93
2009er	Trimbach	Riesling Clos Sainte Hune		93
2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Superior	10 09	93



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

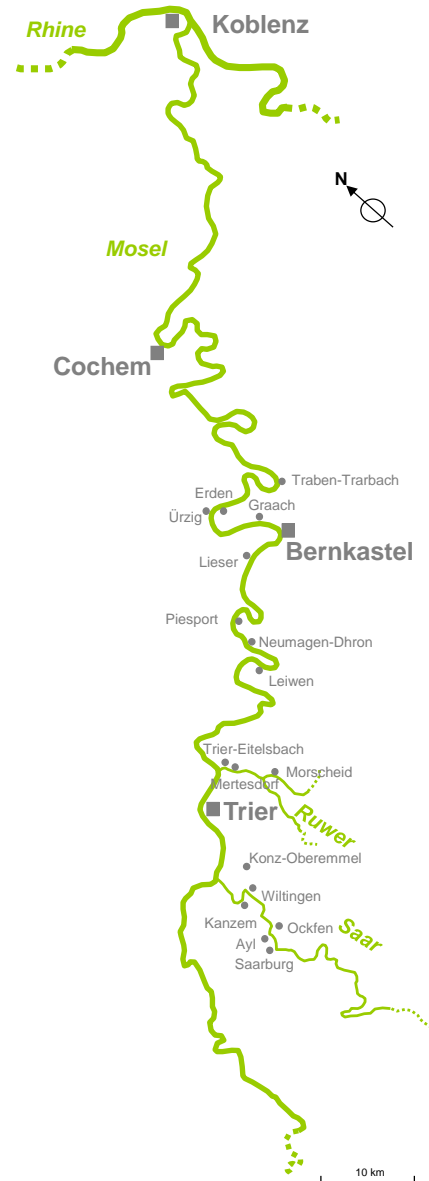
By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

10-Years-After Retrospective: 2009 – Tasting Notes (Mosel)

We had the opportunity to re-taste 130 Mosel Riesling from the 2009 vintage over the last few weeks. Besides Mosel wines, we also included some tasting notes from other regions in Germany as additional reference points in a separate section.

Jos. Christoffel jr.
Karl Erbes
Geltz-Zilliken
Fritz Haag
Reinhold Haart
Dr. Hermann
von Hövel
Heymann-Löwenstein
Immich-Batterieberg
Karthäuserhof
von Kesselstatt
Peter Lauer
Le Gallais
Schloss Lieser
Loersch
Dr. Loosen
Lubentiusshof
Alfred Merkelbach
Markus Molitor
Mönchhof
Martin Müllen
Egon Müller
von Othegraven
Joh. Jos. Prüm
S.A. Prüm
Johann Peter Reinert
Max Ferd. Richter
Willi Schaefer
von Schubert – Maximin Grünhaus
Selbach-Oster
Später-Veit
Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch
Vollenweider
Dr. Wagner
Wegeler
Weiser-Künstler

Ürzig
Ürzig
Saarburg
Brauneberg
Piesport
Erden
Oberemmel
Winningen
Enkirch
Eitelsbach
Morscheid
Ayl
Kanzem
Lieser
Leiwen
Bernkastel-Kues
Niederfell
Ürzig
Wehlen
Ürzig
Traben-Trarbach
Willingen
Kanzem
Wehlen
Wehlen
Kanzem
Mülheim
Graach
Mertesdorf
Zeltingen
Piesport
Bernkastel-Kues
Traben-Trarbach
Saarburg
Bernkastel-Kues
Traben-Trarbach





Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

10-Years-After Retrospective: 2009 – Detailed Tasting Notes (Mosel - 130 Wines)

Weingut Jos. Christoffel jr.

(Ürzig – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Jos. Christoffel jr.	Erdener Prälat Riesling Auslese ***	10 10	92
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The 2009er Erdener Prälat Auslese *** opens up to some delicately ripe and complex notes of praline, ripe pineapple, candied grapefruit, marzipan, butter cream and mango. A fresher side driven by minty herbs, sage and thyme join the party with airing. The wine proves juicy and creamy on the rich and fruity palate. Despite the presence, it manages to remain zesty in the long and light-weighted finish. The after-taste of this rich and ripe Prälat Auslese is all about melon, litchi and tar. Now-2034

2009er	Jos. Christoffel jr.	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese	04 10	92
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The 2009er Ürziger Würzgarten Spätlese displays a delicately ample and ripe nose of toffee, pineapple, almond paste, grapefruit, spices, anise and apricot blossom, as well as a hint of petrol. Ripe yellow fruits mixed with almond cream give the wine the smooth and juicy presence of an Auslese on the palate. Despite the presence the wine remains refined, elegant thanks to its light-weighted structure and a nice kick of acidity which emerges in the long and juicy finish. Now-2029

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Weingut Karl Erbes

(Ürzig – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Karl Erbes	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Auslese *** GK	13 10	94
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The bright-colored 2009er Ürziger Würzgarten Auslese *** GK delivers a beautifully primary and smoky nose of white mint, pink grapefruit, vineyard peach, lead pencil, dried apricot, aniseed herbs and chamomile, all wrapped into some volatile which comes through after some airing. The wine develops the deep creamy smoothness of a rich dessert wine on the palate, where juicy and ripe exotic fruits are coated with refined and oily flavors of honey, backed spices and nut paste. Intensely zesty elements lift up all the flavors and give this remarkably intense wine great purity and vibrancy. This is one of the rare 2009 dessert wines to show real botrytis presence and impact. Now-2049

2009er	Karl Erbes	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Auslese ** Kranklay	11 10	93
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The 2009er Ürziger Würzgarten Auslese ** Kranklay develops a beautifully rich and complex nose made of anise, smoke, honey, toffee, almond cream, passion fruit and a hint of tar. The wine is quite exuberant and sweet on the palate where ample exotic fruits including mango, passion fruit and guava are wrapped into a blanket of honey and whipped cream. While quite unctuous and almost oily, the wine still manages to deliver a superbly fresh and playful side as some zesty and vibrant acidity runs through the finish. This gorgeous dessert wine will particularly please lovers of sweet yet zesty Riesling. Now-2039

2009er	Karl Erbes	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese	35 10	91
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The 2009er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese AP 35 is a special cask of fruity-styled Würzgarten Spätlese which remained on its fine lees for 11 months before being bottling (the information is provided on a back-label). This delivers a superbly creamy and rich yet refined nose of whipped cream, a hint of toffee, pineapple, apricot, minty herbs and smoke. The wine proves beautifully smooth and very delicate on the palate, where whipped almond cream, coconut and pineapple paired with mild acidity make for the Auslese presence and sweetness. The wine develops more structure, presence and freshness in the very long and spicy finish (no doubt partially due to the fact that it has 9% of alcohol), but without ever conveying either power or heat. This superb fruity-styled Riesling will offer much pleasure for several decades to come. Now-2039



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2009er	Karl Erbes	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese Kranklay	08 10	90
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The 2009er Ürziger Würzgarten Spätlese Kranklay is still quite loaded with CO2 and proves quite restrained and slightly reductive at first. Then, only gradually, ample and rich fruits including pineapple, yellow apple, mirabelle and melon, all wrapped into smoke, minty herbs and candied grapefruit, emerge from the glass. The wine is still on the sweet side of things on the palate where quite some honey and exotic fruits add an almost exuberant side to this Auslese-styled Riesling. The finish is delicately smooth and juicy, and it is only in the after-taste that a touch of zest comes through. Now-2034

2009er	Karl Erbes	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese Feinherb	25 10	88
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The 2009er Ürziger Würzgarten Spätlese Feinherb AP 25 was fermented down to 22 g/l of residual sugar. This still quite light golden-colored wine delivers an attractively fruity and nice nose of pear, yellow peach, anise, pineapple, melon, thyme and verbena. Despite being loaded with ripe fruit, it is attractively zesty on the palate and manages to remain quite linear right into the long, spicy and dry-tasting finish. A hint of earthy spices, power and tartness emerge in the after-taste, so that this is now best served with hearty food. This dry-tasting Riesling will offer much pleasure over the coming years. Now-2029

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Weingut Geltz-Zilliken

(Saarburg – Saar)

2009er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Trockenbeereauslese	01 10	<i>Auction</i>	98
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The 2009er Saarburger Rausch TBA (the auction bottling auctioned off in September 2012) was harvested at a massive 225° Oechsle. It offers a stunning nose made of marzipan, mango, dried fruits, herbs and honeyed elements, with a very light touch of oxidative scents including tar, data and camphor. The wine is still mightily rich and sweet on the palate but makes this up by offering a gorgeously playful and elegant side on the intensely zesty and spicy palate and leaves an almost endless feel of spices, honeyed fruits and slate in the long and focused finish. What a remarkable TBA to enjoy over the coming 50 years. Now-2069

2009er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Spätlese	06 10	93
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The 2009er Saarburger Rausch Spätlese AP 06 was harvested at a full 99° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels. It offers a rather reduced nose of passion fruit, citronella, pineapple, coconut, spices and herbs as well as a hint of mint. The wine is gorgeously delicate and seemingly playful on the palate yet is also still rather reduced and squared in the long and hugely impressive finish. This will still need a few years to develop and integrate its noticeable residual sugar. 2024-2039

2009er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Trocken GG	16 10	93
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The 2009er Saarburger Rausch GG offers a gorgeous and telltale nose of grapefruit, spices, whipped cream, green herbs and earl grey tea. The wine combines purity and freshness with good presence and intensity to offer a great palate. The wine is superbly playful and multi-layered and leaves a gorgeously spicy and superbly elegant feel in the delicately creamy yet zesty finish. The precise side of the wine is beautifully balanced out by a touch of cream in the after-taste. This brilliant dry Riesling is a joy to drink now but will easily last for another decade, if not even more. Now-2034

2009er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Diabas	12 10	92
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The 2009er Saarburger Rausch Diabas comes from a selection of clean fruit and was fermented down to 16 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. off-dry levels. This offers a gorgeous nose of pear, melon, passion fruit, minty herbs and minerals. The wine is beautifully delineated on the palate, where a smooth side of fruits is pepped up by a tickly sense of acidity. The finish is light, delicately ripe but also enticing. This is a gorgeous slightly off-dry wine to enjoy over the coming decade (if not more). Now-2029+

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Weingut Fritz Haag

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese lange GK #15	15 10	Auction	95
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Auslese lange GK #15 (an auction bottling) was harvested approx. 125-130° Oechsle, i.e. technically at BA level. It offers a superb nose of whipped cream, honey, pineapple, date, cream, almond paste and honey (i.e. not unlike that of a BA). The wine has the oily presence of a BA on the palate and leaves a superbly multi-layered feel of cream and mirabelle liqueur in the finish. This is a stunning dessert wine to enjoy for many decades to come. Now-2059

2009er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese #14	14 10	Auction	93+
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Spätlese #14 (an auction bottling) was fermented down to fully sweet levels. It offers a beautiful nose of pineapple, almond, lemon curd, candied pineapple, whipped cream, herbs and slate. The wine has the fully creamy and smooth side of an Auslese GK on the palate and leaves a gorgeously playful and multi-layered feel in the still rather sweet finish. This will need another decade to absorb its residual sugar and gain in precision and finesse. It could then easily exceed our high expectations. 2029-2049

2009er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	07 10		92
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Spätlese AP 07 reveals beautiful scents of honeyed yellow peach, apricot, mirabelle, pineapple, orange and melon, as well as spices and minty herbs on the nose. The wine develops the full presence of a rich Auslese (if not of an Auslese GK) on the palate even if some freshness and zest emerge in the long finish. This cuddly and smooth expression of Auslese-styled Riesling will please lovers of fruity, juicy and ripe wine. Now-2039

2009er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	08 10		90
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr GG develops a rather big and imposing nose made of pear, apricot, vineyard peach, cherry, spices, whipped cream and herbs. The wine comes over as delicately fiery, creamy and intense on the palate and leaves a winery and slightly hot feel in the long and lingering finish, a feeling slightly buffered off by a nice touch of tartness. Now-2024

2009er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Riesling Kabinett	03 10		90
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The 2009er Brauneberger Kabinett needs a few seconds in the glass to reveal a beautiful even if slightly ripe nose made of smoke, yellow peach, quince, a hint of mirabelle and guava. The wine develops the full presence of a Spätlese as it coats the sweet and creamy palate with ripe yellow fruits. Fortunately, some zesty fruits balance out the comparatively rich side in the finish of this fruity Riesling. Now-2034

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Weingut Reinhold Haart

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Reinhold Haart	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling	35 11		93
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The 2009er Wintricher Ohligsberg was fermented and aged in oak for 15 months (hence the late AP number) down to 18 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. off-dry levels. This offers the telltale baroque nose of pineapple, pear, dried herbs, smoky slate and a hint of licorice. The wine is beautifully smooth and playful on the creamy (rather than overtly sweet) palate and leaves a big, creamy feel in the long finish. This modern version of the grand old Ohligsberg is not for the faint-hearted, but what a complex and fascinating beauty! Now-2034

2009er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese	13 10		92+
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The 2009er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Spätlese AP 13 (the Estate produced three separate bottlings of Spätlese in 2009) was fermented down to sweet levels. It offers a rich and ripe nose of toffee, pear, almond cream, coconut, vanilla, dried herbs and spices. The wine is rather rich and big on the palate and leaves a hugely creamy feel in the long, powerful and still quite sweet finish. This Auslese (if not Auslese GK) in all but name will require quite some time to find its internal balance and finesse. This could easily exceed our high expectations as it gains in finesse at maturity. Stylistically, it will however continue to behave as a big Auslese. 2029-2049



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2009er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Auslese	15 10	92
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The 2009er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Auslese AP 15 was harvested at a full 102° Oechsle and fermented down to fully sweet levels. It offers a gorgeous nose of cassis, exotic fruits, coconut, almond cream, slate and grapefruit. The wine is quite big and still sweet on the palate but a good dollop of acidity gives the wine a great playful side. The finish is nicely long. Despite the sweetness and presence, this wine remains incredibly easy to drink. Now-2039

2009er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett	10 10	92
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The 2009er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Kabinett AP 10 was fermented down to almost sweet levels. It offers a gorgeous nose of pear, citrusy fruits, mirabelle, candied tangerine, apricot and herbs. The wine develops the beautiful creamy and multi-layered side of a Spätlese on the palate and leaves a gorgeously creamy and refined feel in the finish. The finish is superbly focused and very long. Now-2034

2009er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken GG	33 11	92
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The 2009er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Trocken GG AP 33 11 is a special cask which was fermented for over 15 months in large traditional wooden casks before being bottled in February 2011 (hence the late AP number). It offers a rather backward but quite refined nose mixing fresher elements including grapefruit, mint, herbs, spices and bergamot with some riper ones driven by camphor, pear and melon. The wine proves nicely fruity and intense on the creamy and smooth palate and leaves a broad and satisfying feel of apricot and yellow peach wrapped into some tart minerals and spices in the long finish. This is a superb dry Riesling which only starts to show its full potential. Now-2029

2009er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Grafenberg Riesling Kabinett	07 10	92
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The 2009er Piesporter Grafenberg Kabinett was fermented down to almost sweet levels. The wine offers a gorgeous nose of cassis, exotic fruits (passion fruit and mango), whipped cream and spices. It develops the full presence of a big Spätlese on the beautifully creamy palate and leaves a nice feel of herbs and creamy fruits in the long and comparatively powerful yet playful finish. This is a mighty and impressive expression of fruity-styled wine. Now-2034

2009er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Auslese	17 10	91
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The 2009er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Auslese AP 17 is driven by flinty reduction at first, before it reveals some ripe notes of juicy pineapple, almond cream, honey, candied melon and a hint of litchi. Butter cream, ripe pineapple and almond cream make for a smooth and round feel on the still quite sweet and rich palate. The finish proves intense and quite long. This wine is still on the sweet and reduced side of things and will need a few more years to find its balance. It will then please lovers of juicy, ripe and smooth Auslese. 2024-2039

2009er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken GG	03 10	91
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The 2009er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen GG AP 03 was fermented in stainless steel and bottled in the summer 2010. It offers a quite baroque and aromatic nose of peach, cassis, dried apricot, mango, herbs and spices as well as a hint of petrol. The wine proves opulent on the palate but there is still good balance as the power is well wrapped into a smooth and herbal structure. A touch heat emerges in the after-taste. This impressive dry Riesling will woe one with its imposing but gorgeously fruity presence for at least another decade. Now-2029

2009er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Kreuzwingert Riesling	35 11	91
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The 2009er Piesporter Kreuzwingert was aged for 15 months (hence the late AP number) in cask before being bottled with 17 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a rather big but gorgeous nose of cassis, pineapple, anise, herbs and fine spices. The wine is quite powerful and creamy on the palate and leaves a big feel of cream, dried herbs, toffee and pear puree in the long and intense finish. Now-2029

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Weingut Dr. Hermann

(Erden – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Dr. Hermann	Erdener Herrenberg Riesling Eiswein GK	15 10	97
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The 2009er Erdener Herrenberg Riesling Eiswein was harvested at a full 180° Oechsle. It offers a magnificently complex, ripe and toffee-driven nose made of acacia honey, beeswax, furniture polish, almond cream, candied quince, pineapple juice and earthy spices. The wine is still remarkably sweet and rich on the palate, where exotic fruits play with one's senses and mingle with honey and baked apricot. Some fine acidity joins the party in the rich and assertive long finish. This rich "BA-Eiswein"-styled dessert wine is a huge success! Now-2049



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2009er	Dr. Hermann	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Trockenbeereauslese GK		95
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The 2009er Erdener Treppchen Riesling Trockenbeereauslese was harvested at a full 230° Oechsle. This already orange-colored wine displays a tantalizing nose driven by blood orange, candied grapefruit, dried apricot, grenadine, mirabelle, date, bakery elements, minty herbs and a hint of camphor. It proves remarkably juicy on the palate. Ample syrupy and exotic fruits give this dessert wine quite some smoothness and sweetness. Honeyed flavors of almond, orange and candied citrus take the lead in the rich, intense and hugely persistent finish. This impressive ripe and juicy TBA will particularly appeal to lovers of luscious and syrupy dessert wines. Now-2059

2009er	Dr. Hermann	Erdener Prälat Riesling Auslese GK	12 10	92
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The 2009er Erdener Prälat Auslese GK develops a hugely ripe and aromatic nose of toffee, brown sugar, cinnamon, hazelnut, nutmeg and honey. The wine develops great charm on the palate as some smooth exotic fruits are wrapped into honey, toffee and apple jam. The finish is dense and full of grip but at no time forceful or powerful. This juicy yet rich Auslese GK is already aromatically well advanced and will please lovers of mature and delicately smooth dessert wine. Now-2034

2009er	Dr. Hermann	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Spätlese Herzlay GK	09 10	91
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The 2009er Erdener Treppchen Spätlese Herzlay GK offers an attractively ripe and aromatic nose including smoke, orange blossom, poached pear, tangerine, apricot and almond paste. The wine is nicely light-weighted on the palate, where some pear, orange and apple make for a smooth and direct feeling of fruits. This easy-drinking Spätlese then gains in presence and intensity in the slightly finish and leaves quite a flavor impact in the after-taste. Now-2034

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Weingut Heymann-Löwenstein

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

2009er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winniger Uhlen L Riesling Auslese lange GK	02 10	<i>Auction</i>	98
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The 2009er Winniger Uhlen L Auslese lange GK was auctioned off in 2010. This proves absolutely stunning. The wine offers a gorgeous nose made of greengage puree, baked pineapple, grapefruit and barbeque herbs. It develops the full comforting and oily presence of a BA on the rich and exotic palate. Gloriously ripe but zesty acidity brings the required tension to the mouth-watering, yet incredibly deep finish. The balance makes this almost too easy to drink. But the depth and complexity are simply stunning. What a marvelous success! Now-2049

2009er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winniger Uhlen R Riesling Beereauslese	03 10	95
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The 2009er Winniger Uhlen R BA develops a hugely aromatic and gorgeously opulent nose of spices, caramel, banana flambé, tar, plum and herbal elements, giving the wine a hint of oxidative presence. It is superbly intense and even opulent on the palate and leaves a big and still rather powerful feel in the long finish. Now-2049

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Weingut von Hövel

(Oberemmel – Saar)

2009er	von Hövel	Scharzhofberger Riesling Auslese	05 10	92
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The 2009er Scharzhofberger Auslese was harvested from the Estate's oldest vines in a sector high up the hill. This bright-white colored wine offers a beautifully filigreed nose made of white peach, lemon, chalky minerals, white flowers, smoke and some herbs. The wine is superbly light and playful on the palate and leaves a nicely fruity feel in the light and delicately long finish. A great kick of zest makes for a lively feel in the finish. This wine completely defies the vintage as it reminds us more of a 2004 (a fresh and cool vintage) than a 2009. What a beauty made in a remarkably light, almost Spätlese style! Now-2034

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Weingut Immich-Batterieberg

(Enkirch – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Immich-Batterieberg	Enkircher Batterieberg Riesling	06 10	94
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The 2009er Enkircher Batterieberg was fermented down to 14 g/l of residual sugar. This hay-colored wine develops a rather reduced and primary but incredibly enticing nose of pear, white peach, white flowers, bergamot, aniseed and barbeque herbs, whipped cream, mint and some smoky elements. The wine is still quite firm and dominated by herbs, fine spices and minerals on the nicely racy but also subtly smooth and only lightly light off-dry palate. The finish is tart and remarkably youthful. This has developed incredibly well but will still need a few years to develop its full aromatic beauty. But one thing is already clear: This is a stunner in the making! 2024-2039

2009er	Immich-Batterieberg	Enkircher Ellergrub Riesling	05 10	94
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The 2009er Enkircher Ellergrub was fermented down to 16 g/l of residual sugar. This hey-colored wine develops a beautiful nose of flint stone, candied grapefruit, pear, melon, apricot and mango, all wrapped into some delicately nutty and smoky elements of cream. The wine is gorgeously creamy and delicately zesty on the palate and leaves a superb feel of herbs and minerals in the gorgeously tart and delicately off-dry finish. The wine gains in grip and presence by the minute. This is plain gorgeous! Now-2039

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Weingut Karthäuserhof

(Eitelsbach – Trier-Ruwer)

2009er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Trocken GG	27 10	96
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The 2009er Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Trocken GG displays a gorgeously complex and fresh nose of cassis, yellow flowers, yellow peach, pear, minty herbs, Limoncello and a gorgeous touch of whipped cream. The wine is compact and intense on the palate and leaves one with a gorgeously vibrating feel in the elegant, intense and refined finish. This pure and focused expression of dry Riesling still tastes incredibly young (one would not say that this wine is 10 years old if one was served it totally blind). This is one of the finest dry Riesling having emerged from the Mosel in the 2000s and a tribute to the talent of this Estate at great dry Riesling! Now-2039

2009er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Auslese Nr. 37 GK	12 10	<i>Auction</i>	95
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The 2009er Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Auslese Nr. 37 GK was auctioned off in 2010. This offers a beautifully pure nose of melon, grapefruit, apricot and mango, all wrapped into quite some creamy and refreshingly minty elements. The wine is smooth and suave on the creamy and complex palate. Almond, honey and date underline the almost BA character of this remarkably complex beauty. A kick of zest brings the necessary balance in the hugely persistent finish. This showed much promise when young, and now handsomely delivers for whoever bought some bottles. Now-2049

2009er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Spätlese	26 10	92
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The bright-colored 2009er Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Spätlese AP 26 (there were several different bottlings made in 2009) offers a gorgeous nose of cassis, grapefruit, minty herbs, smoke and chalky minerals. The wine is beautifully airy and playful on the palate, where the fruity sweetness is nicely pepped up by a delicately tart and zesty side. The finish is playful and remarkably airy. This great Spätlese with racy lightness proves true to its style. Now-2039

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Weingut Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt

(Morscheid – Trier-Ruwer)

2009er	von Kesselstatt	Scharzhofberger Riesling Spätlese	24 10	92
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The 2009er Scharzhofberger Spätlese offers a fully ripe and rich nose of coconut cream, pineapple, almond, toffee and earthy spices as well as a hint of gooseberry and melon. Juicy, sweet and even unctuous fruits are joined by honey and almond cream on the rather rich palate and leaves a nice persistent and intense feel in the finish. This Auslese in all but name will particularly please lovers of ample, toffee-driven, fruity-styled Riesling. Now-2034

2009er	von Kesselstatt	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett	53 10	90
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The 2009er Scharzhofberger Kabinett was fermented down to 22 g/l of residual sugar. It delivers a beautiful nose of flowers, minty herbs, grapefruit, earthy spices, anise, pineapple and some vanilla infused scents. The wine develops the delicately smooth and juicy side of a Spätlese on the rich and fruity palate but proves nicely light in the long and somewhat linear finish. Now-2029

2009er	von Kesselstatt	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	53 10	90
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The 2009er Scharzhofberger Kabinett Feinherb was fermented down to 22 g/l of residual sugar. It delivers a beautiful nose of flowers, minty herbs, grapefruit, earthy spices, anise, pineapple and some vanilla infused scents. The wine develops the delicately smooth and juicy side of a Spätlese on the rich and fruity palate but proves nicely light in the long and somewhat linear finish. Now-2029

2009er	von Kesselstatt	Josephshöfer Riesling Kabinett	32 10	89
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The 2009er Josephshöfer Kabinett was fermented down to 18 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. to off-dry levels. It starts off on the ample and ripe side of things but gains in finesse with some airing. It then develops attractive notes of peach, tangerine, white mint, spices and grapefruit. The wine proves quite juicy but also still fully off-dry on the palate. It leaves a lighter, rounder and more delicate feel in the finish, even if there is a hint of earthy spices and tartness in the background. Now-2029

2009er	von Kesselstatt	Josephshöfer Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	32 10	89
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The 2009er Josephshöfer Kabinett Feinherb was fermented down to 18 g/l of residual sugar. It starts off on the ample and ripe side of things but gains in finesse with some airing. It then develops attractive notes of peach, tangerine, white mint, spices and grapefruit. The wine proves quite juicy but also still fully off-dry on the palate. It leaves a lighter, rounder and more delicate feel in the finish, even if there is a hint of earthy spices and tartness in the background. Now-2029

2009er	von Kesselstatt	Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Trocken GG	50 10	88
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The already fully golden-colored 2009er Bernkasteler Doctor GG offers a powerful and ripe nose of cooked apple, toffee, cinnamon, ginger, orange, a hint of nut and smoke as well as some coconut cream. The wine coats the palate with ample juicy and ripe fruits, tar and smoke. The finish is slightly herbal and tart, which helps to freshen up the aromatic profile. A hint of power comes through and linearizes somewhat the after-taste. This will please lovers of ostentatious, broad and ripe dry Riesling. Now

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Weingut Peter Lauer

(Ayl – Saar)

2009er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Kupp Riesling Unterstenbersch Fass 12		90
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The 2009er Ayler Kupp Unterstenbersch Fass 12 was fermented down to 19 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a gorgeous and ripe nose made of pear, licorice, almond and butter cream, anise spices, and herbs. The wine is round and delicately creamy on the palate and leaves an exotic and nicely spicy feel in the delicately intense, easy and still firmly off-dry finish, which is still nicely off-dry in taste. Now-2029



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2009er	Peter Lauer	Riesling Schonfels Fass 11		89
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The 2009er Schonfels Fass 11 is a dry-tasting Riesling which fermented down to 12 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a big nose of coconut, spices, pear, plum, honey and fine herbs. The wine is comparatively soft, round and rich on the palate and leaves an off-dry feel underlined by some creamy coconut and honeyed yellow fruits in the finish. This big expression of Riesling has more in common with Pfalz than Saar. Now-2029

Weingut Le Gallais

(Kanzem – Saar)

2009er	Le Gallais	Wiltinger braune Kupp Riesling Auslese GK	24 10	Auction	97
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The 2009er Wiltinger braune Kupp Auslese GK offers a breathtaking and telltale nose of bergamot, raisin, whipped cream, delicately exotic fruits, dried tangerine, honey, rhubarb and fine herbal elements. It proves gorgeously pure and delicately creamy on the zesty palate and leaves some true Auslese lange GK notes of pineapple, apricot, herbs and spices in the long and gorgeously refined finish. This is a grand dessert wine to enjoy over many years. Now-2049

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Weingut Schloss Lieser

(Lieser – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Schloss Lieser	Lieserer Niederberg Helden Riesling Auslese lange GK	16 10		94
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The 2009er Lieserer Niederberg Helden Auslese lange GK was harvested at approx. 130° Oechsle, i.e. technically at BA level. It offers a gorgeous fruity and still quite primary nose of pineapple, apricot, anise, cassis and white chalky elements as well as whipped cream. The wine is driven by apricot, honey and almond on the racy and fully present palate. The finish is precise, intense and long. Now-2049

2009er	Schloss Lieser	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	17 10	Auction	93
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Spätlese AP 17 (the auction bottling) was fermented down to fully sweet levels. It offers a gorgeously fresh and finely aromatic nose of lemon curd, yellow peach, rhubarb, candied grapefruit, spices and herbs. The wine has the smooth presence and power of a beautifully pure and refined Auslese on the palate, and leaves a great sweet feel in the long and delicately zesty finish. This only needs some further bottle aging to absorb its sweetness and further gain in cut and precision. This is a great pure Auslese in the making! 2024-2044

2009er	Schloss Lieser	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	11 10		93
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Spätlese AP 11 exhibits a great fruity nose including grapefruit, vineyard peach, fresh pineapple and citrus as well as some elegant flowery scents, smoke and mint. The wine offers the full presence of an Auslese on the palate. Rich and slightly honeyed fruits give the wine a smooth and juicy texture. There is quite some grip and acidity coming through in the long and refined finish. Now-2039

2009er	Schloss Lieser	Lieserer Niederberg Helden Riesling Spätlese	10 10		92
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The 2009er Lieserer Niederberg Helden Spätlese offers a refined and smoky nose of herbal spices, mint, yellow peach, candied grapefruit and a hint of mirabelle. Honeyed juicy fruits give the wine great presence on the palate. A strong kick of acidity gives grip and freshness to the earthy, spicy and lime-infused finish. This should continue to prove hugely enjoyable for at least another a decade. Now-2034

2009er	Schloss Lieser	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Kabinett	05 10		91
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer Kabinett is still slightly reductive and initially exhibits intense notes of smoke, bacon and black tea. With further airing, it delivers refined zesty notes of lime, orange blossom, white peach, anise and spices. The wine is superbly juicy and light-weighted on the intense, peach-driven and zesty palate. The nicely spicy and tart finish gives the wine true Kabinett freshness. Now-2034



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2009er	Schloss Lieser	Riesling Trocken SL	01 10	89
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The still pale-colored 2009er Riesling Trocken SL exhibits a very attractive and smoky nose of white peach, spices, dill, minty herbs and almond. The wine proves intensely zesty as well as almost painfully dry and racy on the palate and in the firm, bone-dry finish. This racy wine will please lovers of bone-dry tasting and low alcohol dry Riesling. Now-2024

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Weingut Loersch

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

The Estate was called Weingut Loersch-Eifel until the 2011 vintage.

2009er	Loersch-Eifel	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Auslese Alte Reben	05 10	92
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The 2009er Trittenheimer Apotheke Auslese Alte Reben offers a big nose of baked pineapple, apricot, honey, whipped cream and some smoked aniseed herbs. The wine is creamy on the palate, where more honeyed apricot and dried fruits add to the smoothness of the structure. The finish is long, persistent and sweet. This dessert wine should offer much pleasure for many years to come. Now-2044

2009er	Loersch-Eifel	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese	10 10	92
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The 2009er Trittenheimer Apotheke Spätlese AP 10 (the Estate produced two separate bottlings in that vintage) offers a beautifully pure yet creamy nose made of pear, grapefruit, herbs, spices and smoke. The wine is gorgeously precise and playful on the palate and leaves a truly resonating feel of grapefruit, melon, pineapple and peach in the long and delicately aniseed finish. A touch of citrusy whipped cream rounds off this superb Spätlese in the after-taste. This fruity-styled wine, which has the presence of a little Auslese, proves a great success! Now-2044

2009er	Loersch-Eifel	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett	06 10	91
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The 2009er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Kabinett offers a gorgeous nose of gooseberry, fresh pineapple, passion fruit and apricot, all wrapped into more citrusy fruits as well as some apricot. The wine is beautifully playful even if on the creamy side by Kabinett standards and leaves a gorgeously juicy and delicately fruity feel in the mouthwatering finish. A gorgeous touch of citrusy whipped cream rounds off the after-taste. This is a delicious fruity-styled Riesling made in a light Spätlese style. Now-2034

2009er	Loersch-Eifel	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese	09 10	90
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The 2009er Trittenheimer Apotheke Spätlese AP 09 (the Estate produced two separate bottlings in that vintage) offers a big and delicately creamy nose made of mirabelle, apricot, pear, petrol, aniseed herbs and fine spices. The wine proves nicely playful on the fruit-loaded palate and leaves an attractive feel of whipped cream, slate, smoke and petrol in the long and juicy finish. This is nicely made in a light clean Auslese style. Now-2039

2009er	Loersch-Eifel	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese Trocken Devon Terrassen	17 10	88
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The 2009er Trittenheimer Apotheke Spätlese Trocken Devon Terrassen comes from 70-100 year-old vines in the central part of the Trittenheimer Apotheke (Kaulsbohr and Vogelsang). This hay-colored wine offers an aromatic nose made of mirabelle, passion fruit, petrol, herbs and chalky minerals. The wine is rather big but nicely tart on the palate and leaves a delicately firm and also hot feel in the long finish. Now-2024

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Weingut Dr. Loosen

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Prälat Riesling Auslese GK	43 10	95
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The hay-golden colored 2009er Erdener Prälat Auslese GK offers a remarkably elegant nose made of fresh pineapple, coconut cream, mango, grapefruit, almond, honey and some herbs as well as a touch of whipped cream. The wine is gorgeously playful on the creamy yet nicely zesty palate. The finish is just a dream of finesse and intensity as one is left with the purest feel of fresh grapefruit, coconut, whipped cream and some delicately honeyed spices. This is a truly remarkable wine which even exceeds our early high expectations. Now-2044



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2009er	Dr. Loosen	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett	61 10	92
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Kabinett AP 61 still shows some traces of CO2 in the glass. A hint of petrol gives the finishing touches to great and refreshing scents of pear, apple, herbs, white flower and a hint of pineapple on the nose. The wine is beautifully fruity and playful on the palate, where the delicately creamy sweetness of a Spätlese intertwines with a gorgeously playful kick of ripe acidity. The finish is playful, fruity (possibly even still a touch sweet for a Kabinett) but oh so rewarding. This is a gorgeous fruity-styled wine with great precision and real Kabinett character (a rarity in the rather ripe 2009 vintage). Now-2034

2009er	Dr. Loosen	Erdener Prälat Riesling Trocken Alte Reben GG	56 10	90
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The 2009er Erdener Prälat Trocken Alte Reben GG offers a complex but rather baroque nose of grapefruit, apricot licorice, almond, apricot and slate. The wine is quite powerful on the palate, where creamy but nicely zesty fruits mingle with quite some spices and herbs. The finish is big, intense and bold, but also slightly hot (the wine does boast 13% of alcohol). The after-taste is all about herbs, spices and ripe fruits. This big wine really needs some hearty food to buffer off its power. Now-2024

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Weingut Lubentiusshof

(Mülheim – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Lubentiusshof	Gondorfer Gäns Riesling Alte Reben	04 10	90
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The 2009er Gondorfer Gäns Alte Reben was fermented down to 14 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. at off-dry levels. This golden-hay colored wine offers a big nose made of quince, mirabelle jam, almond and fine spices. The wine is quite intense and delicately creamy on the palate. A nice refreshing touch of zest paired with aniseed elements carries over into the still slightly tart and smoky finish. This wine proves hugely intense and will need hearty food to buffer off its intensity and creamy presence. Now-2029

2009er	Lubentiusshof	Gondorfer Gäns Riesling	02 10	90
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The 2009er Gondorfer Gäns was fermented down to 8 g/l of residual sugar, within limits for being legally dry. This already golden-yellow wine offers a huge nose of mango, backed pineapple, apricot and some fine elements of herbs and smoke. The wine is rather big and imposing on the palate, much in a style followed by their quasi-neighbor Heymann-Löwenstein back then. A nice streak of acidity paired with aniseed herbs brings some focus and balance to the finish. The after-taste is quite intense and only flirts with heat (despite a whopping 13.5% of alcohol). Lovers of ostentatious expression of dry Riesling will really love this engaging effort. It is a truly nice wine in its style! Now-2024

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Weingut Alfred Merkelbach

(Ürziger – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Alfred Merkelbach	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Auslese	14 10	Auction	94
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The 2009er Ürziger Würzgarten Auslese AP 14 was auctioned off in 2010. This bright hay-colored wine offers a gorgeous nose of pear, citrusy fruits, aniseed herbs and smoke. It is delicately creamy and not overly sweet on the elegant and playful palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of creamy pear, grapefruit and herbs in the long and incredibly pure finish. The freshness, elegance and lightness are simply remarkable, especially for such a ripe vintage as 2009! This is an ode to the greatness of Mosel Auslese! Now-2029

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Weingut Markus Molitor

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

NB: The Estate 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. As of the change of label introduced with the 2017 vintage, this color code is also relayed via a little square with the corresponding color at the bottom and in the middle of the front label. In addition there is some wording on the back label but without any firm indication such as Trocken or Feinherb. In order to avoid any confusion as to the wine's style, we indicate the color of the capsule in parentheses in the description of each wine.

2009er	Markus Molitor	Niedermenniger Herrenberg Riesling Spätlese (Golden Capsule)	16 10	93
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The 2009er Niedermenniger Herrenberg Spätlese (Golden Capsule) still hints at SO2 upon opening the bottle. These scents quickly give way to most beautiful notes of yellow flowers, smoke, poached pear, aniseed herbs, black tea and cassis leaf. The wine proves superbly well balanced on the palate, where whipped cream and sappy yellow peach interplay with zesty fruits. The finish proves hugely persistent and beautifully precise finish. This ticks all the Spätlese boxes as it manages to remain light and airy in this comparatively warm vintage. This great success has aged beautifully well and will offer much pleasure for decades to come. Now-2039

2009er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese ** (Golden Capsule)	27 10	91+
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The 2009er Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Auslese ** (Golden Capsule) is still really only work in progress as it is reductive and marked by SO2. It requires several days of airing before starting to reveal a truly impressive nose made of white flowers, guava, melon, apricot, tangerine and spices. The wine proves also quite reductive on the palate where the smoky side still dominates at this stage. The finish is intense, very long and lives from a beautiful tension between sweet, creamy and tart elements. This impressive effort is really best left alone for another decade (if not more) but the potential is huge, once it will shed off its wall of sulfur. 2029-2039+

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Weingut Mönchhof

(Ürzig – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Mönchhof	Erdener Prälat Riesling Auslese	11 10	93
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The 2009er Erdener Prälat Auslese AP 11 is a small special bottling of botrytized fruit harvested at a full 118° Oechsle. This offers a gorgeously fresh and even backward nose made of white peach, grapefruit, almond, herbs and spices. The wine is stunningly playful on the fresh and yet gorgeously creamy palate, where honeyed elements mingle with pineapple and pear. A kick of acidity brings focus to the finish. This is a gorgeously vibrant and utterly drinkable expression of Auslese GK! Now-2044

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Weingut Egon Müller zu Scharzhof

(Wiltingen – Saar)

2009er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Spätlese	19 10	Auction	94
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The 2009er Scharzhofberger Spätlese AP 19 was auctioned off at the annual Trier Auction in 2010. This bright-colored wine offers a gorgeous nose of pineapple, passion fruit, mango, quince, Provence herbs, black currant and whipped almond cream. The botrytis impact of the wine becomes quite noticeable on the palate, where apricot and honeyed elements join the remarkably zesty and fresh flavors of fruits. Vivid acidity structures the finish and gives it focus and great energy. This remarkably unevolved and still quite tart-sweet wine will need (at least) another decade to develop its charm. 2029-2049



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2009er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett Alte Reben	16 10	Auction	93
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The 2009er Scharzhofberger Kabinett Alte Reben was auctioned off in 2010. This bright-colored wine is completely reduced and only offers feeble and unsettling scents of mirabelle, rhubarb, candy floss and a hint of petrol. It proves surprisingly direct and linear on the palate and in the finish. It is only after extensive airing (extensive as in days if not weeks) that the wine starts to come together. It then reveals telltale scents of white peach, flowers and a tactile feel of cream and vivid zest on the palate. This will need well over a decade to develop aromatically and we strongly recommend that you do not touch any of your bottles for at least another decade, or plan to open it a few days in advance. 2034-2049

2009er	Egon Müller	Riesling Scharzhof	01 10		90
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The 2009er Scharzhof is made from Estate holdings in the Saarburger Rausch, Wawerner Ritterpfad, Wiltinger Braunfels, Wiltinger Kupp and Wiltinger Rosenberg. It delivers a beautifully refreshing and still very youthful nose of minty herbs (thyme, rosemary, and tarragon), cassis, dried white flowers, grapefruit zest and smoke. The wine brings a lot of energy and intensity on the pure and intensely zesty palate. Powerful notes of lime, grapefruit and green herbs reinforce the fully dry-tasting feel in the long and persistent finish. This combination of dry precision and intensity makes it very hard to resist this wine! Now-2029

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Weingut Martin Müllen

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Letterlay Riesling Auslese Häsje	13 10		93
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The 2009er Kröver Letterlay Auslese Häsje was harvested at a rather full 112° Oechsle in this prime sector on red slate of the Letterlay vineyard. The wine offers a gorgeous nose of pear, coconut, chalky minerals, whipped cream and smoke. It is beautifully playful even if big on the palate but leaves an impressively racy feel of minerals and spices in the long and juicy finish. The wine is already quite juicy but also still on the sweet side on the palate and hence best left alone for another few years. 2024-2044

2009er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken *	22 10		91
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The 2009er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Spätlese Trocken * was harvested very late from the very old vines situated on the 1st and 2nd terraces. This golden-colored wine offers a gorgeous nose of petrol, aniseed herbs, fine spices and herbs. It is nicely playful on the palate, where some licorice and power are balanced out by some fresher elements in the finish. Now-2029

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Weingut von Othegraven

(Kanzem – Saar)

2009er	von Othegraven	Kanzemer Altenberg Riesling Auslese Alte Reben	04 10		94
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The 2009er Kanzemer Altenberg Auslese Alte Reben offers a gorgeous nose of Pina Colada, greengage, cassis, grapefruit, smoke and herbs. The wine develops the full joyful presence of an Auslese GK on the palate. Here, apricot, almond and honey bring richness and depth to the exotic flavors. The finish is lively, intense and hugely long. This is a great dessert wine to enjoy over many more years. Now-2049

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Weingut Joh. Jos. Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese GK	18 10	93+
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese GK AP 18 proves rather delicate on the nose as it unfolds subtle scents of pear, melon, lemon peel, almond cream, coconut and some dried herbs. The wine is delicately creamy yet zesty on the palate and leaves a gorgeously engaging sense of almond, whipped cream, pear and citrusy fruits in the medium-long and slightly powerful finish. This work in progress still needs quite some cellaring to develop and integrate aromatically. The wine could then even exceed our high expectations. 2029-2059

2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Spätlese	04 16	93
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The 2009er Graacher Himmelreich Spätlese AP 04 16 was left in cask until it was bottled and released commercially in 2016 (hence the late AP number). This bright-colored wine offers a gorgeous nose of citrusy fruits, bergamot, whipped cream, and fine flowery elements. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate and leaves a gorgeous fresh feel of honey, apricot and white peach in the mouthwateringly juicy finish. This is plain gorgeous. Now-2034

2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	28 10	93
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese AP 28 offers a gorgeous nose of white peach, pear, bergamot, apricot blossom, raspberry spirit, violet and white flowers. The wine is beautifully playful and light-footed on the palate, where a touch of creamy sweetness is not yet fully balanced out by minerals and zesty acidity. But no need to worry, this gorgeous wine only needs a few more years of bottle aging to develop its full delicately-Auslese styled balance and presence. 2024-2039

2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	05 11	92+
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese AP 05 11 was fermented down to fully sweet levels. This incredibly bright-colored wine offers a restrained and even comparatively closed nose of pear, white flowers, yellow peach, almond and apricot as well as earthy elements from reduction. The wine is nicely playful and smooth on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of apricot and fine herbs in the long and round finish. This needs another decade to fully shine and could even then exceed our high expectations. 2029-2049

2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese	06 11	92
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The 2009er Graacher Himmelreich Auslese AP 06 11 was fermented down to fully sweet levels. This incredibly bright-colored wine offers a rather restrained yet playful nose of pear, apricot, caramel, spices and herbs as well as residues from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine is incredibly fresh and delicate and leaves a long and intense feel of ripe fruits and flowery elements. It proves delicately ripe yet incredibly light-weighted and appealing. 2024-2044

2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	30 10	91+
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese AP 30 proves bright-colored and offers a rich and smooth nose of candy floss and mirabelle as well as pear, grapefruit zest, melon, barbeque herbs (from reduction), honey and whipped cream. The wine is still completely dominated by its sweetness on the palate, which makes the flavors come over as simple and direct at this stage. This needs another few years to absorb this sweetness and gain in finesse, and could ultimately exceed our high expectations. 2029-2044

2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett	29 10	90
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Kabinett AP 29 proves remarkably bright-colored and underlines this with an attractive fresh nose of white peach, anise, apple, pear and fine herbs. The wine is rather smooth and gorgeously light-weighted on the palate, where ripe barbeque herbs and pear mingle with racy acidity and a touch of beeswax. The finish is long even if rather linear and nicely easy to enjoy. This is one of the few real Kabinett produced in the vintage. Now-2034

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Weingut S.A. Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2009er	S.A. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trockenbeereauslese Fass 59	17 10	Auction	95
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trockenbeereauslese Fass 59 was auctioned off in 2011 (the Fass indication is provided on the back label). This bronze-colored wine develops a gorgeous and remarkably pure nose of dried fruits (including apricot, pineapple, mango and pear) mingling with gorgeously honeyed elements. The purest scents of almond add to the classy yet remarkably elegant side of this wine. The finish is ethereal, elegant and refined. This is a remarkably intense and still rather sweet TBA in the making which nevertheless manages to remain on the elegant side of things. This will be a cracker in a decade, once it will have absorbed more of its sweetness. 2029-2059

2009er	S.A. Prüm	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Auslese Fass 33	21 10	Auction	93
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The 2009er Graacher Domprobst Auslese Fass 33 was auctioned off in 2010 (the Fass indication is provided on the back label). This dark-golden colored wine offers a slightly oxidative nose somewhat reminiscent of some Loire wines with quince, mirabelle, licorice, baked mango, honey and flint stone. The wine is nicely playful and delicately creamy on the palate. It leaves a gorgeously smooth and complex feel of fruits, almond, licorice and spices in the long and delicately tickly finish. This beautiful dessert wine plays on complexity rather than overt fruitiness. Now-2039

2009er	S.A. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Eiswein Fass 69	15 10	Auction	93
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The 2009er Graacher Himmelreich Eiswein Fass 69 was auctioned off in 2011 (the Fass indication is provided on the back label). This golden-colored wine develops a hugely complex nose of date, raisin, honey, licorice, barbeque herbs, smoke and spices. The wine is quite focused and precise on the palate, where a gorgeously creamy feel of honeyed dried fruits mingles with a nicely ripe touch of acidity. The finish is pure, precise and very long. This is a gorgeous dessert wine in the making where the Eiswein touch is not overly dominating the structure. Now-2049

2009er	S.A. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	08 10		91
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese AP 08 offers a gorgeous nose of cassis, raspberry, pear, white peach and spices. The wine develops the creamy sweetness but also the lively zesty side of a big Spätlese if not clean Auslese on the palate. Here, some more classic flavors of Wehlener Sonnenuhr (white flowers, ripe apple and peach) emerge and make for a juicy feel in the finish, and this despite the fact that the wine is still on the sweet side, and thus will best be waited for another couple of years. This may break all norms for Kabinett but it is a truly beautiful and engaging Spätlese in the making! 2024-2039

2009er	S.A. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett Trocken	06 10		88
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Kabinett Trocken proves still nicely bright-colored and quite reduced at first. The wine then gradually develops a nose made of pear, mirabelle, petrol and smoke on the nose. The wine is rather firm and delicately structured on the palate but turns slightly creamier towards the smooth finish. A kick of acidity rounds off the nice, direct and fresh flavors. This is nicely done in an easy-to-understand direct and very food-friendly style. Now-2029

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Weingut Johann Peter Reinert

(Oberemmel – Saar)

2009er	Johann Peter Reinert	Wiltinger Schlangengraben Riesling Auslese	23 10	Auction	93
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The 2009er Wiltinger Schlangengraben Auslese was auctioned off in 2010. This bright colored wine offers a gorgeous nose of exotic fruit sorbet (grapefruit, pineapple, and passion fruit), apricot, smoke and whipped cream. The wine is gorgeously vibrant on the juicy and playful palate. More honeyed flavors emerge in the finish, which underline the Auslese GK character of this wine. However, the wine remains true to the style of the Estate and brings forward drinking pleasure over saturating intensity. The finish is nicely saline, zesty and creamy. This gorgeous Auslese should prove enjoyable for many more years. Now-2034



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2009er	Johann Peter Reinert	Ayler Kupp Riesling Spätlese Alte Reben	21 10	Auction	90
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The 2009er Ayler Kupp Spätlese Alte Reben is bottled under VinoLok and was auctioned off in 2010. It delivers an attractive even if ripe nose of almond cream, potpourri, Conference pear, apple and spices, as well as some nuances of passion fruit and apricot. Some minty herbs develop with further airing and add freshness. The wine coats the palate with juicy and creamy fruits elegantly wrapped into zest and spices. The finish is delicately smooth and long. This wine combines the ripe flavor profile is that of an Auslese with the great mid-palate lightness which has made the success of this Estate over the decades. Now-2034

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Weingut Max Ferd. Richter

(Mülheim – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Mülheimer Helenenkloster Riesling Eiswein ** Fass 48	19 10		95
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The Mülheimer Helenenkloster Riesling Eiswein ** Fass 48 was harvested at 165° Oechsle on December 17, i.e. on the first of two mornings of deep frost. A hint of volatile gives way to opulent BA-styled notes of pineapple, apricot, date and ginger cake as well as some grapefruit and quince. The wine is superbly playful and pure on the palate where the juicy and fruity side is well wrapped into candied citrusy fruits. The after-taste is hugely long, layered but still comparatively sweet. This "BA-Eiswein" styled dessert wine still needs another couple of years to fully blossom. 2024-2049

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trockenbeereauslese	15 10		95
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This 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr TBA was harvested at approx. 215° Oechsle. It delivers an open, aromatic and complex nose of orange marmalade, Christmas spices, gingerbread, cherry, date and spices, all wrapped into a hint of volatile acidity. The wine proves superbly juicy even if slightly oily on the intense and multi-layered palate. A great kick of lively acidity brings freshness and playfulness to this finish of this overall thick and rich TBA. While already approachable now, this massive dessert wine will only reveal its true colors in a decade (if not more). 2029-2059

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trockenbeereauslese	18 10		94
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr TBA was harvested at approx. 200° Oechsle. It offers a rich and baroque nose driven by quince jelly, honey, rhubarb, almond paste and smoke as well as some oxidative and volatile elements. The wine proves hugely concentrated and intense on the otherwise pure, fruity and intensely juicy palate. The ripeness of the acidity reinforces the feel of sweetness right into the opulent and powerful finish. This mighty TBA will particularly please lovers of opulent and sweet dessert wines. Now-2049

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	07 10		93
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Auslese offers quite ripe and aromatic notes including of pear, yellow peach, apricot flower, star fruit and anise. The wine proves linear, straight and dynamic on the superbly juicy palate and leaves a gorgeously delineated feel underpinned by some rich yellow and honeyed fruits in the refined finish. The sweetness nicely interplays with the slightly richer side of the wine (it shows 9% of alcohol) in the after-taste. This is plain delicious. Now-2034

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese ** Fass 64	08 10		92
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Spätlese ** Fass 64 offers a quite baroque and delicately oxidative nose made of honeyed peach, tar, licorice, cherry and mango as well as a touch of toffee. The wine is still rich and sweet on the palate yet this sweetness is well wrapped into the rather opulent and powerful structure. This clearly plays into Auslese territory and will please lovers of rich yet light dessert wines, once it will have reached maturity (in a few years). 2024-2039

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Veldenzer Elisenberg Riesling Kabinett	36 10		92
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The 2009er Veldenzer Elisenberg Kabinett is the only wine produced by the Estate out of this vineyard in 2009. It delivers a beautifully elegant nose of white flowers, green herbs, lead pencil, smoke and spices. The wine is superbly creamy, light and elegant even if still quite sweet on the palate. The fruits are nicely fresh and not overripe, which makes the wine remain stylistically a Kabinett. A superb acidity kick of acidity livens up the very long, zesty and linear finish. This beautiful wine will offer much pleasure several more decades. Now-2039



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2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	22 10	92
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese is still quite reductive and marked by sulfur. It only gradually reveals its beautiful fruity nose of orange, yellow peach, apricot, smoke and flowery elements. The wine coats the palate with ripe and juicy yellow fruits as well as some honeyed flavors of exotic fruits. The finish is very long and still a touch sweet. This really needs another 5 (if not 10) years to fully blossom. 2024-2049

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Spätlese	21 10	91
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The 2009er Graacher Himmelreich Spätlese still proves somewhat reductive and only gradually reveals its attractive nose of smoke, yellow peach, star fruit, tangerine and fine spices. The wine proves superbly complex on the round and delicate palate. The finish is smooth, light and comparatively easy-going. This superb and quite easy-drinking Spätlese will offer much pleasure for many more years. Now-2034

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Kabinett	09 10	90
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer Kabinett shows the opulent side of the vintage as the nose is driven by quite some ripe fruits as well as an exotic touch including mango, papaya and pineapple. This gives the wine a real Spätlese character, something which is underlined by the creamy almond and a touch of toffee on the otherwise smooth and juicy palate. A nice touch acidity adds depth to this finish. Now-2034

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese Feinherb	28 10	90
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The 2009er Graacher Domprobst Spätlese Feinherb was fermented down to 20 g/l of residual sugar. It proves still slightly reductive and is all about minerals and smoke on the nose. Some white mint, green herbs and laurel join the party after extensive airing. The wine is comparatively linear and very light on the palate but gradually gains in presence and depth towards the long, focused and already dry-tasting yet opulent finish. Now-2029

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Mülheimer Sonnenlay Riesling Spätlese Feinherb	24 10	90
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The 2009er Mülheimer Sonnenlay Spätlese Feinherb was fermented down to 23 g/l of residual sugar. It delivers a refined set of aromatics including yellow peach, pineapple, a hint of vanilla, ripe grapefruit and smoke. The presence and intensity on the palate is nicely balanced out by a tickly acidity which brings freshness and zest right into the delicately powerful but nicely focused finish. The after-taste of this great off-dry Riesling is all about smoke and grapefruit zest. Now-2029

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese Trocken	12 10	88
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The 2009er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Spätlese Trocken shows an attractive nose reminiscent of some fine Burgundy, as yellow peach, vanilla, honeysuckle, pink grapefruit and some flowery elements emerge from the glass. It proves slightly creamy, quite juicy and offers a good mineral backbone on the palate. The finish is quite straight and slightly forceful, and shows some astringency as well as some phenolic presence. Now-2029

2009er	Max Ferd. Richter	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	14 10	88
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Kabinett Feinherb was fermented down to 22 g/l of residual sugar. It offers an opulent, ripe and aromatic nose of almond cream, pineapple, yellow peach and whipped cream. Juicy fruits and almond cream add to the smoothness and sweetness on the delicately creamy palate. The finish is light, playful and juicy and driven by almond cream, toffee and peach. This off-dry Kabinett proves delicious in its direct, quite ripe and easy-going style. Now-2029

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Weingut Willi Schaefer

(Graach – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Beerenauslese	17 10	96
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The 2009er Graacher Domprobst BA was harvested at a rather moderate 135° Oechsle. The wine is gorgeously airy and elegant on the nose as notes of candied pineapple, mango, passion fruit, tangerine and apricot show quite some purity and refinement. It leaves a stunning feel of marzipan and raisin on the palate and the long finish. The precision and airiness are simply staggering for such a high-end sweet wine. It proves a beautiful "drinking BA" in the making. Now-2044



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2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese	04 10	Auction	96
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The 2009er Graacher Domprobst Spätlese AP 04 (the auction bottling) was made from fruit harvested in the prime Gerdsgrub and was fermented down to sweet levels (70 g/l of residual sugar). This beauty offers a magnificently complex and pure nose of cassis, lemon peel, tangerine, herbs and a touch of whipped cream and smoke. This breathtaking wine is immensely complex, multi-layered and refined on the palate, where a gorgeous kick of acidity brings a lively side to the wine. The finish is endless, with more layers upon layers of fine fruit. Zesty acidity complements the airy, precise and intense after-taste. What a wine! 2024-2039

2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Auslese	07 10	Auction	95+
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The 2009er Graacher Domprobst Auslese AP 07 (the auction bottling) was harvested in the prime Fergert sector of the vineyard. It offers an absolutely gorgeous, attractive and superbly subtle nose of herbs, marzipan, mango, camphor, apricot, spices and herbs. The wine is incredibly playful and elegant on the palate and leaves a stunning feel of marzipan in the finish. This is a cracking Auslese, which could well develop even more depth as it further matures. 2024-2049

2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese	09 10		93
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The 2009er Graacher Himmelreich Auslese includes some botrytized fruit. This offers a beautiful nose of baked pineapple, grapefruit, caraway, licorice, beeswax and smoke. The wine is delicately creamy on the palate, where licorice mingles with fresher flavors including mirabelle, grapefruit and apricot. The finish is nicely vibrant, creamy and hugely persistent. This is a classy and pure "Auslese GK" styled wine. Now-2044

2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Kabinett	03 10		92
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The 2009er Graacher Domprobst Kabinett offers a rather restrained nose made of smoky slate, white peach, herbs and fine spices as well as just a hint of petrol. The wine is gorgeously playful and zesty on the palate, where a hint of whipped cream provides the right buffer for the firm acidity. The finish is delicately creamy and loaded with white peach and some fine spices. The after-taste is beautifully tart and focused. This gorgeous wine remains still remarkably "Kabinett" style despite the warmth of the 2009 vintage. Now-2034

2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Auslese	11 10		92
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The 2009er Graacher Domprobst Auslese AP 11 was the smaller of the two regular Auslese produced in this vintage and comes from clean ripe fruit selected in the Nikolausley. This bright-colored wine offers a ripe but very pure and precise nose of mirabelle, candied lemon, earthy spices and whipped cream. A gorgeous touch of ripe acidity lifts up the ripe, creamy and pear-infused side on the suave, delicately racy and deep palate. Almond, earthy spices and some herbs round off the aromatic profile of this ripe Auslese in the finish. Now-2039

2009er	Willi Schaefer	Riesling	01 10		92
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The 2009er Riesling comes from Estate holdings in the Graacher Domprobst and Himmelreich, and was fermented down to fully fruity levels. This wine opens up to an absolutely gorgeous nose made of pear, white peach, herbs, a hint of spices, some minerals and a dash of smoke. It is brilliantly light on the fresh and playfully fruity palate and leaves a superb feel of minerals, grapefruit, peach, lemon peel and ripe pear in the spicy finish. This wine, which showed already incredibly well young, completely defies the "humble Estate wine" category. It has to be one of the greatest Estate wines ever produced. Now-2029

2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese	10 10		91
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The 2009er Graacher Domprobst Spätlese AP 10 (the Estate produced three separate bottlings of Domprobst Spätlese in 2009) comes from selections in the prime Nikolausley sector of the vineyard. It develops a gorgeous nose where white peach, mango, apricot blossom, pear, earthy spices and smoky elements make for a great and complex tension between fresher and riper scents. The wine is nicely playful and light-bodied on the palate. Riper scents of pear, caraway and almond give way to a delicately zesty feel in the smooth and beautifully balanced finish. This is a nicely light expression of 2009 Spätlese. Now-2034

2009er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Trocken GG	14 10		91
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The 2009er Graacher Himmelreich GG proves incredibly youthful and unevolved as it only reveals discreet yet complex notes of grapefruit, cassis, pear, peach, jasmine and some earthy herbs on the nose. The wine develops the racy and airy lightness of a great Kabinett on the palate and leaves a superb long feel of racy fruits, gooseberry, white pepper and slate in the finish. This is a superb wine and an ode to dry Mosel elegance and lightness even if it does not have the mid-palate presence and body usually currently found in GG bottlings. Now-2034

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Weingut von Schubert – Maximin Grünhaus

(Mertesdorf – Ruwer)

2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Eiswein	29 10	97
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The 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Eiswein was harvested at a full 170° Oechsle on December 19, 2009. It woes one with its gorgeous and rich nose of marzipan, pear, whipped cream, dried herbs and spices. The wine proves superbly smooth and suave for an Eiswein on the palate. It is only in the finish that a gorgeous kick of acidity whips up the delicately BA-styled flavors. This is a gorgeous dessert wine to enjoy over many decades. Now-2059

2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Auslese Nr. 149	26 10	95
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The 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Auslese Nr. 149 is still remarkably backward and only gradually reveals a pungent nose of cassis, smoke, pear and some minty herbs. The presence on the palate is intense yet still almost undeveloped. The finish is hugely zesty, lively and driven by great scents of cassis and flint stone. This is a cracker of an Auslese in the making, but one which will test the patience of its happy owners. 2024-2044

2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Auslese	40 10	94
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The 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Auslese AP 40 offers a gorgeous nose of white peach, apple, grapefruit, mint and herbs. The wine proves gorgeously lively and pure on the palate, where more grapefruit, cassis and fine herbs add to the freshness and purity of the wine. A touch of creaminess rounds off the zesty and very long finish. This is an admirable fruity-styled wine in the making with great pure Auslese character. Now-2044

2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Spätlese	41 10	94
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The 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Spätlese AP 41 was fermented down to fully fruity-styled levels. It offers a beautifully restrained yet highly complex and above all fresh nose of cassis, pear, citronella, candied grapefruit, yellow flowers, herbs, and spices as well as a hint of honey and some bakery elements. The wine is still quite structured and intense on the palate but makes up for this by leaving a beautiful feel of cream, cassis and herbs in the delicate and fresh finish. This still needs a good couple of years to show its full complexity, and it is a great success of elegance and playfulness in this rather rich vintage. 2024-2039

2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Bruderberg Riesling Auslese Jungferwein	32 10	93
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The 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Bruderberg Auslese Jungferwein is the maiden wine from a parcel replanted in this vineyard. It was fermented down to full sweet levels. It offers a gorgeous nose of cassis, lemon curd, passion fruit, bergamot, licorice and slate. The wine is delicately intense and gorgeously playful on the palate. The finish is all about licorice, slate and mirabelle as well as lemony elements. Now-2039

2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Superior	21 10	93
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The 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Superior was fermented down to approx. 20 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a gorgeous nose of cassis, gooseberry, minty herbs, vineyard peach, anise, smoke and spices. The wine is beautifully elegant and delicately structured. There is still a hint of residual sugar which adds some depth and presence, leading to an outstandingly long finish. The wine is still somewhat direct and spicy and will gain from a few more years of bottle aging. This is a great rendition of off-dry Riesling! 2024-2039

2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	13 10	92
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The 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Kabinett AP 13 offers a remarkably focused nose made of white peach, pear, lemon zest, smoke and herbs. The wine starts off on the fresher side on the palate where gorgeously zesty and playful elements play with one's senses, before a creamy texture gives the wine the presence of a Spätlese. The finish is gorgeously lively, juicy and vibrant. A kick of tart fruits and minerals rounds off the mouth-watering after-taste. This gorgeous fruity-styled wine defies the ripeness of the 2009 vintage and offers great zesty pleasure. Now-2034

2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Superior	22 10	92
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The 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Superior was fermented down to approx. 20 g/l of residual sugar. This offers a gorgeous even if slightly big nose of pear, guava, passion fruit, minty herbs and fine spices. The wine is gorgeously playful on the smooth (rather than sweet) palate and leaves a nice feel of mint, chalky minerals and pear in the long finish. This is a gorgeous off-dry wine to enjoy over the coming decades. Now-2039



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2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett	24 10	91
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The 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Kabinett AP 24 offers a gorgeous nose of mirabelle, yellow peach, greengage, minty herbs and a hint of smoke. The sweetness on the palate gives the wine some Spätlese presence but a beautiful kick of acidity lifts up the comparatively fresh flavors in the long and nicely tart finish. A hint of smoke and petrol emerges in the after-taste and remind one that this wine comes from a warm vintage. This is a gorgeous expression of fruity-styled Riesling, just slightly bigger than the Kabinett designation on the label. It is nevertheless thoroughly enjoyable. Now-2034

2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett	49 10	90+
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The 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Kabinett AP 49 was fermented down to fully fruity-styled levels. It offers a big yet inviting nose of petrol, pineapple, tangerine, honey, cassis, herbs and spices. The wine is rather powerful and intensely fruity and creamy yet playful and animating on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of herbs in the finish. This wine carries the presence of a Spätlese and still proves slightly squared and unfinished. We would leave our bottles to benefit from a few more years of bottle aging, and this could well surprise us if it further gains in finesse with time. 2024-2039

2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Trocken Alte Reben	18 10	90
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The hay-colored 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Trocken Alte Reben develops a beautiful and delicately ripe nose of pear, mirabelle, dried herbs and fine spices. The wine is delicately smooth and ripe on the palate and leaves a juicy feel of pear, herbs and fine spices in the slightly powerful but hugely satisfying finish. Now-2024

2009er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Trocken Alte Reben	35 10	90
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The 2009er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Trocken Alte Reben AP 35 proves light-colored and still proves rather reduced at first. Residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation only gradually give way to notes of pear, apricot, almond, pineapple and a hint of petrol on the nose. The wine proves precise but also rather intense on the palate and leaves a delicately fiery yet precise feel of slate and ripe fruits in the powerful finish. A touch of tartness and even heat and power in the after-taste still needs to mellow away. This still needs a couple of years to fully deliver. 2022-2034

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Weingut Selbach-Oster

(Zeltingen – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Selbach-Oster	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Auslese	06 10	94
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The 2009er Graacher Domprobst Auslese offers a superb nose made of grapefruit puree, baked pineapple, citrusy elements, almond and smoky herbs. The wine is stunningly vibrant on the smooth and creamy palate, where exotic fruits play with a zesty touch of acidity. The finish is pure, long and gorgeously multi-layered. This is a superb dessert wine to enjoy over many more years. Now-2044

2009er	Selbach-Oster	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese	16 10	92
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The 2009er Graacher Domprobst Spätlese offers a stunningly pure nose of whipped cream, melon, pineapple, grapefruit and herbal elements. The wine is still full-on sweet on the otherwise remarkably complex and deep palate. This has all the presence and creaminess of an Auslese right into the gorgeously pure and ethereal creamy feel of pineapple, coconut, white peach and pear in the long and lingering finish. The acidity is ripe, which adds to the almost dessert-wine character of this still fruity-styled wine made in a clean Auslese style. We would wait another few years before opening another bottle, so that the sweetness is better integrated. 2024-2039

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Weingut Später-Veit

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Später-Veit	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett	08 10	90
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The 2009er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Kabinett offers a nicely attractive and subtle nose of yellow flowers, red apple, yellow peach, Conference pear and minty herbs. A creamy texture gives the wine Spätlese presence on the ripe palate. Quite some zesty fruits give freshness, liveliness and grip to the finish of this almost off-dry tasting Kabinett. This is quite an impressive effort which proves both aromatically rich but also racy and energetic. Now-2029

2009er	Später-Veit	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese Jupp	10 10	90
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The 2009er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Spätlese Jupp offers a rich, opulent and ripe nose including notes of toffee, honey, almond cream, pineapple, nutmeg and cinnamon. The wine proves quite opulent on the palate where quite some sweet and ripe fruits are wrapped into honey and almond cream. This all leads to a juicy yet fruity feel in the overall linear finish. This will particularly please lovers of ripe and aromatically intense Spätlese. Now-2029

2009er	Später-Veit	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese Feinherb	05 10	86
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The 2009er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Spätlese Feinherb exhibits an almost exuberant nose of toffee, almond cream, licorice, fennel and dried apricot, all wrapped into some petrol. Ripe yellow fruits are balanced out by zestier elements on the delicately sweet and toffee-infused palate. An intense and powerful zesty acidity brings freshness as well as an almost dry feel in the long and rather linear finish. Now

2009er	Später-Veit	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese Trocken	06 10	85
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The yellow-golden colored 2009er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Spätlese Trocken offers a ripe and mature nose of toffee, nut, candied grapefruit, almond cream, ginger spices and hay, as well as tar and acacia with airing. Spices and zesty fruits make for an intense and almost powerful feel on the otherwise surprisingly light-bodied palate. The finish is tart, drying and remarkably zesty. This will please lovers of mature dry Riesling which offers both power and fiery zest. Now

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Weingut Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch (Erben Thanisch)

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Bernkasteler Lay Riesling Kabinett	09 10	92
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The 2009er Bernkasteler Lay Kabinett was fermented down to fruity-styled levels. It offers a delicate and beautifully fresh nose made of pear, lemon peel, petrol, chalky minerals, white flowers, spices and herbs. The wine develops a light but gorgeously playful Kabinett feel on the palate and leaves an animating feel of minerals, zest and fine herbal elements in the mouth-watering finish. This wine proves light and remarkably easy to drink, yet has the sheer complexity and length of a truly great wine. Now-2039

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Weingut Vollenweider

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Beerenauslese	07 10	96
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The 2009er Wolfer Goldgrube Beerenauslese, harvested at approx. 160° Oechsle, is already golden-orange in color and exhibits a mature and rich nose of apple jelly, beeswax, nut paste, marzipan, baked spices and raisin, among others, all lifted up by a hint of volatile acidity. The wine proves unctuous and slightly oily on the palate. Honey, acacia, apricot and orange marmalade bring depth and intensity to this dessert wine. A juicier and racier side underpinned by exotic fruits comes through and peps up the long and intense finish. This impressive "little" TBA proves so easy to drink despite its intense and multi-layered complexity. Now-2039



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2009er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Spätlese GK	04 10	93
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The 2009er Wolfer Goldgrube Spätlese GK has developed into a beautiful wine as its nose combines some of the richer and exotic elements of the vintage (pineapple, mango and guava) with some refreshing notes of citrus, tangerine and minty herbs. The wine proves utterly well balanced on the palate, where the Auslese-styled richness is attractively packed into zest and tension. This fruity-styled Riesling is a great example of richness packed into finesse and freshness. Now-2039

2009er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Auslese	05 10	92
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The 2009er Wolfer Goldgrube Auslese develops quite an aromatic and direct nose of poached pear, rhubarb, quince, passion fruit, orange blossom, whipped almond cream and aniseed herbs. The wine is still quite sweet and fruity on the palate and leaves a satisfyingly long feel in the creamy finish. This will particularly please lovers of noble sweet Riesling with a rounder feel of acid. Now-2034

2009er	Vollenweider	Riesling Schimbock	13 11	91
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The 2009er Schimbock comes mainly from 45 year-old un-grafted vines in a similarly-named sector of the Trabener Würzgarten situated in the continuation of the Wolfer Goldgrube and aged in traditional cask until February 2011 before being bottled (hence the late AP Number). It was fermented down to 19 g/l of residual sugar. The delivers a beautifully refined nose where whipped almond cream, dried yellow flowers blend with a hint of toffee, chamomile, yellow peach and ginger driven spices. The wine coats the palate with nice creamy fruit and leaves a great sense of tension, zest and purity in the finish. Plenty of spices coupled to tartness, smoke and a hint of petrol make for a beautifully dry feel in the after-taste. Now-2029

2009er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Spätlese	03 10	90
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The 2009er Wolfer Goldgrube Spätlese AP 3 (the Estate produced two different bottlings of Wolfer Goldgrube Spätlese in 2009) only completed its fermentation late, but was bottled in April 2010 as the other Spätlese. It offers a superbly refined and delicate nose of anise, cinnamon, smoke, yellow peach, almond cream and candied grapefruit. The wine exhibits the full richness of an Auslese on (the palate. Ripe fruits and quite some almond cream make for a smooth, slightly sweet and medium long feel in the round and supple finish. Now-2039

2009er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Trocken	12 10	87
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The 2009er Wolfer Goldgrube Trocken offers a direct, fresh and opulent nose of citrus, smoke, grapefruit, earthy spices and herbs as well as a hint of petrol. The wine proves powerful and intense on the palate (the label indicates 13% of alcohol). It is slightly dominated by a hot feeling of zesty fruits and quite some tartness in the very long and baroque finish. This needs hearty food to buffer off its power. Now

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Weingut Dr. Wagner

(Saarburg – Saar)

2009er	Dr. Wagner	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Spätlese	10 10	90
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The 2009er Saarburger Rausch Spätlese starts off by exhibiting a whiff of volatile acidity which whips up the aromatic scents of green apple, gooseberry, rhubarb, green herbs, white flowers and camphor emerging from the glass. After just a few minutes, the wine develops more refined flowery elements on the nose. It proves beautifully fresh and playful. A lightly creamy texture adds energy and zest right into the linear and off-dry tasting finish. This combination proves rather hard to resist! Now-2029

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Weingüter Geheimrat J. Wegeler

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Spätlese Vintage Collection	19 13	91
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This 2009er Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Spätlese Vintage Collection has been aged in the Wegeler cellars until its late release in 2019 (the release information is provided on the back label). This bright hay-colored wine offers a superbly fresh nose made of pear, ripe apple, white peach, laurel and earthy spices as well as quite some whipped cream. The wine is gorgeously playful on the mouthwatering palate, where creamy pear mingles with a hint of petrol and ripe acidity. The finish is delicately creamy, yet zesty and joyful. This is a gorgeous Spätlese to enjoy mindlessly! Now-2034

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Weingut Weiser-Künstler

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Weiser-Künstler	Enkircher Ellergrub Riesling Auslese	03 10	91
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The 2009er Enkircher Ellergrub Auslese needs a couple of minutes to fully express its ripe nose made of pineapple, honey, Conference pear, orange, dried apricot, date and smoke. The wine proves still on the sweet side at this stage. Honeyed pear and pineapple paired with mild acidity on the palate lead to a creamy, sweet and rich finish. This dessert wine will best be left alone for another couple of years in order for it to integrate its sweetness. 2029-2049

2009er	Weiser-Künstler	Enkircher Ellergrub Riesling Spätlese	04 10	91
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The 2009er Enkircher Ellergrub Spätlese offers a delicately ripe and elegant nose of pear, almond cream, toffee, butter cream and dried herbs. Juicy Conference pear, yellow peach, pineapple juice and a hint of honey give the wine a deep Auslese character on the palate. Fortunately, a superb kick of grapefruit-driven acidity gives a lighter side to the finish. This may be a slightly riper expression of Spätlese as usual by Weiser-Künstler standards, but the wine is nevertheless superb. Now-2039

2009er	Weiser-Künstler	Riesling Feinherb	06 10	88
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The 2009er Riesling Feinherb is still quite reduced at first before it offers some direct and animating zesty notes of grapefruit, tangerine and citrus as well as apple and minty herbs. The residual sugar coupled with a ripe acidity make for a juicy but also rather off-dry feel on the delicately smooth and light palate. A lime-driven acidity comes through in the long, tart and even racy finish of this very attractive off-dry Riesling. Now-2029

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10-Years-After Retrospective: 2009 – Tasting Notes (Beyond Mosel)

Besides the Mosel, we also reviewed wines from other German wine regions as well as Riesling beyond Germany (Austria and France) in a bid to offer additional reference points to our readers about the vintage 2009. These wines were all reviewed by us over the last few weeks.

We provide here tasting notes from the following Estates:

Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan	<i>Deidesheim</i>	<i>Pfalz</i>
Georg Breuer	<i>Rüdesheim</i>	<i>Rheingau</i>
Dönnhoff	<i>Oberhausen</i>	<i>Nahe</i>
Emrich-Schönleber	<i>Monzingen</i>	<i>Nahe</i>
Schloss Johannisberg	<i>Johannisberg</i>	<i>Rheingau</i>
Keller	<i>Flörsheim-Dalsheim</i>	<i>Rheinhessen</i>
Koehler-Ruprecht	<i>Kallstadt</i>	<i>Pfalz</i>
Peter Jakob Kühn	<i>Oestrich-Winkel</i>	<i>Rheingau</i>
Nikolaihof	<i>Mautern</i>	<i>Wachau</i>
F.X. Pichler	<i>Dürnstein</i>	<i>Wachau</i>
Schäfer-Fröhlich	<i>Bockenu</i>	<i>Nahe</i>
Trimbach	<i>Ribeauvillé</i>	<i>Alsace</i>
Wittmann	<i>Westhofen</i>	<i>Rheinhessen</i>



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10-Years-After Retrospective: 2009 – Detailed Tasting Notes (Beyond Mosel – 20 Wines)

Weingut Geheimer Rat Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan

(Deidesheim – Pfalz)

2009er	von Bassermann-Jordan	Forster Pechstein Riesling Trocken GC	33 10	90
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The 2009er Forster Pechstein Trocken GC delivers a ripe and fully mature nose of nut, candied grapefruit, minty herbs, lead pencil, yellow flowers, camphor and apricot, all wrapped into a hint of volatile acidity. The wine unfolds quite some flavors of fruits, including tangerine and grapefruit, on the smooth palate but leaves a rather assertive, powerful and tart feel in the finish. This delicately smooth and rather forceful expression of dry Riesling is best enjoyed over the coming few years. Now-2024

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Weingut Georg Breuer

(Rüdesheim – Rheingau)

2009er	Georg Breuer	Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg Riesling	01 10	98
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The 2009er Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg was fermented down to 2.5 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. at legally dry levels. The wine immediately captures one's attention through its superbly reductive, intensely smoky nose marked by some wood influence, as in a great white Burgundy. It then slowly reveals a most fascinating and complex set of scents including white flowers, grapefruit, bergamot, aniseed herbs and pear. A pure streak of acidity magnificently lifts up the aromatics on the vibrating and very pure palate. The wine is airy, yet depth and complex at the same time. This great expression of Berg Schlossberg completely transcends the riper side of the 2009 vintage. This is a very strong contender for the dry Riesling of the vintage. Now-2049

2009er	Georg Breuer	Rauenthaler Nonnenberg Riesling	03 10	96
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The 2009er Rauenthaler Nonnenberg was fermented down to 5 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. at legally dry levels. It develops a tantalizingly pure and floral nose driven by anise, almond and grapefruit. The floral side carries over onto the delicate yet intense palate. The wine goes crescendo as it gains in presence and spiciness right into the subtly tart, pure and vibrating finish. This magnificent dry Riesling transcends the ripeness of the 2009 vintage. Now-2039

2009er	Georg Breuer	Rüdesheimer Berg Rottland Riesling	06 10	93
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The 2009er Rüdesheimer Berg Rottland was fermented down to 5 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. legally dry levels. This hey-yellow colored wine delivers an aromatic yet subtle nose of pear, quince, dried sage, baked apple reduction, whipped cream and smoke. It is only after extensive airing that the wine develops a fresher side and becomes creamy yet zesty on the palate. It then leaves an herbal and fruity feel in the long and focused finish. Some citrusy elements add depth to the tart and intense after-taste. 2022-2029

2009er	Georg Breuer	Riesling Rauenthal Estate	05 10	90
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The 2009er Rauenthal Estate is a dry-tasting wine (with 8 g/l of residual sugar) coming exclusively from the Rauenthaler Nonnenberg. The bright-colored wine offers a nicely youthful and fruity nose made of white peach, melon, grapefruit, lime, herbs and some petrol. The wine is still quite unevolved on the palate, where green apple, white peach and grapefruit make for a zesty and tart feel. The finish is firm, focused and completely refreshing. The after-taste is salty, spicy and full of youthful energy. Only a hint of petrol gives away the age of this remarkably fresh Riesling. Now-2034

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Weingut Dönnhoff

(Oberhausen – Nahe)

2009er	Dönnhoff	Niederhäuser Hermannshöhle Riesling Trocken GG	27 10	94
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The 2009er Niederhäuser Hermannshöhle Trocken GG delivers an alluring and quite aromatic nose made of apricot, mirabelle, minty herbs, peach and spices. The wine starts off on the subtle side but quickly becomes richer and more intense on the spicy, herbal but also slightly sweet on the palate. A superb tart side gives a nicely refreshing side to the very long and focused finish. This beautiful dry Riesling offers immense pleasure. Now-2029

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Weingut Emrich-Schönleber

(Monzingen – Nahe)

2009er	Emrich-Schönleber	Monzinger Halenberg Riesling Trocken GG	11 10	94
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The 2009er Monzinger Halenberg Trocken GG delivers a beautifully complex and quite engaging nose made of orange blossom, tangerine, fine spices, herbs as well as a touch of riper elements such as pear and mango. The wine proves ever so slightly sweet and round on the delicately creamy and nicely exotic palate. A subtle kick of acidity and firm tartness add freshness and grip to the very long finish. This may be a slightly riper expression of Halenberg than usual but one which remains remarkably alluring and captivating. Now-2029

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Weingut Schloss Johannisberg

(Johannisberg – Rheingau)

2009er	Schloss Johannisberg	Schloss Johannisberger Riesling Trocken GG	10 10	91
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The 2009er Schloss Johannisberger Trocken GG offers a rather subtle, refined and overall quite ripe nose driven by some petrol-infused nuances, yellow flowers, spices, licorice and a touch of apricot. The wine proves forceful and intense on the palate where herbal elements and some bittersweet fruits add tartness to the experience. The finish is all about tar, herbs and salty elements. Some grapefruit-driven acidity leaves on with a lively feel in the focused after-taste. Now-2024

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Weingut Keller

(Flörsheim-Dalsheim – Rheinhessen)

2009er	Keller	Riesling Trocken G-Max	48 10	97+
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The 2009er G-Max proves still slightly reductive and almost stinky at first and only gradually reveals a mind-blowingly great nose, which is both profound and absolutely amazingly fresh regarding the vintage. Smoky, very primary and floral elements enhanced by notes of minty herbs, yuzu and chalky minerals are superbly wrapped into some spontaneous fermentation residues. The wine develops great focus and energy on the palate. It is straight and almost razor sharp, and has outstanding density. The finish proves feather light and sublimely airy. This defies all the rules of a "hot" vintage, and has even upside potential as it will slowly reach its maturity window. What a stunner! 2029-2049 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Wines Issue 40 – April 2018)



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2009er	Keller	Westhofener Kirchspiel Riesling Trocken GG	43 10	95
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The 2009er Westhofener Kirchspiel Trocken GG offers a magnificent and superbly refined nose including smoke, herbs, spices, almond cream, candied grapefruit, quinine and mint. The wine proves superbly balanced on the slightly smooth but nicely dense palate and leaves one with a great feel of focus and grip in the immensely long finish. A great saline, spicy and smoky side in the after-taste underlines the finesse of this remarkably fresh dry Riesling. Now-2039

2009er	Keller	Dalsheimer Hubacker Riesling Trocken GG	46 10	94
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The 2009er Dalsheimer Hubacker Trocken GG has a great complex nose offering spices, herbs, grapefruit, yellow peach, quinine and smoke. The wine develops from great grip on the palate, where grapefruit, tangerine and tart minerals wrap the wine's underlying richness into a blanket of freshness and focus. The after-taste of this beautiful dry Riesling is herbal and fully dry. Now-2029

2009er	Keller	Riesling Trocken von der Fels	14 10	94
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The 2009er Trocken von der Fels comes only from Grand Cru sites, essentially from the Westhofener Kirchspiel (including from the oldest part planted in 1964) with in addition some grapes from the Westhofener Abtserde and the Dalsheimer Hubacker. It delivers a great and highly complex nose mixing some fresh elements from citrusy fruits, gooseberry and aniseed herbs with richer (but not overripe) notes of pineapple, melon and lead pencil. The wine proves dense and even slightly tight on the beautifully focused and mineral-infused palate and leaves a most elegant and sharp feel in the long, superbly salty and slightly tart finish. This "mere" Estate wine proves finer and more elegant than many Grand Cru Riesling: What an incredible success! Now-2034

2009er	Keller	Westhofener Morstein Riesling Trocken GG	45 10	94
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The 2009er Westhofener Morstein Trocken GG starts off on the shy side and only delivers some fleeting herbal and minty scents at first. These are then joined by some pink grapefruit, citrusy elements, mango and even a touch of honey. The wine proves rich, intensely fruit and even a touch sweet on the palate but gains in finesse and grip in the tart-sweet, intense yet nicely focused finish. This mighty expression of Morstein only shows its true colors after extensive airing. Now-2029

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Weingut Koehler-Ruprecht

(Kallstadt – Pfalz)

2009er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken R	17 10	NR
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The 2009er Kallstadter Saumagen Spätlese Trocken R shows a hugely aromatic nose made of canned fruit salad, litchi, floral elements (jasmine), green apple and canned peach, as if it came from a hypothetical blend of Riesling and Gewurztraminer. This rich and fully aromatic side carries over onto the palate and is only buffered by some feeble herbal notes in the surprisingly short and abrupt finish. This weird and short performance is miles away from the usually mineral and herbal expression of Spätlese Trocken which has made the success of this Estate.

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Weingut Peter Jakob Kuhn

(Johannisberg – Rheingau)

2009er	Peter Jakob Kühn	Riesling Trocken Schlehdorn	07 10	89
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The 2009er Schlehdorn is made from a similarly named parcel in the Grand Cru in the Oestricher Sankt Nikolaus planted with 75 year-old vines. It offers a rich, oxidative and quite baroque nose of brioche, bakery products, pink grapefruit, smoke, cherry, honey and orange zest. Zesty acidity quickly gives way a softer and more powerful side on the palate and leaves a surprisingly hot feel of pear and mirabelle-spirit in the finish. This oxidative and quite powerful expression of Riesling is fascinating but not fully balanced. Now-2024

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Weingut Nikolaihof

(Mautern – Wachau)

2009er	Nikolaihof	Riesling Smaragd vom Stein	91
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The 2009er Riesling Smaragd vom Stein presents a ripe and quite advanced nose of toffee, cooked apple, mirabelle in alcohol, bread crust, apricot cream and camphor, as well as some wax polish. The wine is smooth and develops delicately ripe flavors of fruits and nut cream on the palate and leaves a nice feel of grip in the zesty finish. The after-taste of this ripe and slightly oxidative expression of dry Riesling is straight and herbal. Now-2024

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Weingut F.X. Pichler

(Dürnstein – Wachau)

2009er	F.X. Pichler	Dürnsteiner Kellerberg Riesling Smaragd	92
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The 2009er Dürnsteiner Kellerberg Riesling Smaragd delivers an aromatic and quite powerful nose driven by pink grapefruit, minty herbs, apricot, anise, orange zest and tar. The wine proves intense and powerful on the palate, and leaves a slightly hot and tart feel in the very long finish. Some glycerin adds smoothness to the very spicy and yellow fruit driven after-taste. This mighty yet highly complex wine will please lovers of ostentatious expressions of mature dry Riesling. Now-2024

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Weingut Schäfer-Fröhlich

(Bockenua – Nahe)

2009er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Bockenauer Felseneck Riesling Trocken GG	29 10	93
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The 2009er Bockenauer Felseneck Trocken GG offers a beautiful nose made of floral and minty elements as well as notes of lemon, grapefruit zest and flint. The wine proves straight, zesty and pure on the palate and leaves a dense and intense feel in the fruity yet remarkably tart finish. The after-taste is beautifully salty and driven by intense notes of grapefruit zest. Now-2034

2009er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Monzinger Halenberg Riesling Trocken GG	28 10	92
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The 2009er Monzinger Halenberg Trocken GG is marked by a hint of volatile acidity at first. This quickly gives way to spices, mint, lime, grapefruit sorbet, tangerine and some green herbs. The wine develops good presence and grip on the palate and leaves an almost painfully dry, herbal and tart feel in the long finish. Bitter lemon adds to the structured and racy feel of this wine. There is a hint of power in the background but the wine remains fresh and zesty. Now-2029

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Maison Trimbach

(Ribeauvillé – Alsace)

2009er	Trimbach	Riesling Clos Sainte Hune	18 10	93
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The 2009er Clos Sainte Hune is still quite restrained at first and only gradually reveals a superb nose displaying peach, yellow flowers, camphor, minty herbs, pear and fig. The wine proves ample on the surprisingly intense and slightly powerful palate and leaves a nicely tart feel of green herbs in the long and assertive finish. After a while, some oxidative notes of caramel, apple and ground spices join the party. This surprising side of the wine would make us opt to enjoy our bottles rather sooner than later. Now-2024

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Weingut Wittmann

(Westhofen – Rheinhessen)

2009er	Wittmann	Westhofener Morstein Riesling Trocken GG	18 10	92
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The 2009er Westhofener Morstein Trocken GG offers a big and attractive nose of roasted almond, vineyard peach, grapefruit, smoke, aniseed herbs as well as some fresher scents of gooseberry. The wine is intense and tart on the palate, and proves hugely zesty and straight in the powerful and assertive long finish. Herbal and bittersweet notes emerge in the after-taste and give this rather mighty expression of dry Riesling a refreshing side. Now-2024

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"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

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Notes from the Cellar: Highlights from Past Decades

Mature Riesling is one of the great glories in the wine world and yet it still remains comparatively unknown. Over the last year, we had the chance to experience again the magic of mature Riesling, including many classics (see the list here below) and even wine perfection.

Of course, rare and elusive noble-sweet Riesling from the finest growers confirm that this is the style where Riesling almost rules alone. Stunning bottles by such superstars as Geltz-Zilliken, Joh. Jos. Prüm, Egon Müller and von Schubert underline this nicely. Some stunning dry Riesling, mostly by the Keller and Georg Breuer Estates, underlines that mature dry Riesling is one of the – if not the – finest expression of dry white wine in the world.

Lastly, world-renowned growers dominate of course this list (almost by definition one would think), but also less famous Estates do feature favorably, thereby showing the quality of their terroir and craftsmanship.

1971er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Beerenauslese	37 72		100
1976er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Beerenauslese	42 77	<i>Auction</i>	100
1983er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Eiswein	36 84	<i>Auction</i>	100
1983er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Eiswein	47 84		100
2007er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	N.A.	<i>Auction</i>	98+
1988er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Eiswein	03 89	<i>Auction</i>	98
1989er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Eiswein	37 90		98
1999er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Auslese GK	34 00		98
1993er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Auslese Nr. 183			98
1989er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Auslese lange GK	17 90	<i>Auction</i>	98
1990er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Beerenauslese	18 91	<i>Auction</i>	98
2005er	von Kesselstatt	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Beerenauslese	76 06		97
2003er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	18 04		97
1995er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Auslese	01 96		96
1998er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winniger Uhlen R Riesling Auslese lange GK	11 99	<i>Auction</i>	96
1988er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Auslese GK	28 89	<i>Auction</i>	96
2001er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	15 02		96
1998er	Schloss Saarstein	Serriger Schloss Saarsteiner Riesling Eiswein	13 99	<i>Auction</i>	96
1988er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett	13 89		96
1998er	Georg Breuer	Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg Riesling	01 99		95
1997er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Auslese	07 98		95
2001er	Keller	Riesling Spätlese Trocken R	27 02		95
2005er	Loersch-Eifel	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	04 06		95
1995er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett	09 96	<i>Auction</i>	95
1998er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Letterlay Riesling Spätlese	04 99		95
1993er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	21 96		95
1975er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese	12 76		95
1990er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	19 91		95
1997er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	12 98		95
1993er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett	04 94		95
1993er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Spätlese	08 94		95



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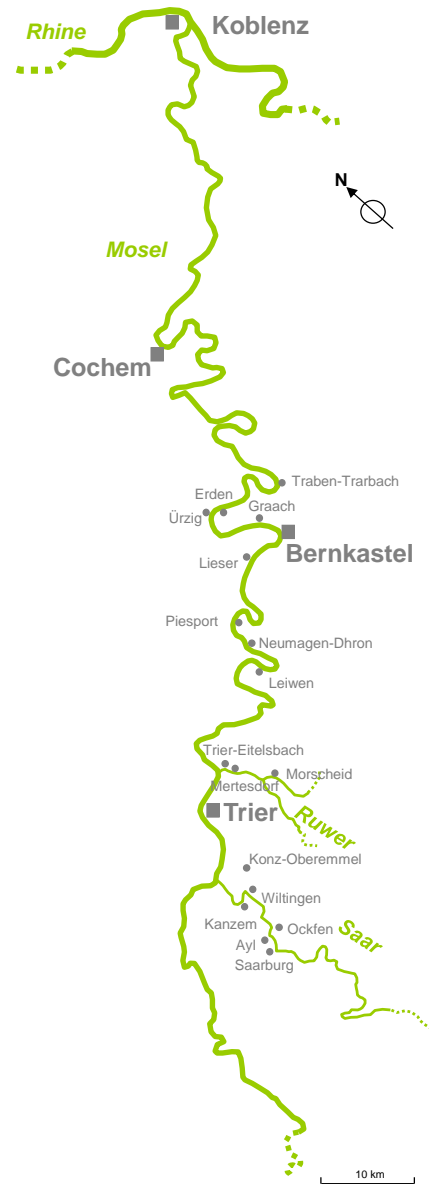
"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Notes from the Cellar: Tasting Notes

We had the chance to taste mature wines from the following Estates:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Georg Breuer | <i>Rüdesheim</i> |
| Geltz-Zilliken | <i>Saarburg</i> |
| Fritz Haag | <i>Brauneberg</i> |
| Reinhold Haart | <i>Piesport</i> |
| Heymann-Löwenstein | <i>Winningen</i> |
| von Hövel | <i>Oberemmel</i> |
| Le Gallais | <i>Kanzem</i> |
| Schloss Lieser | <i>Lieser</i> |
| Hermann Ludes | <i>Thörnich</i> |
| Keller | <i>Flörsheim-Dalsheim</i> |
| Koehler-Ruprecht | <i>Kallstadt</i> |
| Loersch | <i>Leiwen</i> |
| Carl Loewen | <i>Leiwen</i> |
| Dr. Loosen | <i>Bernkastel-Kues</i> |
| Alfred Merkelbach | <i>Ürzig</i> |
| Markus Molitor | <i>Wehlen</i> |
| Martin Müllen | <i>Traben-Trarbach</i> |
| Egon Müller | <i>Wiltingen</i> |
| C. von Nell-Breuning | <i>Kasel</i> |
| Joh. Jos. Prüm | <i>Wehlen</i> |
| Adolph Rheinart Erben | <i>Saarburg</i> |
| Schloss Saarstein | <i>Serrig</i> |
| Willi Schaefer | <i>Graach</i> |
| von Schubert – Maximin Grünhaus | <i>Mertesdorf</i> |
| Selbach-Oster | <i>Zeltingen</i> |
| Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch | <i>Bernkastel-Kues</i> |
| Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch | <i>Bernkastel-Kues</i> |
| Julius Treis | <i>Reil</i> |
| Viermorgenhof | <i>Kinheim</i> |
| Wegeler | <i>Bernkastel-Kues</i> |





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Notes from the Cellar: Detailed Tasting Notes (100 Wines)



All wines reviewed here were tasted by us, at private or public occasions, in the course of last year.

Weingut Georg Breuer

(Rüdesheim – Rheingau)

1998er	Georg Breuer	Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg Riesling	01 99	95
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This yellow-golden colored bottle of 1998er Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg delivers a captivating and gorgeous nose orange peel, waxy herbs, sage, licorice, greengage, ginger and curry as well as a hint of camphor and acacia honey. The wine is gorgeously zesty and intense on the multi-layered palate and leaves a gloriously zesty and spicy feel in the fresh and beautiful refined finish. The after-taste is fully dry and perfectly balanced. This mature dry Riesling is simply stunning and underlines the greatness of the 1998 vintage for dry Riesling in Germany! Now-2028

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Weingut Goltz-Zilliken

(Saarburg – Saar)

1988er	Goltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Eiswein	03 89	Auction	98
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This Magnum of the 1988er Saarburger Rausch Eiswein proves simply stunning as it unfolds a superb feel of furniture polish, dried fruits, spices and herbs as well as black tea and dried apricot. The wine is superbly racy and elegant on the palate and leaves a stunningly long feel of cream, zesty and patina in the smooth finish. This is drinking so beautifully well right now, yet there is so much complexity going on. What a dazzling Eiswein! Now-2038

1995er	Goltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Auslese	01 96	96
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The 1995er Saarburger Rausch Auslese AP 01 was made from partially frozen fruit. It displays a sumptuous nose of citrusy fruit sorbet, passion fruit, mango, minty herbs and spices. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate where some creamy exotic fruits are beautifully wrapped into a zesty and refined acidity. This gives the wine an electric kick right into the finish. Lime, tangerine and herbal tea make for a stunning after-taste. This is a great and nicely refreshing dessert wine to enjoy over many more years. Now-2030

1997er	Goltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Auslese	07 98	95
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The 1997er Saarburger Rausch Auslese AP 07 exhibits a hugely complex yet very delicate nose made where one can discern yellow peach, chamomile, whipped almond cream, a hint of coconut, some vanilla scents in the background, pine, candied grapefruit and minty herbs. The wine is very smooth and delicate on the palate where some juicy whipped cream mingles with grapefruit driven acidity. The balance of this light-weighted Auslese is simply stunning and refined. Now-2032



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1993er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Auslese	04 94	94
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The 1993er Saarburger Rausch Auslese AP 04 is a magnificent mature Riesling shining through its beautiful nose of chamomile, dried white flowers, peach, cassis, herbs and smoke. The wine is tactile, light-weighted and delicate on the palate. This wine is all about smoothness and airiness, and might not impress one at first contact. But if you pay attention to this, you will find myriads of details. The finish is long and evanescent. What a great wine to drink by the bottle! Now-2028

1998er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Spätlese	04 99	<i>Auction</i>	94
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The 1998er Saarburger Rausch Spätlese AP 04 was made with a touch of Eiswein and was auctioned off at the Trier Auction in 1999. It offers a gorgeous nose of ripe fruits, smoke, chamomile, lavender, kiwi, pear, whipped cream, and minty herbs. The wine is superbly elegant and playful on the palate and leaves a beautifully feel of herbs, cream and delicately zesty fruits in the long finish. This gorgeously vibrating just off-dry tasting Spätlese offers much drinking pleasure. Now-2028

1983er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Auslese GK	18 84	<i>Auction</i>	93
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The 1983er Saarburger Rausch Auslese GK AP 18, an auction bottling, offers a beautifully fresh, smoky and herbal nose of green tea, minty herbs, anise, gooseberry and a hint of quince. The wine is superbly airy and refined on the palate, where its light bodied structure gives it an irresistible and almost watery side. The finish is however all about honey and some smooth sweetness. This beauty has aged so well and, despite being over 35 years old, is still plain delicious ... and will remain so for many more years! Now-2033

1993er	Geltz-Zilliken	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Spätlese	07 94	<i>Auction</i>	93
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The 1993er Saarburger Rausch Spätlese AP 07 was auctioned off at the Trier Auction in 1994. It offers a gorgeous nose of tea, melon, herbs and spices. The wine is beautifully mature on the palate, where a mellow feeling has now completely replaced the early sweetness. The finish is elegant, playful and nicely persistent. This textbook of an impeccably aged Saar Riesling has still plenty of life ahead! Now-2023

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Weingut Fritz Haag

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

2006er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	07 07	94
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The 2006er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Spätlese AP 07 offers a dead-gorgeous nose of apricot, pineapple, almond, butter, coconut cream, star fruit and spices. The wine proves stunningly refined and smooth on the palate and leaves a beautifully subtle and multi-layered feel in the silky and sweet finish. Forget the word Spätlese, this is a full-fledge Auslese but a superbly refined one! Now-2046

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Weingut Reinhold Haart

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

1998er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese	07 99	94
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The 1998er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Spätlese offers a most stunning nose of cassis, smoke, lavender, plum, elderberry, lemon, grapefruit, minty herbs and ground spices. The wine is superbly playful and gorgeously balanced on the comparatively focused and slender palate. It leaves a beautifully precise and elegant feel in the long, fruity and mineral loaded finish. This stunning Spätlese of epic elegance will remain enjoyable for easily more than a decade. Now-2032

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Weingut Heymann-Löwenstein

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

1998er	Heymann-Löwenstein	Winninger Uhlen R Riesling Auslese lange GK	11 99	Auction	96
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The 1998er Winninger Uhlen Auslese lange GK was sold via the Trier Auction in 1999. It offers a gorgeous nose made of delicately dried fruits, honey, beeswax, lanolin, raspberry, vanilla, herbs and spices, as well as a hint of volatile in the background. Despite a remarkable intense sweet almost oily structure, the wine proves hugely refined and elegant on the palate and leaves a superbly playful feel in the long and creamy finish. This has turned into a brilliant noble-sweet wine which behaves as a sort of mix between a Sauternes and a Mosel wine. Now-2038

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Weingut von Hövel

(Oberemmel – Saar)

1998er	von Hövel	Oberemmeler Hütte Riesling Spätlese	08 99	Auction	90
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The Oberemmeler Hütte Spätlese AP 08 was auctioned off at the Trier Auction in 1999. It offers a rather light and direct nose of ginger, almond paste, smoke, fennel, passion fruit, herbs and spices. The wine is nicely structured and playful on the slender palate and leaves a beautiful and almost dry-tasting feel in the finish. Now-2023

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Weingut Le Gallais

(Kanzem – Saar)

1997er	Le Gallais	Wiltinger braune Kupp Riesling Auslese GK	22 98	Auction	94
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The 1997er Wiltinger braune Kupp Auslese GK Auction develops a slightly ripe nose of cassis, pear, pineapple, bergamot and whipped cream. The wine is delicately smooth and complex on the palate at first but becomes more structured as it breathes. After an hour, it really develops the cut and precision of Saar wines. This proves remarkably precise and "pure" for an Auslese GK but make no mistake, this high-end noble-sweet wine will pair marvelously with many desserts. Now-2037

1995er	Le Gallais	Wiltinger braune Kupp Riesling Spätlese	15 96		91
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The 1995er Wiltinger braune Kupp Spätlese AP 15 offers a gorgeous even if slightly direct nose of brown sugar, pear, grapefruit sorbet, almond and licorice. The wine is suave and zesty at the same time on the palate and leaves a beautifully complex feel in the slightly broad finish. This nice Spätlese is fully mature now. Now-2020

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Weingut Keller

(Flörsheim-Dalsheim – Rheinhessen)

2001er	Keller	Riesling Spätlese Trocken R	27 02		95
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The 2001er Riesling Spätlese Trocken R is the first vintage of the Westhofener Kirchspiel GG even though the Estate did not declare it as such on the label. The wine immediately catches one's attention with its remarkable precise and pure nose made of yellow fruits (peach, pear, pineapple and a hint of quince), minty notes of herbs, spices and a touch of zesty grapefruit. The wine is beautifully balanced on the palate, where its aromatic fruits give it a creamy and delicately smooth side. Yet, the finish is all about freshness, energy and finesse. The persistence is quite stunning. This is a superb mature dry Riesling. Now-2026

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Weingut Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt

(Morscheid – Trier-Ruwer)

2005er	von Kesselstatt	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Beerenauslese	76 06	97
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The 2005er Kaseler Nies'chen Beerenauslese was made from shriveled grapes with little botrytis. It offers a firework of ripe flavors including raisin, mango, toffee, honey, mirabelle, dried apricot, poached pear and passion fruit, as well as some nut and smoke. A hint of volatile acidity and some minty herbs add to the presence and expressiveness of the aromatics of this dessert wine. Cream, baked spices, apple jelly and marzipan coat the gorgeously unctuous, sweet and juicy palate. The finish is intense, even powerful, but remains magnificently balanced and long. This little masterpiece will prove utterly enjoyable for many more decades to come. Now-2075

2007er	von Kesselstatt	Josephshöfer Riesling Spätlese	32 08	93
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The 2007er Josephshöfer Spätlese starts off by offering some rich and juicy notes of toffee, vanilla cream, smoke, poached pear, tangerine and passion fruit before minty herbs kick in and add freshness to the overall ripe yet clean nose. The wine coats the palate with intense sweet and creamy flavors of ripe fruits, honey and coconut cream not unlike those found in an Auslese if not an Auslese GK. It leaves a round and sweet feel in the very long and intense finish. This big Auslese in all but name proves, as such, a great success which will last for at least two more decades. Now-2037

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Weingut Koehler-Ruprecht

(Kallstadt – Pfalz)

2008er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken R	20 09	92+
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This bottle of 2008er Kallstadter Saumagen Auslese Trocken R starts off by offering intense notes of smoke and apricot, before moving on and showing a richer and riper set of fruity aromatics including canned peach, pineapple and mirabelle. The wine is still quite compact, dense and even energetic on the palate. This presence is however nicely wrapped into some candied fruits and a hint of freshness. This rather forceful expression of dry Riesling (despite a comparatively low 12.5% of alcohol) is still in need of time to fully blossom. It could well turn out even better once it will have reached maturity. 2023-2038

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Weingut Schloss Lieser

(Lieser – Middle Mosel)

1998er	Schloss Lieser	Lieserer Niederberg Helden Riesling Auslese **	11 99	Auction	92
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The 1998er Lieserer Niederberg Helden Riesling Auslese ** AP 11 (the Estate produced two different Auslese ** out of this vineyard in 1998) was auctioned off at the Trier Auction in 1999. It offers a beautifully ripe nose of melon, citrusy fruits, almond paste, apricot, spices and herbs as well as a hint of toffee. The wine is enjoyable round and soft on the palate and leaves a long and persistent feel of ripe fruits in the creamy and nicely intense finish. Now-2033

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Weingut Loersch

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

The Estate was called Weingut Loersch-Eifel until the 2011 vintage.

2005er	Loersch-Eifel	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Trockenbeereauslese	04 06	95
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The 2005er Trittenheimer Apotheke TBA was harvested at a full 205° Oechsle. This fully amber-colored wine develops a stunningly pure nose of almond, dried apricot, date and just a hint of spices to add depth. The wine is still hugely sweet but remarkably precise and pure on the palate, where tons of juicy almond cream, date, raisin and dried apricot make for a remarkable and deep experience. The finish is still really sweet, but the great touch of zesty acidity in the after-taste already hints at the stunning balance that this wine will reach at full maturity, in a decade or more. But one can enjoy this wine already now and admire its sweet purity, precision and airy depth. 2030-2070

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Weingut Carl Loewen

(Leiwen – Middle Mosel)

1997er	Carl Loewen	Leiwener Klostergarten Riesling Kabinett	08 98	90
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The 1997er Leiwener Klostergarten Kabinett delivers a mature and enticing nose of yellow apple, almond cream, sage, coconut cream, curry spices and dried peach. The wine is juicy and delicately creamy with nice yellow fruits and a hint of honey on the superbly creamy palate and leaves a very subtle and airy feel in the long finish. Now-2027

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Weingut Dr. Loosen

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2002er	Dr. Loosen	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Trocken Alte Reben	51 03	90
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The 2002er Würzgarten Trocken Alte Reben comes exclusively from the privileged Urglück parcel (this wine is the predecessor of what is now the Estate's GG out of this vineyard). It offers a delicately ripe nose of mirabelle, pineapple, herbs, almond and spices enhanced by a hint of beeswax and butterscotch. The wine proves nicely playful on the palate and leaves a fruit-laden mouth-watering feel in the medium-long and light-footed finish. Now-2022

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Weingut Hermann Ludes

(Thörnich – Middle Mosel)

1995er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Auslese	05 96	93
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The golden-colored 1995er Thörnicher Ritsch Auslese needs a few minutes to get rid of its mustiness (a note often found in wines which have been aged in the damp cellars of Mosel Estates). It then offers a beautiful nose of Limoncello infused in honey, almond, apricot, black tea and bees wax. The wine is beautifully focused and delicately creamy on the light-weighted palate and leaves a most airy feel of honey, beeswax, lemon and herbal elements in the lively and delicately smooth finish. This light expression of an Auslese GK is simply superb! Now-2030



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2004er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Spätlese	04 05	93
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The 2004er Thörnicher Ritsch Spätlese proves remarkably bright colored and immediately captures one's attention through great scents of pear, white peach, wet stone, lemon zest, cinnamon and chalky minerals. The wine is beautifully playful and mouth-watering (the wine does have 9.5% of alcohol) and leaves a superbly airy and playful feel of flowers, minerals, lemon sorbet and a hint of earthy spices. The after-taste is all tickles, fruitiness and persistence. This is a gorgeously classic example of Mosel lightness. What a great success! Now-2034

1994er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Spätlese	05 97	93
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The 1994er Thörnicher Ritsch Spätlese AP 5 97 was left in tank for two years before being bottled (hence the late AP number). It proves incredibly bright-colored and offers a gorgeous nose of gooseberry, almond, whipped cream, black tea and smoky slate, all wrapped into a fleeting scent of Limoncello. The wine is gorgeously sharp and lively on the focused and precise palate. It has the lightness and deep intensity of a Prüm Kabinett and leaves a beautifully tart yet smooth feel of minerals, citrusy fruits and herbs (it does have 9% of alcohol). It is simply hard to believe that this wine is 25 years old! Only a hint of petrol in the after-taste betrays a little bit the wine's age. What a great success. Lovers of real light Kabinett and Spätlese should plunge upon this wine! Now-2029

1993er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Spätlese	02 94	93
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The 1993er Thörnicher Ritsch Spätlese proves still remarkably bright-colored and offers a gorgeous nose of Limoncello, dried herbs, grapefruit zest, wet slate, black tea and smoky elements. The wine proves beautifully sharp and precise on the palate, where the original sweetness has now given way to a silky sense of smoothness. The finish has the racy precision of a high-end Kabinett. This plain gorgeous wine just oozes *joie de vivre*. On top of being very easy to drink, the wine has real depth and complexity. What a great success by this massively under-rated grower! Now-2028

1990er	Hermann Ludes	Klüsserather Bruderschaft Riesling Auslese Trocken	04 94	92
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The 1990er Klüsserather Bruderschaft Auslese Trocken was left in tank for a full year before being bottled and left to rest before being commercialized in 1997 (hence the late AP number). The wine offers a superbly refined and focused nose made of lemon zest sorbet, cinnamon, wet stone, cassis and smoky elements. It proves hugely precise, beautifully racy and light-weighted on the palate. Minty herbs add a real Ruwer touch to this elegant and playful wine. A touch of whipped cream provides the right balance to the racy structure in the long and precise finish. This more than reminds us of the great dry Riesling by von Schubert / Maximin Grünhaus from that period. It is a truly remarkable example of dry Mosel lightness. Now-2025

1995er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Kabinett	04 96	91
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The bright golden-colored 1995er Thörnicher Ritsch Kabinett was fermented to an off-dry style (it does have 9% of alcohol). It offers a gorgeously lively nose of almond, candied grapefruit zest, wet stone, black tea, Limoncello and some strong herbal elements. The wine is incredibly lively and racy on the light-weighted airy palate. The acid backbone runs right into the delicately smooth and tart finish. This gorgeous Kabinett is so easy to enjoy if you are partial to racy and focused expressions of mature Riesling, not unlike those recently found at Hofgut Falkenstein. Now-2025

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Weingut Alfred Merkelbach

(Ürzig – Middle Mosel)

1990er	Alfred Merkelbach	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese	08 91	93
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The 1990er Ürziger Würzgarten Spätlese AP 08 (the label also carries the mention: "Fuder-Nr 8/90") is in perfect shape right now. It develops a great nose of smoke, herbs, sea breeze, orange zest and Indian spices. The wine combines some juicy flavors of dried fruit with the superbly clean and animating acidity so typical to the 1990 vintage on the palate. The finish is ethereally light and persistent and almost dry now. This is simply superb and an ode to the timeless beauties produced by the Merkelbach brothers! Now-2025

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Weingut Markus Molitor

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

1996er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese ** (White Capsule)	09 97	91
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The 1996er Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Auslese ** (White Capsule) proves already quite golden-colored and offers a generous nose of candied grapefruit, peach, pear, lime and green herbs. The wine proves quite forceful but also nicely delineated on the palate and leaves a clean and focused feel in the elegant finish. This is now fully mature and vividly reflects the beautifully racy side of the vintage. Now-2021

2002er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese ** (White Capsule)	35 03	Auction	89
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The 2002er Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Auslese ** (White Capsule) opens up to some new oak nuances (from aging in new oak cask). This confers the wine an almost Burgundian character. These scents are then enhanced by some more classic ripe notes of vanilla cream, coconut, ripe pineapple, pear, tar and smoky slate. The wine proves rather powerful yet straight on the palate and leaves a feel of beeswax and butterscotch wrapped into some tannin in the after-taste. Now-2022

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Weingut Martin Müllen

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

1998er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Letterlay Riesling Spätlese	04 99	95
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The 1998er Kröver Letterlay Spätlese was harvested at 88° Oechsle in the Häsje sector of the vineyard with a little less exposure to the evening sun. It offers a stunning nose of citrus peel, fern, tea, wet stone, cassis and a touch of whipped cream on the nose. The wine is pure elegance and playfulness on the palate, where tea, beeswax and lemon grass make for an irresistible feel of liveliness, depth and freshness. What a grandiose and incredibly fresh piece of mature Riesling. This is simply a little jewel of finesse. Now-2028

2005er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Paradies Riesling Auslese	09 06	94
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The 2005er Kröver Paradies Auslese is still somewhat reduced on the nose and only gradually reveals its gorgeous flavors of pineapple, coconut and whipped cream wrapped into a hint of petrol. Stunning zesty acidity whips up the flavors right into the delicately creamy finish. It is only in the after-taste that some ripe scents of honey and apricot underline the Auslese GK character of the wine. This little beauty is still best left alone for a couple of years in order to fully develop aromatically. 2025-2045

2003er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Steffensberg Riesling Auslese	06 04	93
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The 2003er Kröver Steffensberg Auslese offers a stunning nose of melon, white peach, whipped cream, chalky minerals and fine spices. This shows a superb feel of whipped cream, decent acidity, herbs and minerals on the palate. The finish is nicely sweet but also remarkably mouth-watering. This completely defies the vintage in terms of freshness and juiciness. What a gorgeous success! Now-2028

2006er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Letterlay Riesling Auslese	13 07	92
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The 2006er Kröver Letterlay Auslese AP 13 (the Estate produced two separate bottlings of Letterlay Auslese in 2006) was harvested at a full 124° Oechsle from fully botrytized grapes. The wine develops a gorgeous nose of date, almond paste and smoke on the nose and offers a gorgeous feel of melon, cream, spices and aniseed herbs in the long finish. This dessert wine is quite a success. Now-2036

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Weingut Egon Müller zu Scharzhof

(Wiltingen – Saar)

1971er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Beerenauslese	37 72	100
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The 1971er Scharzhofberger BA AP 37 (the Estate produced three separate bottlings of BA in 1971, of which only one was commercialized via the annual Trier Auctions). This delivers a stunning nose of apricot, honey and almonds paired with quite racy candied fruit. The wine proves gorgeously focused and structured on the palate and leaves an endless feel of almonds and candied fruit in the lingering and racy finish. A kaleidoscope of flavors comes through in the after-taste that is almost too much to take in. Far from being cloying, this is lively, fresh and gorgeously energizing! What a wine. Now-2031

1976er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Beerenauslese	42 77	Auction	100
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The 1976er Scharzhofberger BA AP 42 (the Estate produced two separate bottlings of BA in 1976, both of which were commercialized via the annual Trier Auctions) develops a stunning nose of apricot, date, candied orange, fine leather, almond, iodine, licorice, spices and fine herbs. The wine is superbly delicate, smooth and refined on the palate and leaves an absolutely subtle, focused and precise feel in the long and playful finish. This proves simply a stunning wine where everything is in balance. This is pure wine perfection. Now-2036

1983er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Eiswein	36 84	Auction	100
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The 1983er Scharzhofberger Eiswein was harvested at well over 200° Oechsle on November 15, 1983. It offers a beautifully ample and complex nose more reminiscent at first of an expression of a BA with date, raisin, apricot blossom, cherry, strawberry, almond cream, barbeque herbs, earl grey, tar and fine spices. The wine develops a stunning and surprisingly sweet presence and intensity on the palate. Exotic and juicy honeyed fruits are gloriously wrapped into some elegant acidity and fine spices on the palate. The immense finish is driven by raisin, honey and juicy exotic fruits. This is a stunning "BA-Eiswein" styled dessert wine truly lives up to its legendary status. Now-2033

2007er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	N.A.	Auction	98+
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The Estate produced two Eiswein in 2007, a regular one (sold in 2009) and one still to be released (and without an AP number yet). This yet-to-be released auction TBA was harvested at well over 250° Oechsle and took almost two years to finish its fermentation (it was bottled consequently). This wine already shows a deep orange copper color and develops a stunning concentrated and powerful nose of apricot, date, raisin, almond, spices and herbs, all lifted up by quite some volatile acidity. The wine develops a stunning oily structure on the palate yet it remains at all time multi-layered and playful. The finish is hugely sweet, comforting, complex and, above all, seemingly endless. This stunner of an Eszencia-like TBA, one of the most promising we have ever tasted from the Estate, could eventually warrant a perfect score as the volatile elements continue to integrate into the wine. 2037-2100+

1999er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Auslese GK	34 00	98
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The 1999er Scharzhofberger Auslese GK AP 34 (the Estate produced two separate bottlings of Scharzhofberger Auslese GK in 2009, one of which was auctioned off in Trier) develops a stunning nose of candied exotic fruits, whipped cream, melon, canned yellow peach, herbs and white flowers. The wine proves silky, unctuous and elegant on the palate and leaves a stunning feel of cream, fruits and a glorious hint of ripe acidity in the suave and seemingly endless finish. This is an absolute stunner which shows now beautifully well! Now-2039

1989er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Eiswein	37 90	98
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The 1989er Scharzhofberger Eiswein AP 37 is the smaller of the two Eiswein produced by Egon Müller in that vintage and has never been released commercially. It proves anything but "small" and immediately captures one's attention with its gorgeous nose of candied exotic fruits, honey, apricot and furniture polish. The wine is gorgeously zesty and focused on the palate and leaves a stunningly pure feel of almond, barbeque herbs and apricot-infused fruits in the racy yet creamy finish. The balance in this wine is simply staggering! Now-2034

1988er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Auslese GK	28 89	Auction	96
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The 1988er Scharzhofberger Auslese GK offered a gorgeous nose of almonds, racy fruit and honeyed herbs. The wine proved beautifully playful and elegant on the palate and leaves a great creamy feel of exotic fruit, dried fruits and some herbs in the lingering and incredibly long finish. This is simply stunning in its complexity and persistence. Now-2028



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1995er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett	09 96	<i>Auction</i>	95
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The 1995er Scharzhofberger Kabinett AP 09 (the auction bottling) is a smasher of a wine. It defies the logic of the vintage by displaying superb flavors of cassis, white flowers, and herbs. It is only after a while that riper and more typical element from the 1995 vintage, in particular apricot blossom and almond paste, join the party. The wine is beautifully racy and stunningly elegant! The finish is direct, assertive and full of stunning grip and finesse. This is a remarkable success! Now-2030

1990er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett	12 91		93
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The 1990er Scharzhofberger Kabinett AP 12 offers a stunning nose of pear, peach, mirabelle, anise and sea breeze, all wrapped up in some gorgeously fresh floral elements. The wine is nicely focused and completely dry-tasting by now on the palate. It leaves a clean and superbly focused feel in the long finish. What a beautiful Kabinett! Now-2025

1994er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett	02 95		93
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This bottle of the 1994er Scharzhofberger Kabinett AP 02 proves even fresher than previous one tasted from the Estate as it unfolds a great nose of sea breeze, smoke, fresh herbs, spices, grapefruit, pear, white peach and some flowery elements. The wine almost tastes dry by now and leaves a clean and refined feel of elderberry tree and raspberry in the long finish. What a beautifully light yet intense expression of Scharzhofberger Riesling continues to sing along! Now-2024

1994er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett	09 95	<i>Auction</i>	93
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The 1994er Scharzhofberger Kabinett AP 09 was auctioned off at the Trier Auction in 1995. Despite being nearly 25 years old, this wine still proves quite marked by sulfur. It only very slowly reveals stunningly fresh notes of white peach, mint, grapefruit, white flowers and wet minerals. The wine is completely reduced and structured on the palate and really only reveal its potential in the long, beautifully airy and racy finish. As crazy as it may sound, this still needs bottle aging but is likely to always remain somewhat backward! Wine lovers who are sensitive to sulfur should probably favor other bottlings from this Estate. 2024-2044

1997er	Egon Müller	Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett	12 98		93
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The 1997er Scharzhofberger Kabinett AP 12 develops a gorgeously engaging nose of cassis, gooseberry, mint, pear, fine herbs and white floral elements. The wine tastes just off-dry now and proves quite focused on the palate. It leaves a beautifully ethereal feel in the precise and subtly multi-layered finish. Now-2027

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Dominikaner-Weingut C. von Nell-Breuning

(Kasel – Trier-Ruwer)

NB: The wines tasted here were commercialized under the Estate's previous (and related) name, Weingut Christoph von Nell.

2003er	Christoph von Nell	Kaseler Dominikanerberg Riesling Auslese	08 04		92
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The 2003er Kaseler Dominikanerberg Auslese proves remarkably bright-colored and still quite shy on the nose. The wine is rather shy and backward on the palate and leaves a nicely pure feel in the long and refined finish. This proves quite bright and fresh by 2003 standards (one of the hottest vintages ever) and should offer much pleasure if you wait a few more years. 2023-2038

2002er	Christoph von Nell	Kaseler Dominikanerberg Riesling Auslese	09 03		90
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The 2002er Kaseler Dominikanerberg Auslese proves aromatically rather subdued and requires a few minutes to reveal an attractive and quite lively nose made of citrusy fruits, minerals, cassis and petrol. The wine is rather light-bodied on the palate but leaves one with a nice fruity feel in the direct and easy finish. Now-2023

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Weingut Joh. Jos. Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2001er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	15 02	96
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The 2001er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese AP 15 delivers a beautifully complex and full-blown nose of tangerine, candied grapefruit, pineapple, fresh herbs, spices, and smoke, all pepped up by a hint of gooseberry. The wine is magnificently multi-layered and playful on the palate. There is still quite some sweetness at play, but this sweetness is now elegantly integrated into the smooth and airy texture. Exotic and candied fruits emerge in the vibrating and hugely long finish. Some smoky and zesty flavors in the after-taste make one magically want to go for more. This bottling of Sonnenuhr Spätlese is an immense success and is certainly at the level of the finest auction bottlings from this Estate. It is THAT good. Now-2041

1993er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	21 96	95
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The 1993er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese AP 21 96 offers a magnificent mature yet fresh nose of vineyard peach, elderberry, yellow flowers, cassis, smoke, herbs and spices. The wine is pure and airy on the palate, and delivers a multi-layered and complex feel right into the very delicate, playful and elegant finish. The delicate after-taste of this outstanding mature Auslese is nicely pepped up by some refreshing acidity. Now-2033

2003er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese GK	09 07	94
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The 2003er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese GK AP 09 07 (the Estate released two separate bottlings of Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese GK from the 2003 vintage) offers a gorgeously ripe and complex nose of mango, candied melon, almond, pineapple, herbs and cream. The wine is superbly smooth as some melon puree, butter cream and vanilla wrapped into creamy beeswax and zesty flavors on the palate. A fabulous note of tea and herbs adds to the beautifully ethereal feel in the delicately smooth and multi-layered finish. Now-2043

1983er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese GK	20 85	94
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The 1983er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese GK AP 20 85 (the Estate released several separate bottlings of 1983er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese GK) offers a gorgeous nose of almond, marzipan, apricot, grapefruit, laurel, and spices as well as a touch of beeswax. The wine develops some nice, nougat-infused whipped cream and apricot puree on the intense and complex palate and leaves one with a gorgeous feel of deliciously zesty and airy fruits in the long and lingering finish. Now-2023

1995er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	01 02	93
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The hay-golden colored 1995er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese AP 01 02 is still marked by some smoky reduction at first. But this quickly gives way to a beautifully mature and refined nose of slate, tar, mirabelle, plum, cassis, camphor, cream-nut and beeswax. The wine proves nicely intense, fruity and still somewhat sweet on the palate. But the sweetness is beautifully wrapped into an animating and refreshing kick of lively acidity. The very long finish is smooth yet intense. This is a yet another great mature Spätlese crafted by the Joh. Jos. Prüm Estate. Now-2025

1992er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett	11 93	92
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The 1992er Graacher Himmelreich Kabinett AP 11 exhibits a remarkably lively and fresh nose for such a mature wine. Notes of flowers, white peach, spices, aniseed herbs and mint lead a refined and playful feel on the airy refined and gorgeously light palate. The wine leaves one with beautiful notes of dried herbs and smoke in the very long and pure finish. This is drinking superbly well right now, and is a great success in this comparatively difficult vintage. Now-2027

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Weingut Adolf Rheinart Erben

(Saarburg – Saar)

The Adolph Rheinart Erben Estate is one of traditional old Estates and a founding member of the Grosser Ring (later VDP Mosel). It held vineyards in Ockfen and in Schoden (Saarfeilser). Learn more about it in a piece on historic Estates published in this Issue.

1969er	Adolf Rheinart Erben	Schodener Saarfeilser Marienberg Riesling Auslese	93
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The 1969er Saarfeilser Marienberg Auslese proves a bit stinky at first and only gradually develops the finesse and elegance of gorgeous old Saar Auslese. After a while, some superb notes of almond, pear, barbeque herbs and fine spices emerge from the glass. The sweetness has given way to a gorgeous smoothness on the delicately racy palate and brings a gorgeously complex side to the racy and nicely complex finish. Now-2024+

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Weingut Schloss Saarstein

(Serrig – Saar)

1998er	Schloss Saarstein	Serriger Schloss Saarsteiner Riesling Eiswein	13 99	Auction	96
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The dark-colored 1998er Serriger Schloss Saarsteiner Eiswein develops a stunning and fully mature nose of candied fruits, beeswax, tea, barbeque herbs, licorice, furniture polish and nutmeg. The wine is gorgeously vibrant on the palate and leaves a superbly smooth yet focused feel in the racy finish. This Eiswein is superbly made and very true to its style, and to enjoy over many more years. Now-2033

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Weingut Willi Schaefer

(Graach – Middle Mosel)

1975er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese	12 76	95
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The 1975er Graacher Domprobst Auslese AP 12 was the smallest of the different Auslese made by Willi Schaefer in that vintage. It starts off on the shy side and only gradually develops a superb nose of dried white peach, orange peel, almond milk, beeswax, mirabelle, herbs and spices. The wine proves gorgeous smooth yet also delicately zesty on the palate, and leaves one with a very long and lingering feel in the airy and delicate finish. This is a textbook stuff. Now-2025

2005er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese	08 06	93
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The 2005er Graacher Domprobst Spätlese AP 08 was made from fully ripe fruit and is the equivalent of the Estate's current "AP 5," i.e. the better regular Domprobst Spätlese of the vintage. It offers a gorgeously ripe and fruit-driven nose made of coconut, pineapple and mirabelle as well as some herbs, laurel and slate. The wine proves remarkable juicy and elegant on the palate and leaves a superbly ripe and smooth yet mouth-watering feel in the finish. Now-2030

2007er	Willi Schaefer	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett	09 08	91
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The 2007er Graacher Himmelreich Kabinett AP 09 offers a delicately fruity nose of yellow peach, candied grapefruit, pear and greengage as well as almond cream and a hint of anise. The wine proves nicely juicy and fruity on the palate. The ripe mildness of the acidity adds to subtlety and creaminess of the wine's texture. This Kabinett made in light Spätlese style proves deliciously easy to drink. Now-2032

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Weingut von Schubert – Maximin Grünhaus

(Mertesdorf – Trier-Ruwer)

1983er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Eiswein	47 84	100
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The 1983er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Eiswein was harvested at over 200° Oechsle on November 15, 1983. It develops a marvelous nose made of chamomile, lime, grapefruit, almond, apricot, pear, date, dried barbeque herbs, slate and a hint of nut with airing. The wine is stunningly refined, precise and intense on the palate. A delicately oily and exotic side is beautifully framed by some gloriously racy acidity. The finish is focused, precise and still incredibly youthful. This is a magical Eiswein to enjoy relentlessly. Now-2028

1993er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Auslese Nr. 183		98
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The 1993er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Auslese Nr. 183 continues to defy the elements and gains in focus and freshness by the year. This bottle was truly singing and among the finest ever tasted. The nose is all about delicate scents of cassis, minty herbs, gooseberry, lime, a hint of canned pineapple, a touch of coconut, and a good dollop of smoke. The feel on the palate is precise, focused and delicate yet incredibly deep and multi-layered. The wine literally plays with one's taste buds and leaves one awe-inspired by the great focused and persistent finish. The sweetness has receded and has given way to a great sense of smoothness. Its sheer elegance and purity make it one of the finest mature Grünhaus Auslese to enjoy currently. Now-2033

2003er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	18 04	97
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The 2003er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg TBA shows a hint of resin at first which quickly disappears as the wine reveals its beautiful nose made of pear, melon, apricot, dried fruits, chamomile, vanilla, almond cream, lead pencil and herbs. The remarkable thing about this TBA is the sheer elegance and finesse which runs through the wine and right into the long and beautifully balanced finish. The wine is smooth, delicate and quite juicy as notes of pineapple, honey and peach make for a graceful and subtle experience. This is plain delicious in a lighter, playful and ultimately very drinkable style. Now-2033

1988er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett	13 89	96
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The 1990er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Kabinett AP 13 delivers an absolutely stunning and multi-layered nose made of chamomile, cassis, cherry, white peach, minerals, smoke, dried flowers, herbal tea and mint. The wine proves remarkably fresh on the palate (never would one guess a 30 year-old wine!). And it oozes finesse, delicacy and airy lightness. The finish is all about minty herbs, cassis and flowers. The wine has great persistence despite the light-weighted body. This is truly breathtaking and a huge tribute to the greatness Kabinett wines can achieve. What a splendid and glorious effort! Now-2028

1990er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	19 91	95
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The 1990er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Kabinett AP 19 develops a gorgeously precise nose of lemon, pear, cassis, herbs and slate. The wine is simply electrifying on the palate, where a gorgeously soothing touch of cream adds a finishing touch of finesse to the experience. The finish is to die for. What a great Kabinett to reflect on or to sip mindlessly. Now-2025

1997er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	12 98	95
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This rather backward bottle of Abtsberg Kabinett AP 12 proves rather shy at first and needs a full 5-10 minutes to reveal its glorious nose of cassis, lemon zest, pear, tangerine, minty herbs and slate. It develops a gloriously playful and precise feel of fruitiness on the palate and leaves a clean and unbelievably vibrant and pure feel of slate, cassis and mint in the long and airy finish. The wine acts more as a beautiful and airy Spätlese in terms of complexity and presence, yet the finish is fresh and pure as a Kabinett should be. This is such a grandiose effort! Now-2032

1993er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett	04 94	95
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The 1993er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Kabinett AP 04 develops a most complex and beautifully refined and pure nose displaying floral notes, elderflower, cassis, lime, smoke, herbal tea, prune and incense. The wine appears on the lean side on the palate at first. But it quickly develops a great balance between zesty fruits and juicy acidity. There is even good extract and density coming through on the mid-palate and the finish is immensely persistent. This airy, light yet hugely complex Kabinett simply takes one's breath away. Now-2033



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1993er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Spätlese	08 94	95
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The 1993er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Spätlese AP 08 displays a gorgeously delicate, pure and fresh nose of mint, gooseberry, cassis, white peach and incense. A magnificent zesty acidity lifts up the fruity structure on the palate. The finish is exquisitely airy and refined, and rather off-dry than fruity-styled. This plain gorgeous mature Grünhaus Spätlese continues to cruise at a very high level. What a success! Now-2033

1983er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	09 84	94
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The 1983er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Kabinett AP 09 develops a beautiful, complex and enticing nose of smoke, grapefruit, gooseberry, mint, herbs, candied lime, incense, anise and dried spices. The wine develops the lightness and airiness of real Kabinett on the elegant, bright and pure palate. The finish is very delicate and almost as light as water without too much persistence. This is an admirable effort! Now-2023

1990er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	19 91	94
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The 1990er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Kabinett AP 19 proves a great treat as it delivers intense smoky notes of tangerine, orange peel, freshly cut herbs, grapefruit, green spices and tea as well as a hint of cassis. The wine develops great energy and presence underpinned by racy acidity on the palate and leaves one with a by now dry-tasting feel in the pure and long finish (the wine has 10% of alcohol and therefore never had high levels of residual sugar to start off anyway). This great fully mature Kabinett will offer much pleasure for many more years. Now-2025

1996er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	07 97	93
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The 1996er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Kabinett AP 07 offers a gorgeously floral and fresh nose with elderberry tree, cassis, pear, peach, lime and minty herbs. The wine is at first still surprisingly and comparatively sweet (especially for a 1996 Kabinett) and delicate on the palate, showing some candied and juicy fruits. Yet there is a sharp yet playful acidity coming through in the finish, which leaves a stunningly precise and complex feel. This is in a beautiful space at the moment. Now-2026

1993er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	10 94	93
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The 1993er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Kabinett AP 10 displays a superbly refined and fresh nose of yellow peach, cassis, grapefruit zest, spices, herbs and mint as well as some smoke, earl grey and lavender. The wine proves smooth yet incredibly juicy on the palate. Candied grapefruit and tangerine underline the playful side right into the light-weighted and incredibly long finish. What a gorgeous Kabinett! Now-2033

1995er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Auslese	24 96	93
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The 1995er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Auslese AP 26 proves already quite golden-colored. It exhibits a superbly mature nose of toffee, candied grapefruit, smoke, a hint of leather, beeswax, aniseed herbs, and forest honey. The wine is beautifully light on the palate, where some superb zesty acidity lifts up the riper flavors of beeswax, orange, gingerbread and candied lemon. The finish is very pure. A zesty kick of acidity makes this fully beautiful yet mature Auslese taste almost off-dry (rather than sweet or fruity). Now-2020

1989er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett	16 90	93
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The 1990er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Kabinett AP 16 proves rather delicate. The nose needs a few minutes before settling on a beautiful bouquet of candied grapefruit, apricot, yellow peach, a hint of honey and pineapple. These nicely ripe fruity aromatics are also present on the palate and give a smooth and delicate creamy even slightly soft feel to the wine. Yet the finish is superbly long and persistent. The softer side gives the wine the structure of a Spätlese rather than that of a racy Kabinett. But it remains a truly delicious piece of mature Ruwer! Now-2029

1985er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett	29 86	92
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The 1985er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Kabinett AP 29 delivers a gorgeously pure and fresh nose made of smoke, mint, intense spices, gooseberry, lime and grapefruit. The wine is superbly playful and light on the palate. Some crisp and pure acidity makes for a very long and animating feel in the finish. The fully dry-tasting after-taste is all about herbs and spices. What a superb mature Kabinett. Now-2020

1985er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	15 86	91
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The 1985er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Kabinett AP 15 offers a beautiful nose of smoke, herbs, mint, grapefruit and yellow apple. The wine is still remarkably fresh and lively on the palate where some candied fruits are wrapped into citrus and herbs. The finish of this beautifully mature piece of Riesling Kabinett is now fully dry. Despite being so old, this drinks superbly well! Now-2025



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1987er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett	12 88	89
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The 1987er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Kabinett AP 12 delivers a mature nose of anise, smoke, chamomile, fennel, pistachio and gooseberry. The wine proves rather straight and racy on the palate but develops more roundness and charm in the long finish. This pure and fully dry-tasting Kabinett is now entering its mystic phase and will please lovers of racy and truly mature Riesling. Now

2000er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	16 01	88
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The 2000er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Kabinett AP 16 offers a mature nose filled with fresh notes of mint, herbs, dill, anise and spices. Spicy notes of mint, sage and a hint of fennel underline this on the light and playful palate. An animating touch of tartness underlines the zesty and now almost dry feel in the finish. Now-2025

1987er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett	13 88	88
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The 1987er Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Kabinett AP 13 offers a nicely fruity nose with some greengage and yellow apple as well as herbs, anise and grapefruit. The wine is lean, straight and just a tad mellow on the light palate. Yet the acidity cleanses the palate in the finish and makes this Kabinett taste dry and racy. This wine is now truly in its mystic phase. Now

1986er	von Schubert	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett Halbtrocken	16 87	88
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The 1986er Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Kabinett Halbtrocken AP 16 develops notes of biscuit, candied grapefruit, tangerine and orange which are quickly joined by tar, licorice and lime on the nose. The wine is herbal and spicy on the palate, and leaves an animating, fresh and airy feel in the completely dry-tasting finish. Now

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Weingut Selbach-Oster

(Zeltingen – Middle Mosel)

1990er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Kabinett	08 91	92
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The 1990er Zeltinger Schlossberg Kabinett delivers a beautifully mature nose of grapefruit skin, yuzu, cherry, raspberry, smoky slate and minty herbs. Candied citrusy acidity leads the pace on the racy, energetic and smoky palate and gives this Kabinett an almost dry taste. The finish is fresh, herbal, minty and loaded with citrusy fruits. This is a beautiful mature Kabinett. Now-2020

1983er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett	10 84	91
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This 1983er Zeltinger Himmelreich Kabinett is very delicate, subtle and still youthful as beautiful notes of dried flowers, apple, smoke, anise, minty herbs and a hint of vanilla emerge from the glass. The wine proves pure, silky and nicely creamy on the delicate palate and leaves a beautiful floral feel in the long finish. Despite being already 35 years old, this superb mature Kabinett still has quite some years ahead. Now-2028

1986er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett	12 87	89
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This 1986er Zeltinger Himmelreich Kabinett was harvested at a very moderate 71° Oechsle. It is now well into its mystic phase as it offers a superb smoky nose with minty herbs, incense, aniseed herbs, curry and white pepper. The wine is delicately creamy and beautifully light-weighted and smooth on the palate and leaves a fresh and very subtle feel in the finish. This is all about lightness and finesse. Drink up

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Weingut Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

1978er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese Eiswein	19 82	90
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The 1978er Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese Eiswein was made from frozen fruit of Spätlese must levels. It offers a superb nose of green and minty herbs, lime tree, ripe dried fruits, grapefruit and fern. The wine is already quite structured on the palate but still has some flesh and refinement. It does absolutely not behave like a wine from one of the worst vintages ever in the Mosel! This proves another tribute to the lasting qualities of Mosel Riesling as well as to the Doctor vineyard! Now-2023

1985er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett	08 86	90
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The 1985er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Kabinett offers a beautifully mature nose of apricot, nutmeg, apple, mango and pineapple enhanced by a solid touch of smoke and herbs. The wine develops nice honeyed flavors mixed with sweet fruits on the palate. This gives this beautifully mature Kabinett a round and smooth side in the delicate and persistent finish. Now-2020

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Weingut Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch (Erben Thanisch)

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

1989er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Auslese lange GK	17 90	<i>Auction</i>	98
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The 1989er Berncasteler Doctor Auslese lange GK (sold off at the annual Trier Auction in 1990) was made from highly botrytized as well as partially frozen fruit. It offers a stunning nose of apricot, almond paste, pear, herbs and fine spices. The wine proves outstandingly elegant and refined on the palate, where more gorgeously exotic fruits mingle with zesty acidity. The wine then leaves one with a great feel of date, apricot, herbs and fine spices. This is a truly remarkable piece of Riesling that fully deserves its legendary status! Now-2029

1990er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Beerenauslese	18 91	<i>Auction</i>	98
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The rather dark-colored 1990er Berncasteler Doctor Beerenauslese Auction develops a superb and mature nose of apricot, furniture varnish, dried fruits, beeswax, toast, and barbeque herbs. The wine is stunningly well balanced on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel in the long and remarkably smooth but also zesty finish. This is an exceptional mature BA with great expressive character. Now-2030

1994er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese	11 95	<i>Auction</i>	93
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The 1994er Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese Auction offers a beautifully bright nose of candied grapefruit, pear, minerals, earthy spices and quite some smoke. The wine is beautifully elegant on the palate and leaves a rather refined feel in the long and remarkably focused finish. The after-taste is all about deliciously off-dry and racy elegance. Now-2034

1998er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Auslese	05 99		92
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The 1998er Berncasteler Doctor Auslese proves rather backward and only gradually reveals a fascinating nose of pineapple, coconut, laurel, mint, and barbeque herbs. It proves nicely delineated and elegant on the delicately creamy palate and leaves a mouthwatering feel in the smooth and elegant finish. This simply incredibly gorgeous Auslese continues to shine, as it did right from the start, in 1999. Now-2028

2003er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Thanisch	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Kabinett	05 04		92
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The bright-colored 2003er Berncasteler Doctor Kabinett develops a stunning feel of ripe pear, some citrusy elements, whipped cream, herbs and fine spices. The wine proves rather full-bodied but incredibly lively on the palate, certainly by 2003 standards! The finish is juicy, racy and elegant. This has got to be one of the finest Kabinett from the vintage (even if it really is a Spätlese by all standards). What an incredibly success! Now-2033

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Weingut Julius Treis

(Reil – Middle Mosel)

1975er	Julius Treis	Reiler Sorentberg Riesling Kabinett	05 76	90
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This 1975er Reiler Sorentberg Kabinett comes from a vineyard which was abandoned soon after this vintage but was recently revived by this Estate. The wine is now well into its mystic phase as it displays beeswax, acacia, lavender, minty herbs, dried and ripe apple, curry, cinnamon, ripe strawberry, quince, vanilla and licorice on the nose. The wine is zesty, spicy and minty on the light-weighted and refreshing palate. Ripe acidity whips up the flavors and livens up the finish. Now

1998er	Julius Treis	Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Riesling Kabinett		88
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The 1988er Reiler Mullay-Hofberg Kabinett was harvested in the classical, steep-hill part of the Reiler Mullay-Hofberg vineyard and was the only Kabinett produced out of this vineyard by the Estate in 1998. It delivers a spicy nose of curry, cinnamon, yellow apple, plum, smoke and quince. It is very delicate and creamy on the palate. The sensation of residual sugar has now melted away. A smooth and juicy structure with nice flavors of yellow peach, green apple and cinnamon rounds off the finish. Now-2023

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Viermorgenhof – Weingut Reinhold Molitor

(Kinheim – Middle Mosel)

1992er	Viermorgenhof	Kinheimer Hubertuslay Riesling Auslese **	10 93	90
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The 1992er Kinheimer Hubertuslay Auslese ** offers a rather golden color and the telltale nose of mature Mosel made of beeswax, tea, mirabelle, pear and smoky elements. The wine is nicely playful and fresh on the palate, where it unfolds nice creamy and herbal flavors with light Auslese presence. The finish is now smooth rather than sweet and driven by a gorgeously light and delicately petrol-infused feel of herbs, pear and smoke. This is an outstanding mature Riesling! Now-2027

2008er	Viermorgenhof	Kinheimer Rosenberg Riesling Auslese **	13 09	90
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The hay-colored 2008er Kinheimer Rosenberg Auslese ** offers a beautiful nose of pear, mirabelle, passion fruit, grapefruit and whipped cream. The sweetness is still dominating an otherwise beautifully lively feel on the palate, where citrusy elements nicely mingle with herbs and smoke. The finish is lively, creamy, precise and, quite frankly, making one wanting to go for more. This is a beautiful Auslese made in a fresh and juicy style to enjoy over the coming decades. Now-2038

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Weingüter Geheimrat J. Wegeler

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2001er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese Vintage Collection	11 02	94
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The 2001er Bernkasteler Doctor Spätlese Vintage Collection has been aged in the Wegeler cellars until its release in 2019 (the release information is provided on the back label). This hay-colored wine offers a beautifully fresh and enticing nose of cassis, pear, pineapple, coconut and fine spices. The wine is gorgeously playful on the palate, where creamy elements emerge and mingle with the zest of the acidic backbone. The finish is all about fresh tropical fruits, whipped cream and fine spices. This superb mature Spätlese is simply singing! Now-2031



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1994er	Wegeler	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese Vintage Collection	14 95	92
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The 1994er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese Vintage Collection has been aged in the Wegeler cellars until its recorking in 2018 and its late release in 2019 (the recorking and release information is provided on the back label). This golden colored wine offers a rather subdued but superbly refined nose made of nougat, herbal tea, pineapple and fresh minty herbs. The wine is beautifully precise and comparably light-bodied on the palate. An elegant creamy side then emerges in the racy and focused finish. The after-taste is revealing the botrytis impact as honey, almond and apricot round off the tea and herbal elements. This beautifully complex but also remarkably subtle mature Mosel Auslese is best enjoyed on its own, ideally with friends and family. Now-2034

1999er	Wegeler	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese Vintage Collection	11 00	90
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The 1999er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese Vintage Collection has been aged in the Wegeler cellars until its late release in 2019 (the release information is provided on the back label). This golden-colored wine offers a beautifully nose made of mirabelle, fine herbs, spices, licorice and whipped cream. The wine is nicely smooth and delicately creamy on the palate and leaves a delicately zesty feel in the long and melon-infused finish. This nice fully mature Auslese should drink beautifully for many years to come. Now-2029

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Mosel Retrospective | Great Defunct Mosel Estates

Mature Mosel is one of the great treasures of the wine world. Right since the start of Mosel Fine Wines more than 10 years ago, we have tirelessly encouraged our readers to track down and taste such beauties. As many regions, the Mosel went through an existential crisis in the 1970s and 1980s. Some of the leading Estates of the day unfortunately disappeared. Yet, their wines can still from time to time be found on the auction market.

We provide here some background on some of the finest of these defunct Estates. In order to retain some commercial value for our readers, we focus on those Estates which were still active in 1970, i.e. roughly half a century ago. In a few cases the Estates were still active up until very recently.

We often rely here on own research which we have been carrying out over the years, foraging through libraries, historic books and interviewing heirs to these Estates. Some of the information found here is completely new: In some instances, not even the heirs to the Estates were aware of some facts!

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[Dr. F. Weins-Prüm](#)

Wehlen

Ürzig

Trier

Trier

Ürzig

Ürzig

Trier

Zeltingen

Ockfen

Trier

Brauneberg

Zeltingen

Wiltingen

Wehlen

Saarburg

Kanzem

Neumagen-Dhron

Longuich

Lieser

Trier

Piesport

Wiltingen

Oberemmel

Wehlen





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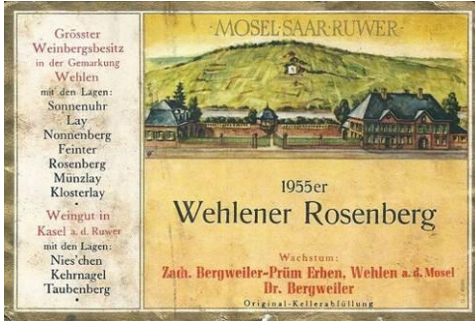
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Great Defunct Mosel Estates | Profiles

Weingut Zach. Bergweiler-Prüm Erben (Dr. Bergweiler)

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)



Background: Dr. Zacharias Bergweiler jr. set up this Estate after the 1940s out of one of the pre-War greats: The Zach. Bergweiler-Prüm Estate which owned approx. one quarter of the original S.A. Prüm Estate (Zacharias Bergweiler Sr. had married two Prüm heiresses – the second after his first wife died). The Dr. Bergweiler Estate was eventually given up at the beginning of the 1980s.

Holdings: 10 ha | Wehlen and Kasel (as well as Bernkastel for a while).

Estate Highlights: Bottles from the 1940s right into the 1970s can be magnificent and some of the finest Wehlener Sonnenuhr money can buy.

Membership: None.

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Weingut Richard Jos. Berres

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)



Background: This Estate was formed in the 1920s out of the split of the one of the all-time great Estates, the Joh. Berres jr. Erben Estate, a founding member of the Grosser Ring, with the finest of holdings in Ürzig and Erden snatched up its ancestors at the secularization of church goods in the early 19th century. The Estate was gradually given up by the early 1980s.

Holdings: 5 ha | Erden and Ürzig (as well as Zeltingen for a while).

Estate Highlights: Any bottle until the 1970s can be magnificent but we have had some bad luck, especially because of a high proportion of corked bottles after 1971.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Weingut Bischöfliches Konvikt Trier

(Trier – Trier-Ruwer)



Background: This clerical institution with roots into the 17th century started its winemaking activity at the end of the 19th century and grew to become one of the largest Estates of the period. In 1966, this founding member of the Grosser Ring merged its winemaking operations with two other clerical institutions, the Priesterseminar and the Hohe Domkirche, but the wines from each of the three institutions would still be commercialized separately until 2010.

Holdings: 40 ha | Avelsbach, Ayl, Eitelsbach, Kasel and Piesport (as well as Grünhaus briefly).

Estate Highlights: Any bottle until 1976 has simply either been delicious or plain great. Bottles after that can be great, but not all are.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel) until 1966.

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Weingut Bischöfliches Priesterseminar Trier (Trier – Trier-Ruwer)



Background: This clerical institution set up in 1773 was richly endowed with prime vineyards. It astutely invested into prime vineyard holdings in the second half of the 19th century and grew to become one of the largest Estates in the Mosel. In 1966, this founding member of the Grosser Ring merged its winemaking operations with two other clerical institutions, the Hohe Domkirche and the Bischöfliches Konvikt, but the wines from each of the three Institutions would still be commercialized separately until 2010.

Holdings: 34 ha | Ayl, Dhron, Erden, Kanzem, Kasel, Trittenheim, Ürzig and Wiltingen.

Estate Highlights: Any bottle until 1976 has simply either been delicious or plain great. Bottles after that can be great, but not all are.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel) until 1966.

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Weingut Jos Christoffel jr. (Ürzig – Middle Mosel)



Background: This Estate was formed out of Christoffel and Adam holdings (Ürzig and Erden) as well as S.A. Prüm Erben (Graach and Wehlen) and taken over by Kurt and Karl-Josef (KaJo) Christoffel in the 1950s. Without heirs wanting to take over the Estate, it was given up recently, after the 2017 vintage.

Holdings: 4 ha | Erden and Ürzig (as well as Graach and Wehlen for a while).

Estate Highlights: Any bottle from this Estate can be as magnificent as that of the most famous Estates in the region, as our regular reviews and tasting notes have shown over the years.

Membership: None.

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Weingut E. Christoffel-Berres (Ürzig – Middle Mosel)



Background: This Estate was formed at the end of the 1940s out of the split of the historic Geschw. Berres Estate, a founding member of the Grosser Ring and sole owner of the Erdener Prälät. Ancestors of the Christoffel and Berres families were among those who snatched up prime holdings at the secularization of church goods in the early 19th century. The Estate was eventually given up in after the 1997 vintage.

Holdings: 2 ha | Erden and Ürzig.

Estate Highlights: This Estate produced stunning wines throughout its lifetime, and this also in the more difficult 1980s vintages. This is one of the most underrated historic gems of the region.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Weingut Franz Duhr / Duhr-Conrad-Fehres (Trier – Trier-Ruwer)



Background: This Estate was set up at the end of the 19th century by Franz Duhr and his wife, an heiress to the Conrad-Fehres from Brauneberg, who are also ancestors of the Fritz Haag Estate. Besides a *Négociant* activity, it held prime vineyards in the Mosel and the Saar which it had snatched up in the first half of the 20th century. The Estate was eventually given up in the 1970s.

Holdings: 20 ha | Brauneberg, Mülheim, Lieser, Ockfen, Saarburg, Schoden and Wiltingen.

Estate Highlights: Any Estate bottling from this winery (i.e. with Wachstum "Franz Duhr" or "Fr. Duhr" on the label) has simply been stupendous.

Membership: None.

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Weingut Geschw. Ehses-Berres (Zeltingen – Middle Mosel)



Background: This founding member of the Grosser Ring was set up by Michael Ehses-Berres in the second half of the 19th century. The family, which also owned the Rendenbach winery, sold the Estate to Günther Reh (from the Carl Reh winery) in the 1970s. He briefly kept the name alive before first integrating the Estate into his von Kesselstatt Estate and eventually giving up on the vineyards.

Holdings: 3 ha | Zeltingen.

Estate Highlights: Bottles rarely appear on the market, something which is not surprising given the tiny size of the Estate. But any bottle until the 1970s which we have had so far was simply magnificent.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Weingut Gobert (Ockfen – Saar)



Background: This founding member of the Grosser Ring was set up in the aftermaths of the secularization of church goods at the beginning of the 19th century. It grew to become one of the finest and largest Estates of the region through marriage and clever vineyard clearing. It was gradually given up by the 1970s, but remained active, albeit on a very small scale, until the 1990s.

Holdings: 10 ha | Ockfen and Schoden.

Estate Highlights: Bottles from vintages until the mid-1970s can be magnificent. We had less luck with more recent examples.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Weingut Hohe Domkirche Trier

(Trier – Trier-Ruwer)



Background: This clerical institution with winemaking roots into the 12th century renewed its winemaking activity after the secularization with a bang, when it was donated a part of the Scharzhof Estate in the 1850s. It grew to become one of the largest Estates of the 19th and 20th century. In 1966, this founding member of the Grosser Ring merged its winemaking operations with two other clerical institutions, the Priesterseminar and the Bischöfliches Konvikt, but the wines from each of the three institutions would still be commercialized separately until 2010.

Holdings: 40 ha | Avelsbach, Oberemmel, Trier, Waldrach and Wiltingen.

Estate Highlights: Any bottle until 1976 has simply either been delicious or plain great. Bottles after that can be great, but not all are.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel) until 1966.

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Weingut Graf zu Hoensbroech

(Wiltingen – Saar)



Background: The Hoensbroech family got into the benefit of a prime Estate with some fine vineyards in Wiltingen through marriage in the early 18th century and managed to keep it in the family until after World War II, when it was leased out to the Schmitz family. This family eventually bought it outright and retained the right to the name until 1983.

Holdings: 4 ha | Wiltingen and Niedermennig (during part of the Schmitz period).

Estate Highlights: Any bottle until the mid-1970s can be truly great. Bottles from more recent vintages can prove delicious but are less consistent.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Weingut Huesgen-Böcking

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)



Background: Adolph Huesgen-Böcking, a sibling from two of the richest wine merchant families in the Mosel, consolidate his huge Estate in the second half of the 19th century (he was to be called the Mosel Bismarck), with holdings spread over all rivers of the Mosel. The Estate was to be eventually given up, as so many of these large trading companies, in the 1970s, due to lack of heirs.

Holdings: 20 ha | Kanzem, Sommerau, Traben-Trarbach, Wiltingen and Wintrich (as well as Bernkastel and Kasel briefly).

Estate Highlights: Any bottle from this Estate has been delicious and, if properly stored, still very enjoyable today.

Membership: NVT (predecessor of the Bernkasteler Ring) for a while.

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Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

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Weingut Apollinar Joseph Koch

(Wiltingen – Saar)



Background: This Estate emerged from the split up of the original Scharzhof Estate in the 1850s. It was to be THE great competitor to Egon Müller in the Scharzhofberg, battling it out at who would be getting the highest price at the annual auctions. This founding member of the Grosser Ring was eventually given up in the 1970s. Günther Reh (from the Carl Reh winery) took it over. He kept the name briefly alive before integrating the holdings into his von Kesselstatt Estate.

Holdings: 10 ha | Wiltingen.

Estate Highlights: Bottlings until the 1970s can be truly remarkable, but not all are. Wines from this Estate rarely fetch high prices at current auction so are very much worth a plunge!

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel) until 1949.

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Weingut P. Licht-Bergweiler Erben

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)



Background: This Estate emerged from the marriage of Peter Licht, whose ancestors snatched up some prime holdings on the Brauneberger hill, with a Bergweiler daughter, whose family owned some prime holdings in Graach and Wehlen. The Estate continued to be managed by the family until it was gradually given up in the 1990s.

Holdings: 8 ha | Brauneberg, Graach and Wehlen (as well as Bernkastel briefly).

Estate Highlights: Bottlings until the 1990s can be remarkable, but not all are, as our various tasting notes over the years have shown.

Membership: Bernkasteler Ring.

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Weingut Merrem

(Zeltingen – Middle Mosel)



Background: Merrem was a notary in Zeltingen during Napoleonic times and astutely amassed an eye-watering amount of prime vineyard holdings in the village. His family continued to manage the Estate for over 150 years (it was a founding member of the Grosser Ring) before giving it eventually up in 1970.

Holdings: 4 ha | Zeltingen.

Estate Highlights: Bottles rarely appear on the market (no surprise given the size of the Estate) but if they do, take the plunge. Every bottle we tasted was remarkable.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Mosel Fine Wines

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Weingut Felix Müller

(Wiltingen – Saar)



Background: This off-spring of the famous Egon Müller family set up his own separate Estate in the 1930s but handed over the rights to the Estate to Apollinar Joseph Koch by the 1950s. It was eventually sold off to Günter Reh, who continued to sometimes bottle wines under this label until at least the 1980s.

Holdings: 10 ha | Wiltingen.

Estate Highlights: Bottles rarely appear on the market (no surprise given the size of the Estate) but if they do, take the plunge. Every bottle we tasted was remarkable.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Weingut Peter Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)



Background: This Estate emerged in the 1920s out of the split of the original Prüm Estate (Peter Prüm is one of the sons of Sebastian Alois Prüm). The family of Peter Prüm continued to manage the Estate before eventually giving it up in the late 1980s (it lost quite some vineyards after a split up in the early 1970s).

Holdings: 4 ha | Graach and Wehlen.

Estate Highlights: Any bottle by this Estate has been simply beautiful and, while they do not regularly appear on the market, they generally offer fine value if they do.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Weingut Adolf Rheinart Erben

(Saarburg – Saar)



Background: This Estate emerged at the beginning of the 19th century after a rich landowner married an heiress to some prime vineyards acquired by her father during the secularization. The Estate grew its ownership around Ockfen and Schoden by the middle of the 19th century, holdings for which it would remain famous until it was gradually been given up by the 1980s.

Holdings: 13 ha | Ockfen, Schoden and Wiltingen (as well as Ayl and Saarburg briefly).

Estate Highlights: Any bottle until 1976 has simply either been delicious or plain great. Bottles after that have been of rather mediocre quality.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel) as well as Bernkasteler Ring (briefly).

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Weingut Joh. Peter Reinert (Kanzem – Saar)



Background: This fine Estate, with its oldest son always called Johann Peter, was gradually established as of the early part of the 19th century through marriages in families with prime holdings in different villages of the northern Saar. The Estate was eventually given up after the 2016 vintage.

Holdings: 4 ha | Ayl, Filzen, Igel, Kanzem, Wawern and Wiltingen.

Estate Highlights: Fruity-styled wines from this Estate can be of remarkable quality, being both light and intensely complex. Although not as famous as others, the wines from this Estate age beautifully well.

Membership: Bernkasteler Ring.

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Weingut Sanitätsrat Dr. Ronde (Neumagen-Dhron – Middle Mosel)



Background: This Estate was set up just before World War I by Julius Ronde, a medical doctor, out of holdings inherited from his wife, born Dünweg (an Estate still existing in Neumagen-Dhron today). The Estate was to remain in family hands until it was eventually given up in the early 1990s (it was to lose half its size in the 1960s).

Holdings: 5 ha | Dhron, Neumagen and Trittenheim.

Estate Highlights: Any bottle from this Estate has been simply magical. In short: If you see a bottle at an auction, take the plunge!

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel) until the 1980s.

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Weingut Carl Schmitt-Wagner (Longuich – Middle Mosel)



Background: The Estate was grown out of prime holdings inherited from families who had bought some prime vineyards around Longuich in the course of the secularization at the beginning of the 19th century. The Estate was to be managed by the Schmitt family until it was split up and taken over by Karl-Josef Loewen (Carl Loewen) in 2007. He maintained the label until 2012, when it integrated the vineyards into his own brand.

Holdings: 4 ha | Longuich, Mehring and Schweich.

Estate Highlights: All wines from this Estate have been delicious and always reflected the style of the vintage.

Membership: Bernkasteler Ring.

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Mosel Fine Wines

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Weingut Freiherr von Schorlemer

(Lieser – Middle Mosel)



Background: This grand Estate came into being when Clemens von Schorlemer, an agriculture Minister of the Prussian State, married into the Puricelli family, who had amassed quite an amazing set of vineyards directly or through marriage in the 19th century. The Freiherr von Schorlemer Estate was to be managed as a single entity until the late 1960s, when it was gradually split up into separate Estates owned by the different heirs. A sizeable part was snatched up by the Meyer-Horne winery, who continued to sell wines from these vineyards under the Hermann von Schorlemer label until the late 1980s.

Holdings: 44 ha | Brauneberg, Graach, Lieser, Schoden, Serrig, Wintrich and Zeltingen.

Estate Highlights: Any bottle until 1976 has simply either been delicious or plain great. Bottles from more recent vintages can be good, but lack the "cut" of the older bottles.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel) until the 1927.

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Verwaltung der Staatlichen Weinbaudomänen Trier

(Trier – Trier-Ruwer)



Background: This Estate, composed of three separate winemaking facilities located in Avelsbach, Ockfen and Serrig, was set up by the Prussian authorities at the turn to the 20th century and extended with the vineyards of the Weinbau Lehranstalt in the 1970s. This huge Estate would continue to be run by the regional state of Rhineland-Palatinate until 1990, when the Ockfen and Serrig facilities were sold off, and 2015, when the Trier and Avelsbach holdings were leased out.

Holdings: 90 ha | Avelsbach, Trier, Ockfen and Serrig.

Estate Highlights: Any bottle until 1976 has simply either been delicious or plain great. Bottles after that can be very nice but are hardly ever great.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel) until WWII.

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Weingut Tobias

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)



Background: The Tobias family was one of the all-time great Mosel owners of the 19th century but most of the holdings were gradually sold off by the turn to the 20th century. The family, a founding member of the Grosser Ring, tended its prime vineyards in Piesport until the 1980s.

Holdings: 2 ha | Piesport.

Estate Highlights: Every single bottle from this mythical producer has been a highlight. While small, overseas wine lovers will have a greater chance to find some of these wines as almost everything was sold into the USA.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Mosel Fine Wines

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Weingut Bernd Van Volxem

(Wiltingen – Saar)



Background: This Estate emerged from the split of the historic Van Volxem Estate which had been set up by Bernd's grandfather Gustav in the second half of the 19th century. The Estate remained in family hands until it was given up in 1990 (NB: This is the Van Volxem Estate that Roman Niewodniczanski took over in 2000).

Holdings: 10 ha | Oberemmel and Wiltingen.

Estate Highlights: Bottles from this Estate have all been delicious and sometimes outright exceptional, especially the older, pre-1971 ones.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Weingut Staatsminister a.D. Otto Van Volxem

(Oberemmel – Saar)



Background: This Estate was set up by Otto Van Volxem, a Minister in the regional government of Rhineland-Palatinate, out of the split of the historic Van Volxem Estate (which his grandfather Gustav had launched in the second half of the 19th century). The Estate was eventually taken over by Günther Reh (Carl Reh winery) at the end of the 1970s, who continued to produce some wines under this label before eventually integrating the vineyards into his von Kesselstatt Estate.

Holdings: 7 ha | Oberemmel and Wiltingen.

Estate Highlights: Any bottle until 1976 has simply either been delicious or plain great. Bottles after that did not really live up to the earlier quality.

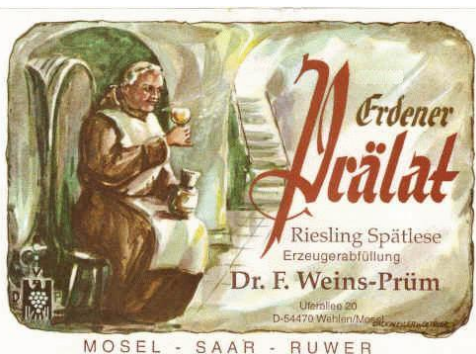
Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Weingut Dr. F. Weins-Prüm

(Wehlen – Mosel)



Background: This Estate emerged in the 1920s out of the split of the original Prüm Estate (Dr. Franz Weins married a Prüm heiress). The Estate passed on to the Selbach family from Ürzig through marriage. Without direct heirs, it was eventually given up in 2015.

Holdings: 5 ha | Bernkastel, Erden, Graach, Ürzig, Wehlen and Zeltingen (as well as Waldrach briefly).

Estate Highlights: Throughout its history, this fine Estate has been produced some cracking wines shining through lightness and elegance. Any bottle will be true to the vineyard and vintage style.

Membership: Grosser Ring (VDP Mosel).

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Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Mature Riesling 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.



This Issue No 45 features 30 mature Riesling still commercially available ex-cellar from the following Estates:

von Kesselstatt	<i>Morscheid</i>	<i>Ruwer</i>
Loersch	<i>Trittenheim</i>	<i>Mosel</i>
Hermann Ludes	<i>Thörnich</i>	<i>Mosel</i>
Markus Molitor	<i>Wehlen</i>	<i>Mosel</i>
Martin Müllen	<i>Traben-Trarbach</i>	<i>Mosel</i>
C. von Nell-Breuning	<i>Kasel</i>	<i>Ruwer</i>
Joh. Jos. Prüm	<i>Wehlen</i>	<i>Mosel</i>
S.A. Prüm	<i>Wehlen</i>	<i>Mosel</i>
Viermorgenhof	<i>Kinheim</i>	<i>Mosel</i>
Wegeler	<i>Bernkastel-Kues</i>	<i>Mosel</i>

We encourage you to contact the Estates, their agents or importers in your country should you be interested.



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Mature Riesling Commercially Available at Estates: Detailed Tasting Notes (30 Wines)

We provide here the tasting notes of wines still commercially available at the Estates and which we published in this Issue.

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 Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt

(Morscheid – Trier-Ruwer)

2005er	von Kesselstatt	Kaseler Nies'chen Riesling Beerenauslese	76 06	97
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The 2005er Kaseler Nies'chen Beerenauslese was made from shriveled grapes with little botrytis. It offers a firework of ripe flavors including raisin, mango, toffee, honey, mirabelle, dried apricot, poached pear and passion fruit, as well as some nut and smoke. A hint of volatile acidity and some minty herbs add to the presence and expressiveness of the aromatics of this dessert wine. Cream, baked spices, apple jelly and marzipan coat the gorgeously unctuous, sweet and juicy palate. The finish is intense, even powerful, but remains magnificently balanced and long. This little masterpiece will prove utterly enjoyable for many more decades to come. Now-2075

2007er	von Kesselstatt	Josephshöfer Riesling Spätlese	32 08	93
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The 2007er Josephshöfer Spätlese starts off by offering some rich and juicy notes of toffee, vanilla cream, smoke, poached pear, tangerine and passion fruit before minty herbs kick in and add freshness to the overall ripe yet clean nose. The wine coats the palate with intense sweet and creamy flavors of ripe fruits, honey and coconut cream not unlike those found in an Auslese if not an Auslese GK. It leaves a round and sweet feel in the very long and intense finish. This big Auslese in all but name proves, as such, a great success which will last for at least two more decades. Now-2037

2009er	von Kesselstatt	Scharzhofberger Riesling Spätlese	24 10	92
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The 2009er Scharzhofberger Spätlese offers a fully ripe and rich nose of coconut cream, pineapple, almond, toffee and earthy spices as well as a hint of gooseberry and melon. Juicy, sweet and even unctuous fruits are joined by honey and almond cream on the rather rich palate, and leaves a nice persistent and intense feel in the finish. This Auslese in all but name will particularly please lovers of ample, toffee-driven, fruity-styled Riesling. Now-2034

2009er	von Kesselstatt	Josephshöfer Riesling Kabinett	32 10	89
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The 2009er Josephshöfer Kabinett was fermented down to 18 g/l of residual sugar, i.e. to off-dry levels. It starts off on the ample and ripe side of things but gains in finesse with some airing. It then develops attractive notes of peach, tangerine, white mint, spices and grapefruit. The wine proves quite juicy but also still fully off-dry on the palate. It leaves a lighter, rounder and more delicate feel in the finish, even if there is a hint of earthy spices and tartness in the background. Now-2029

2009er	von Kesselstatt	Josephshöfer Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	32 10	89
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The 2009er Josephshöfer Kabinett Feinherb was fermented down to 18 g/l of residual sugar. It starts off on the ample and ripe side of things but gains in finesse with some airing. It then develops attractive notes of peach, tangerine, white mint, spices and grapefruit. The wine proves quite juicy but also still fully off-dry on the palate. It leaves a lighter, rounder and more delicate feel in the finish, even if there is a hint of earthy spices and tartness in the background. Now-2029

2009er	von Kesselstatt	Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Trocken GG	50 10	88
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The already fully golden-colored 2009er Bernkasteler Doctor GG offers a powerful and ripe nose of cooked apple, toffee, cinnamon, ginger, orange, a hint of nut and smoke as well as some coconut cream. The wine coats the palate with ample juicy and ripe fruits, tar and smoke. The finish is slightly herbal and tart, which helps to freshen up the aromatic profile. A hint of power comes through and linearizes somewhat the after-taste. This will please lovers of ostentatious, broad and ripe dry Riesling. Now

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Mosel Fine Wines

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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Loersch

(Leiwen – Mosel)

The Estate was called Weingut Loersch-Eifel until the 2011 vintage.

2005er	Loersch-Eifel	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	04 06	95
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The 2005er Trittenheimer Apotheke TBA was harvested at a full 205° Oechsle. This fully amber-colored wine develops a stunningly pure nose of almond, dried apricot, date and just a hint of spices to add depth. The wine is still hugely sweet but remarkably precise and pure on the palate, where tons of juicy almond cream, date, raisin and dried apricot make for a remarkable and deep experience. The finish is still really sweet, but the great touch of zesty acidity in the after-taste already hints at the stunning balance that this wine will reach at full maturity, in a decade or more. But one can enjoy this wine already now and admire its sweet purity, precision and airy depth. 2030-2070

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Weingut Hermann Ludes

(Thörnich – Middle Mosel)

1995er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Auslese	05 96	93
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The golden-colored 1995er Thörnicher Ritsch Auslese needs a few minutes to get rid of its mustiness (a note often found in wines which have been aged in the damp cellars of Mosel Estates). It then offers a beautiful nose of Limoncello infused in honey, almond, apricot, black tea and bees wax. The wine is beautifully focused and delicately creamy on the light-weighted palate and leaves a most airy feel of honey, beeswax, lemon and herbal elements in the lively and delicately smooth finish. This light expression of an Auslese GK is simply superb! Now-2030

1994er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Spätlese	05 97	93
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The 1994er Thörnicher Ritsch Spätlese AP 5 97 was left in tank for two years before being bottled (hence the late AP number). It proves incredibly bright-colored and offers a gorgeous nose of gooseberry, almond, whipped cream, black tea and smoky slate, all wrapped into a fleeting scent of Limoncello. The wine is gorgeously sharp and lively on the focused and precise palate. It has the lightness and deep intensity of a Prüm Kabinett and leaves a beautifully tart yet smooth feel of minerals, citrusy fruits and herbs (it does have 9% of alcohol). It is simply hard to believe that this wine is 25 years old! Only a hint of petrol in the after-taste betrays a little bit the wine's age. What a great success. Lovers of real light Kabinett and Spätlese should plunge upon this wine! Now-2029

2004er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Spätlese	04 05	93
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The 2004er Thörnicher Ritsch Spätlese proves remarkably bright colored and immediately captures one's attention through great scents of pear, white peach, wet stone, lemon zest, cinnamon and chalky minerals. The wine is beautifully playful and mouth-watering (the wine does have 9.5% of alcohol) and leaves a superbly airy and playful feel of flowers, minerals, lemon sorbet and a hint of earthy spices. The after-taste is all tickles, fruitiness and persistence. This is a gorgeously classic example of Mosel lightness. What a great success! Now-2034

1995er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Kabinett	04 96	91
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The bright golden-colored 1995er Thörnicher Ritsch Kabinett was fermented to an off-dry style (it does have 9% of alcohol). It offers a gorgeously lively nose of almond, candied grapefruit zest, wet stone, black tea, Limoncello and some strong herbal elements. The wine is incredibly lively and racy on the light-weighted airy palate. The acid backbone runs right into the delicately smooth and tart finish. This gorgeous Kabinett is so easy to enjoy if you are partial to racy and focused expressions of mature Riesling, not unlike those recently found at Hofgut Falkenstein. Now-2025

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Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Markus Molitor

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

NB: The Estate 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. As of the change of label introduced with the 2017 vintage, this color code is also relayed via a little square with the corresponding color at the bottom and in the middle of the front label. In addition there is some wording on the back label but without any firm indication such as Trocken or Feinherb. In order to avoid any confusion as to the wine's style, we indicate the color of the capsule in parentheses in the description of each wine.

2009er	Markus Molitor	Niedermenniger Herrenberg Riesling Spätlese (Golden Capsule)	16 10	93
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The 2009er Niedermenniger Herrenberg Spätlese (Golden Capsule) still hints at SO2 upon opening the bottle. These scents quickly give way to most beautiful notes of yellow flowers, smoke, poached pear, aniseed herbs, black tea and cassis leaf. The wine proves superbly well balanced on the palate, where whipped cream and sappy yellow peach interplay with zesty fruits. The finish proves hugely persistent and beautifully precise. This ticks all the Spätlese boxes as it manages to remain light and airy in this comparatively warm vintage. This great success has aged beautifully well and will offer much pleasure for decades to come. Now-2039

2009er	Markus Molitor	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese ** (Golden Capsule)	27 10	91+
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The 2009er Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Auslese ** (Golden Capsule) is still really only work in progress as it is reductive and marked by SO2. It requires several days of airing before starting to reveal a truly impressive nose made of white flowers, guava, melon, apricot, tangerine and spices. The wine proves also quite reductive on the palate where the smoky side still dominates at this stage. The finish is intense, very long and lives from a beautiful tension between sweet, creamy and tart elements. This impressive effort is really best left alone for another decade (if not more) but the potential is huge, once it will shed off its wall of sulfur. 2029-2039+

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Weingut Martin Müllen

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

1998er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Letterlay Riesling Spätlese	04 99	95
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The 1998er Kröver Letterlay Spätlese was harvested at 88° Oechsle in the Häsje sector of the vineyard with a little less exposure to the evening sun. It offers a stunning nose of citrus peel, fern, tea, wet stone, cassis and a touch of whipped cream on the nose. The wine is pure elegance and playfulness on the palate, where tea, beeswax and lemon grass make for an irresistible feel of liveliness, depth and freshness. What a grandiose and incredibly fresh piece of mature Riesling. This is simply a little jewel of finesse. Now-2028

2005er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Paradies Riesling Auslese	09 06	94
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The 2005er Kröver Paradies Auslese is still somewhat reduced on the nose and only gradually reveals its gorgeous flavors of pineapple, coconut and whipped cream wrapped into a hint of petrol. Stunning zesty acidity whips up the flavors right into the delicately creamy finish. It is only in the after-taste that some ripe scents of honey and apricot underline the Auslese GK character of the wine. This little beauty is still best left alone for a couple of years in order to fully develop aromatically. 2025-2045

2009er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Letterlay Riesling Auslese Häsje	13 10	93
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The 2009er Kröver Letterlay Auslese Häsje was harvested at a rather full 112° Oechsle in this prime sector on red slate of the Letterlay vineyard. The wine offers a gorgeous nose of pear, coconut, chalky minerals, whipped cream and smoke. It is beautifully playful even if big on the palate but leaves an impressively racy feel of minerals and spices in the long and juicy finish. The wine is already quite juicy but also still on the sweet side on the palate and hence best left alone for another few years. 2024-2044

2003er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Steffensberg Riesling Auslese	06 04	93
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The 2003er Kröver Steffensberg Auslese offers a stunning nose of melon, white peach, whipped cream, chalky minerals and fine spices. This shows a superb feel of whipped cream, decent acidity, herbs and minerals on the palate. The finish is nicely sweet but also remarkably mouth-watering. This completely defies the vintage in terms of freshness and juiciness. What a gorgeous success! Now-2028



Mosel Fine Wines

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2006er	Martin Müllen	Kröver Letterlay Riesling Auslese	13 07	92
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The 2006er Kröver Letterlay Auslese AP 13 (the Estate produced two separate bottlings of Letterlay Auslese in 2006) was harvested at a full 124° Oechsle from fully botrytized grapes. The wine develops a gorgeous nose of date, almond paste and smoke on the nose and offers a gorgeous feel of melon, cream, spices and aniseed herbs in the long finish. This dessert wine is quite a success. Now-2036

2009er	Martin Müllen	Trarbacher Hühnerberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken *	22 10	91
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The 2009er Trarbacher Hühnerberg Spätlese Trocken * was harvested very late from the very old vines situated on the 1st and 2nd terraces. This golden-colored wine offers a gorgeous nose of petrol, aniseed herbs, fine spices and herbs. It is nicely playful on the palate, where some licorice and power are balanced out by some fresher elements in the finish. Now-2029

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Dominikaner-Weingut C. von Nell-Breuning

(Kasel – Trier-Ruwer)

NB: The wines tasted here were commercialized under the Estate's previous (and related) name, Weingut Christoph von Nell.

2002er	Christoph von Nell	Kaseler Dominikanerberg Riesling Auslese	09 03	90
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The 2002er Kaseler Dominikanerberg Auslese proves aromatically rather subdued and requires a few minutes to reveal an attractive and quite lively nose made of citrusy fruits, minerals, cassis and petrol. The wine is rather light-bodied on the palate but leaves one with a nice fruity feel in the direct and easy finish. Now-2023

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Weingut Joh. Jos. Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	05 11	92+
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese AP 05 11 was fermented down to fully sweet levels. This incredibly bright-colored wine offers a restrained and even comparatively closed nose of pear, white flowers, yellow peach, almond and apricot as well as earthy elements from reduction. The wine is nicely playful and smooth on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of apricot and fine herbs in the long and round finish. This needs another decade to fully shine and could even then exceed our high expectations. 2029-2049

2009er	Joh. Jos. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Auslese	06 11	92
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The 2009er Graacher Himmelreich Auslese AP 06 11 was fermented down to fully sweet levels. This incredibly bright-colored wine offers a rather restrained yet playful nose of pear, apricot, caramel, spices and herbs as well as residues from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine is incredibly fresh and delicate and leaves a long and intense feel of ripe fruits and flowery elements. It proves delicately ripe yet incredibly light-weighted and appealing. 2024-2044

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Weingut S.A. Prüm

(Wehlen – Middle Mosel)

2009er	S.A. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trockenbeereauslese Fass 59	17 10	Auction	95
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trockenbeereauslese Fass 59 was auctioned off in 2011 (the Fass indication is provided on the back label). This bronze colored wine develops a gorgeous and remarkably pure nose of dried fruits (including apricot, pineapple, mango and pear) mingling with gorgeously honeyed elements. The purest scents of almond add to the classy yet remarkably elegant side of this wine. The finish is ethereal, elegant and refined. This is a remarkably intense and still rather sweet TBA in the making which nevertheless manages to remain on the elegant side of things. This will be a cracker in a decade, once it will have absorbed more of its sweetness. 2029-2059

2009er	S.A. Prüm	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Auslese Fass 33	21 10	Auction	93
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The 2009er Graacher Domprobst Auslese Fass 33 was auctioned off in 2010 (the Fass indication is provided on the back label). This dark-golden colored wine offers a slightly oxidative nose somewhat reminiscent of some Loire wines with quince, mirabelle, licorice, baked mango, honey and flint stone. The wine is nicely playful and delicately creamy on the palate. It leaves a gorgeously smooth and complex feel of fruits, almond, licorice and spices in the long and delicately tickly finish. This beautiful dessert wine plays on complexity rather than overt fruitiness. Now-2039

2009er	S.A. Prüm	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Eiswein Fass 69	15 10	Auction	93
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The 2009er Graacher Himmelreich Eiswein Fass 69 was auctioned off in 2011 (the Fass indication is provided on the back label). This golden-colored wine develops a hugely complex nose of date, raisin, honey, licorice, barbeque herbs, smoke and spices. The wine is quite focused and precise on the palate, where a gorgeously creamy feel of honeyed dried fruits mingles with a nicely ripe touch of acidity. The finish is pure, precise and very long. This is a gorgeous dessert wine in the making where the Eiswein touch is not overly dominating the structure. Now-2049

2009er	S.A. Prüm	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett Trocken	06 10		88
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The 2009er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Kabinett Trocken proves still nicely bright-colored and quite reduced at first. The wine then gradually develops a nose made of pear, mirabelle, petrol and smoke on the nose. The wine is rather firm and delicately structured on the palate but turns slightly creamier towards the smooth finish. A kick of acidity rounds off the nice, direct and fresh flavors. This is nicely done in an easy-to-understand direct and very food-friendly style. Now-2029

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Weingut Viermorgenhof

(Kinheim – Mosel)

1992er	Viermorgenhof	Kinheimer Hubertuslay Riesling Auslese **	10 93		90
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The 1992er Kinheimer Hubertuslay Auslese ** offers a rather golden color and the telltale nose of mature Mosel made of beeswax, tea, mirabelle, pear and smoky elements. The wine is nicely playful and fresh on the palate, where it unfolds nice creamy and herbal flavors with light Auslese presence. The finish is now smooth rather than sweet and driven by a gorgeously light and delicately petrol-infused feel of herbs, pear and smoke. This is an outstanding mature Riesling! Now-2027

2008er	Viermorgenhof	Kinheimer Rosenberg Riesling Auslese **	13 09		90
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The hay-colored 2008er Kinheimer Rosenberg Auslese ** offers a beautiful nose of pear, mirabelle, passion fruit, grapefruit and whipped cream. The sweetness is still dominating an otherwise beautifully lively feel on the palate, where citrusy elements nicely mingle with herbs and smoke. The finish is lively, creamy, precise and, quite frankly, making one wanting to go for more. This is a beautiful Auslese made in a fresh and juicy style to enjoy over the coming decades. Now-2038

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Weingüter Geheimrat J. Wegeler

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2001er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese Vintage Collection	11 02	94
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The 2001er Bernkasteler Doctor Spätlese Vintage Collection has been aged in the Wegeler cellars until its release in 2019 (the release information is provided on the back label). This hay-colored wine offers a beautifully fresh and enticing nose of cassis, pear, pineapple, coconut and fine spices. The wine is gorgeously playful on the palate, where creamy elements emerge and mingle with the zest of the acidic backbone. The finish is all about fresh tropical fruits, whipped cream and fine spices. This superb mature Spätlese is simply singing! Now-2031

1994er	Wegeler	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese Vintage Collection	14 95	92
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The 1994er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese Vintage Collection has been aged in the Wegeler cellars until its recorking in 2018 and its late release in 2019 (the recorking and release information is provided on the back label). This golden colored wine offers a rather subdued but superbly refined nose made of nougat, herbal tea, pineapple and fresh minty herbs. The wine is beautifully precise and comparably light-bodied on the palate. An elegant creamy side then emerges in the racy and focused finish. The after-taste is revealing the botrytis impact as honey, almond and apricot round off the tea and herbal elements. This beautifully complex but also remarkably subtle mature Mosel Auslese is best enjoyed on its own, ideally with friends and family. Now-2034

2009er	Wegeler	Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Spätlese Vintage Collection	19 13	91
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This 2009er Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Spätlese Vintage Collection has been aged in the Wegeler cellars until its late release in 2019 (the release information is provided on the back label). This bright hay-colored wine offers a superbly fresh nose made of pear, ripe apple, white peach, laurel and earthy spices as well as quite some whipped cream. The wine is gorgeously playful on the mouthwatering palate, where creamy pear mingle with a hint of petrol and ripe acidity. The finish is delicately creamy, yet zesty and joyful. This is a gorgeous Spätlese to enjoy mindlessly! Now-2034

1999er	Wegeler	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese Vintage Collection	11 00	90
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The 1999er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese Vintage Collection has been aged in the Wegeler cellars until its late release in 2019 (the release information is provided on the back label). This golden-colored wine offers a beautifully nose made of mirabelle, fine herbs, spices, licorice and whipped cream. The wine is nicely smooth and delicately creamy on the palate and leaves a delicately zesty feel in the long and melon-infused finish. This nice fully mature Auslese should drink beautifully for many years to come. Now-2029

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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 in 2019:

June-October 2019	2018 Vintage Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The Vintage Conditions▪ The Wines▪ Buyer's Guide▪ The Vintage Card▪ Detailed Estate Reviews▪ Other Noteworthy Wines
August-September 2019	Auction Guides <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Introduction to the Annual Trier Wine Auctions (history, how to participate, etc.)▪ Detailed Tasting Notes (Grosser Ring / VDP and Bernkasteler Ring)
In Addition	Other Topics such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Dry German Riesling in General (GGs & Equivalents)▪ Mosel Perspectives (Estates, Vineyards, Regulation, History, etc.)
In Parallel	Regular Postings on our Website and Social Media , including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ News▪ Wines of the Month▪ Vintage Highlights▪ 2019 Growing Conditions▪ Updates of our TN database (via CellarTracker)▪ Interesting Articles from other Sources

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