

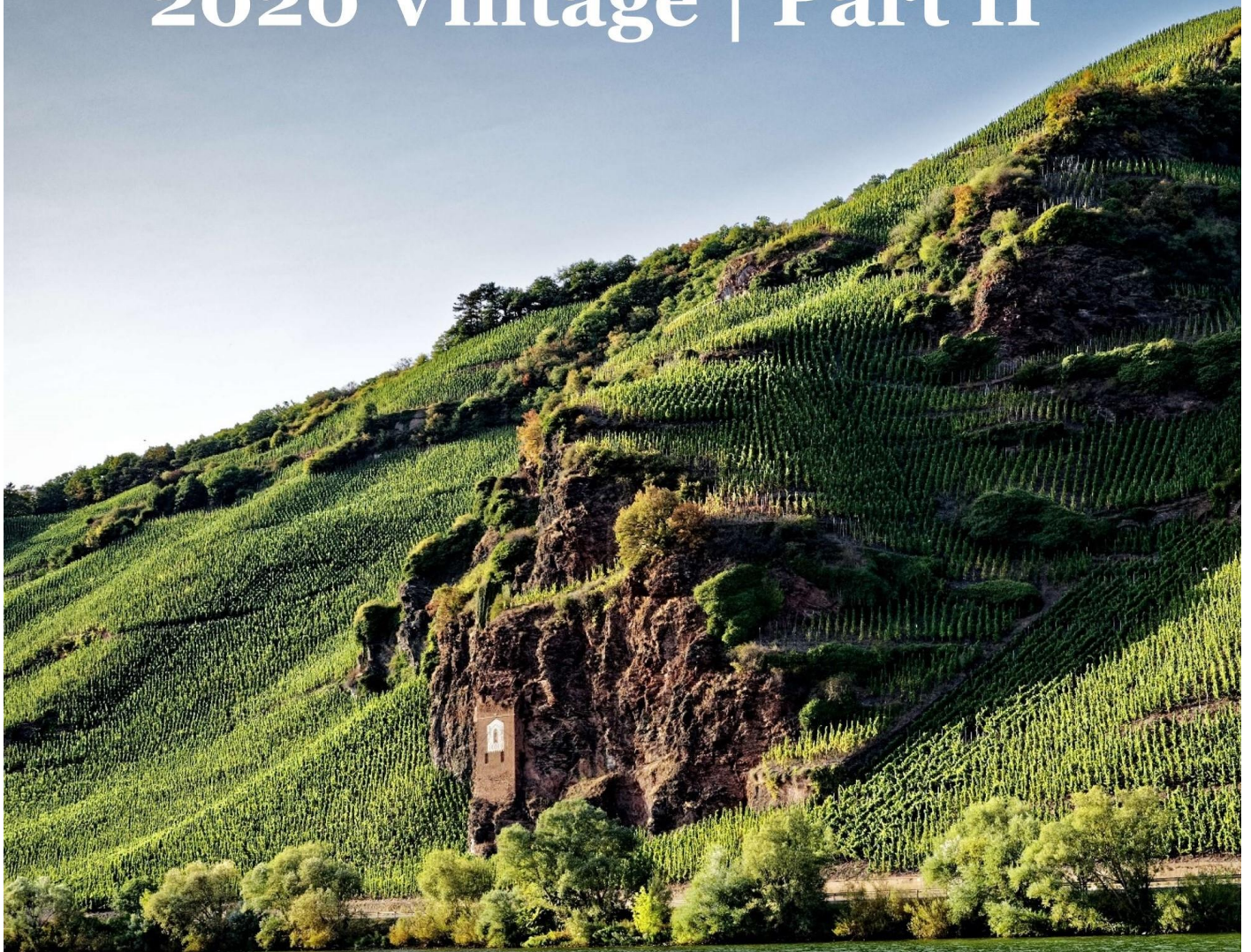


Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Issue No 58 2020 Vintage | Part II



Mosel Vintage *Part II*

Dry German Riesling *Preview*



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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Issue 58 – September 2021

Mosel Fine Wines

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

Mosel Fine Wines appears on a regular basis and covers:

- Reports on the current vintage (including the annual Auctions held in Trier and Bad Kreuznach).
- 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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Mosel Fine Wines

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Understand Our Tasting Notes

The core of Mosel Fine Wines is to publish independent tasting notes. The particularity of 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, German Riesling usually goes 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 Riesling.
- 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 make a remark about its true style in the tasting note and review the wine according to its actual style (in the example as "the Spätlese it is").
- 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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Estates Covered in this Issue

Table of Contents – Estates Covered in this Issue

An alphabetic overview (BASED ON LAST NAMES) of the Estates covered in this Issue:

Estate	Section of Issue No 58		
	Estate Reviews	Noteworthy Wines	Dry Riesling
Acham-Magin			Link
A.J. Adam		Link	Link
Dr. Bassermann-Jordan			Link
Battenfeld-Spanier			Link
Blees-Ferber		Link	
Bollig		Link	
von Buhl			Link
Peter Burens		Link	
Dr. Bürklin-Wolf			Link
Cantzeim	Link		Link
A. Christmann			Link
Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben	Link		
Diel			Link
Dönnhoff			Link
Emrich-Schönleber			Link
Falkenstein		Link	Link
Reinhold Franzen		Link	
Fries		Link	
Albert Gessinger		Link	
Fritz Haag	Link		Link
Julian Haart	Link		Link
Reinhold Haart	Link		
Markus Heeb		Link	
Dr. Hermann		Link	Link
Hermannsberg			Link
Immich-Anker		Link	
Karthäuserhof	Link		
Keller			Link

(continues on the next page)



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Estate	Section of Issue No 58		
	Estate Reviews	Noteworthy Wines	Dry Riesling
Kilburg		Link	
Knebel	Link		Link
Kruger-Rumpf			Link
Kühling-Gillot			Link
Peter Jakob Kühn			Link
Künstler			Link
Peter Lauer		Link	Link
Leitz			Link
Schloss Lieser		Link	Link
Loersch	Link		Link
Carl Loewen			Link
Hermann Ludes	Link		Link
Materne & Schmitt			Link
Maximin Grünhaus		Link	Link
Maximin Stadt			Link
Mönchhof	Link		
Mosbacher			Link
G.F. von Nell – Felix von Nell		Link	
Rebholz			Link
Max Ferd. Richter		Link	Link
Schäfer-Fröhlich			Link
Selbach-Oster	Link		Link
Später-Veit		Link	
Günther Steinmetz		Link	Link
Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef		Link	Link
Stefan Vetter		Link	Link
Vollenweider			Link
Dr. Wagner	Link		
Wegeler			Link
Robert Weil			Link
Weiser-Künstler			Link
Wittmann			Link



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2020 Vintage – Overview

The 2020 Vintage – Filigreed Lightness

The 2020 growing season was hot and dry and the harvest season mostly cloudy and rainy: The result is a unique vintage with incredible lightness, filigreed precision, subtlety, and a dash of ripeness. Here the key fact in a nutshell.

Vintage in a Nutshell

2020 Vintage – The Vintage in a Nutshell

Vintage Conditions	<p>A warm winter was followed by one of the warmest springs ever with, fortunately, much more limited impact of frosts than elsewhere in Europe. In parallel, the Covid-19 pandemic led to a lockdown and created much trouble to work the vineyards and harvest the grapes in 2020.</p> <p>The start of the summer was marked by an uneven flowering. The remainder of the summer was almost a remake of 2019: hot and dry. As a result, vegetation did progress fast and the ripening process was already well advanced by early September.</p> <p>As anticipated by most, harvest start proved, yet again, a record early affair under sunny conditions. But then the parallels with 2019 stopped as the weather turned cooler and cloudier. These cooler and cloudier weather conditions kept the sugar levels at comparatively moderate levels for weeks on end. Little botrytis developed which limited the potential for noble-sweet wines. Also, the winter only yielded a patch of frost at the beginning of 2021, too late for most in order to produce some Eiswein.</p>
The Wines	<p>The 2020 vintage is about the fascinating balance of ripe flavors but delivered with a lightness rarely seen in recent years. The fruity-styled wines do reflect their Prädikat and the best are on par with some of the great wines from the 1990s. The few noble-sweet wines made in 2020 mostly come from clean but overripe rather than fully botrytized fruit and can show elegance. The dry and off-dry wines are refreshingly light in alcohol (and lower than in recent vintages) and can be quite elegantly intense and balanced. There are successful wines in all regions but, on the whole, the Middle Mosel may have the edge over its sister regions in 2020. Yields were refreshingly good, much to the satisfaction and relief of growers.</p>
Buyer's Guide	<p>2020 is all about filigreed ripeness with some stunning wines with a lightness and finesse not seen in a decade. However, the vintage is also quite heterogeneous and buying blind is, once again, not an option. The sweet spot of the vintage is Spätlese which can be as light as a feather and hugely deeply flavored. Kabinett wines can also be absolutely stunning, some of the finest in decades, but, as a category, are not as homogeneous. Noble-sweet wines are rare but the finest are worth every effort to unearth them. Lovers of not overly heady dry and off-dry Riesling will find much to love in the 2020 offers. Overall, 2020 is a vintage to tank on if elegance, finesse, and playfulness is your thing: There are true gems available!</p>

In this Issue, we provide Part II of our Estate Reviews and set of noteworthy wines released this year. Further Estates reviews and more noteworthy wines will be published in subsequent Issues on an as timely as possible basis in the coming months.

Note: A comprehensive report on the 2020 growing conditions, wine style, and buying guide was published in Issue No 57 (July 2021)



Mosel Fine Wines

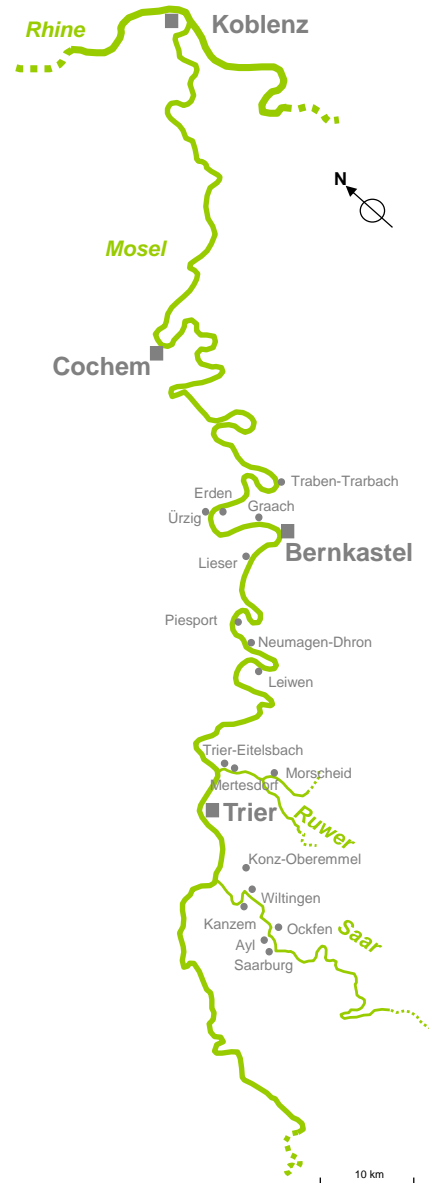
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2020 Vintage – Estate Reviews

2020 Mosel – Estate Reviews (Part II)

We provide here Part II of our comprehensive 2020 Estate Reviews. Most top wines were tasted several times over the last months in order to avoid that particular tasting conditions (a standard risk when tasting wines early) affect our opinions. In addition, older vintages were also reviewed if these have just been released or are still commercially available at the Estate.



- Cantzheim**
- Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben**
- Fritz Haag**
- Julian Haart**
- Reinhold Haart**
- Karthäuserhof**
- Knebel**
- Loersch**
- Hermann Ludes**
- Mönchhof**
- Selbach-Oster**
- Dr. Wagner**

- Kanzem*
- Ürzig*
- Brauneberg*
- Piesport*
- Piesport*
- Eitelsbach*
- Winningen*
- Leiwen*
- Thörnich*
- Ürzig*
- Zeltingen*
- Saarburg*

**Part III of our Estate Reviews will be covered in the next Issue of Mosel Fine Wines
(to be released in Oct-Nov 2021)**



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Cantzheim

Weingut Cantzheim (Kanzem – Saar)

Anna Reimann likes her 2020 vintage, which turned out quite differently than one might have expected: "2020 was again a hot year and yet the wines are very light due to a combination of a bit of ripeness process stop during the growing season and the cooler weather during the harvest. The harvest was quite interesting as we had a 2-week period of rain. We did bring some of our grapes for Kabinett, base wines, and also Crémant after the start in mid-September at quite low Oechsle degrees and then decided to completely stop during the rainy period. This really paid off as it allowed us to bring in ripe grapes with good but not excessive Oechsle degrees and produce also some great dry and off-dry wines. I like my 2020s: They are light-footed, packed with great fruity flavors, and all that with moderate alcohol levels."

The Estate produced its usual portfolio of wines which is complemented this year by an off-dry wine out of the Estate's holdings in the Ayler Kupp. Besides its 2020 portfolio, it released some wines from the 2018 vintage: its TBA and a special batch of oak-aged Rosé. Also, it released also its first batches of Crémant made from Riesling and Pinot grapes.

Cantzheim crafted a beautiful collection of wines in 2020 which shine through elegance and filigreed finesse. The dry Riesling are particularly successful in 2020. In particular, the Der Wiltinger "Le Grand" is a superb wine and up there among the finest of the region. The off-dry wines beautifully underline their respective terroir. But also, the "mere" dry Estate Riesling is a great success. The 2018er TBA proves remarkably elegant and light-footed. Its debut vintage of Crémant is hugely impressive. Finally, this Estate is one of the finest of the region when it comes to non-Riesling wines. Its Pinot Blanc and Rosé wines are remarkably elegant. In particular, the 2018er Rosé Fumé is a wine which hits many of the buttons of a grand ambassador of the genre. All in all, there is much to like at Cantzheim in 2020!

2018er	Cantzheim	Kanzemer Sonnenberg Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	021 21	97
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The 2018er Kanzemer Sonnenberg Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese was made from fully-botrytized fruit picked at 155° Oechsle and was fermented down to noble-sweet levels of residual sugar. It proves still rather shy but incredibly pure as scents of almond cream, baked pineapple, mirabelle puree, nut, and honey emerge from the glass. Far from being over-powering or cloying, this TBA proves comparatively filigreed and elegant on the palate, where a touch of acidity already brings structure to the succulent oily flavors. The finish is incredibly pure and hugely long. Only a touch of candy floss styled sweetness needs to integrate in the aftertaste. But otherwise, this is a beautifully and elegant expression of noble-sweet Riesling in the making! 2030-2050

2020er	Cantzheim	Saar Riesling Trocken Der Wiltinger "Le Grand"	018 21	93
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Der Wiltinger 'Le Grand', as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes a selection of the best grapes harvested on old vines in the Wiltinger Klosterberg, Braunfels, Schlossberg, and Schlangengraben. It offers a beautifully reduced nose made of residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation, wet stone, citrusy elements, fine gingery spices, a dash of whipped cream, cassis, and smoke. The wine is gorgeously playful on the smooth (rather than bone-dry) yet firm palate and leaves a remarkably pure feel of fruits in the long finish. This is a great dry Riesling in the making! 2025-2035

2020er	Cantzheim	Saarburger Fuchs Riesling Auslese	006 21	92
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The 2020er Saarburger Fuchs Riesling Auslese was made from partially botrytized fruit and was fermented down to noble-sweet levels of residual sugar (110 g/l). It offers a rather big nose made of pear puree, date, almond cream, citrusy fruits, and herbs. The wine is quite creamy and slightly soft on the palate but develops a great array of subtly exotic flavors in the round finish. A gentle kick of lemon zest reminds the Saar origin of this smooth yet layered Auslese in the aftertaste. 2028-2040

2020er	Cantzheim	Saarburger Fuchs Riesling Spätlese	005 21	92
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The 2020er Saarburger Fuchs Riesling Spätlese was made from fruit picked at 86° Oechsle and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (58 g/l). It offers a nicely fragrant nose made of grapefruit puree, spices, white flowers, a hint of smoke, and cassis. The wine is subtly juicy yet also aminating and creamy on the palate and leaves a beautiful sense of zesty freshness in the finish and in the animating and light-footed aftertaste. This Spätlese will particularly appeal to lovers of light-feathered expression of the genre. 2028-2040

2020er	Cantzheim	Saar Riesling Der Wawerner	009 21	92
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Der Wawerner, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a barely off-dry wine (with 9 g/l of residual sugar) made from Estate holdings in the Wawerner Ritterpfad. It offers a beautifully aromatic nose made of melon, mirabelle, starfruit, citrusy elements, and fine spices. The wine is smooth rather than fully off-dry on the palate. More fruity and creamy elements wrapped into some satisfying zesty acidity leads to a nicely juicy and subtly creamy feel in the finish. The aftertaste is all about aniseed spices and herbs. The balance is truly remarkable. Now-2030



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Weingut Cantzheim

(Kanzem – Saar)

2020er	Cantzheim	Saar Riesling Feinherb Der Kanzemer	008 21	92
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Der Kanzemer, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is an off-dry wine (with 20 g/l of residual sugar) made from Estate holdings in the Kanzemer Sonnenberg and Altenberg. It offers a rather reduced but already quite appealing nose made of wet stone, pear, mirabelle, a hint of apricot blossom, whipped cream, and earthy spices. The wine rewards one with nicely chalky and mineral infused flavors of fruits on the smooth rather than fully off-dry palate and leaves one with a great sense of mouthwatering tartness in the long and animating finish. This off-dry wine is beautiful! 2025-2035

2020er	Cantzheim	Wiltinger Schlossberg Riesling Kabinett	019 21	91+
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The 2020er Wiltinger Schlossberg Riesling Kabinett was made from fruit picked at 80° Oechsle and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (42 g/l). It offers a remarkably fragrant nose driven by vineyard peach, ginger, a hint of whipped cream, apricot blossom, and chalky minerals. The wine is beautifully light-footed on the subtly playful palate and leaves a nicely juicy feel in the long and mouthwatering finish. The touch of creaminess is then whipped up by nicely citrusy zest in the aftertaste. This fruity-styled wine cut along the lines of a great Spätlese or light Auslese from the 1990s is a real winner. We would not be surprised if it eventually even exceeds our high expectations. 2028-2040

2020er	Cantzheim	Saarburger Fuchs Riesling Der Fuchs	004 21	91
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Der Fuchs, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a barely off-dry wine (with 12 g/l of residual sugar) made from over 80-year-old un-grafted vines. It offers a nicely juicy and fragrant nose made of residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation, peach, ripe apple, a hint of apricot blossom, and chalky elements. The wine is smooth rather than full off-dry on the palate where more creamy fruits, herbs, and spices mingle with floral elements and subtly zesty acidity. The finish is long and intense, but at all times beautifully filigreed. 2025-2035

2020er	Cantzheim	Saar Riesling Trocken Der Wiltinger	015 21	91
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Der Wiltinger, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes mainly from late-harvested fruit in the Wiltinger Schlangengraben. It offers a hugely enticing nose made of reductive elements, pear, smoke, and herbal elements, which are then joined by riper elements of apricot after airing. The wine develops a nicely creamy feel in the precise and dry rather than bone-dry tasting palate and leaves a juicy and very pure feel of orchard fruits, apricot, ginger, and herbs in the long and still slightly rough finish. We would opt to enjoy this beautiful dry wine in a few years in order to give it the time to integrate its elements. 2024-2032

2018er	Cantzheim	Saar Pinot Noir Trocken Der Rosé Fumé	111 21	91
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The 2018er Saar Der Rosé Fumé, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from Pinot Noir planted in the 1980s (as the grape was again allowed) in the Saarburger Fuchs and was aged in used oak for 6 months before being bottled (hence the late AP number). It offers a quite spicy nose made of strawberry, cranberry, and fine smoky elements. A touch of vanilla quickly blends into some ripe, red-berried fruits on the intense palate. More smoky elements and impact of oak come through at first in the overall enjoyable finish but the fruity and mineral side already takes over in the aftertaste. We would give this wine another year or two in order to better integrate its oak treatment on the palate but lovers of more oak-driven wines will find this nice Rosé already much to their liking now. 2023-2028

2020er	Cantzheim	Ayler Kupp Riesling Trocken Die Kupp	020 21	90+
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Die Kupp, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a legally dry wine made from Estate holdings in the east-facing part of the historic hill of the Ayler Kupp. It offers a nice and engaging feel of grapefruit, ginger, whipped cream, cassis, pear, quite some cardamom, and fine spices. The wine is subtly creamy on the fruity-driven palate but leaves a much firmer and more structured feel in the long and nicely tart finish. More herbal elements underline the seriousness of the wine in the aftertaste. This wine could exceed our expectations as it reveals more charm and freshness with age. 2025-2035

N.V.	Cantzheim	Riesling Crémant-Brut	102 20	90
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The Non-Vintage Der Riesling Crémant, as it is referred to on the consumer label, with AP number 102 20, is made with 2018er grapes picked in the Wiltinger Schlangengraben and Kanzemer Sonnenberg. It was left on its lees for 24 months before being disgorged in June 2021 (the disgorgement date is not provided on the label). It offers a beautifully subtle nose made of pear, apple, aniseed herbs, a dash of whipped cream, herbs, and spices. It proves subtle, focused, and delicately creamy on the palate. The mousse is really beautifully integrated and, together with a nice kick of sorbet acidity, brings the Saar touch to the experience. This is a beautiful Sekt with racy cut to enjoy over many more years! Now-2028



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Weingut Cantzheim

(Kanzem – Saar)

2020er	Cantzheim	Saar Pinot Blanc Trocken Der Pinot Blanc	013 21	90
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The 2020er Saar Pinot Blanc Der Gärtner, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from holdings in Wiltingen and Filzen. It offers a subtly chalky nose which then fills in with beautifully racy and fresh scents of fruits and flowers, all wrapped into a fleeting touch of oak which is perfectly well integrated. The wine proves nicely firm and subtly tart on the palate and leaves a beautiful feel of fruits, chalk, and herbs in the long and animating finish. A hint of oak-infused elements then adds a great sense of depth to the aftertaste. This is a beautiful Pinot Blanc to enjoy over many years to come. Now-2028

N.V.	Cantzheim	Crémant-Brut Der Blanc & Noir	101 20	89
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The Non-Vintage Der Blanc & Noir Crémant, as it is referred to on the consumer label, with AP number 102 20, is made with 2018er Pinot Blanc and Pinot Noir grapes picked in Filzen and Saarburg (Fuchs). It was left on its lees for 24 months before being disgorged in June 2021 (the disgorgement date is not provided on the label). It offers a delicate nose made of fresh herbs and fine spices, a hint of black-berried fruits, smoke, and a kick of whipped cream, which is gradually joined by some riper apricot-infused elements. The subtlety of the nose carries over on the subtly palate. Here, subtly creamy flavors of ripe fruits, chalky minerals, citrusy elements, and a hint of spices are wrapped into playful and not overpowering mousse and a dash of zest. The finish is beautifully long, a touch smooth, but overall very classy. Now-2028

2020er	Cantzheim	Saar Pinot Noir und Regent Trocken Der Rosé	110 21	89
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The Saar Der Rosé, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the reference to the vintage is left to the back label), comes from holdings in Filzen and Saarburg (Fuchs). It offers a rather engaging nose made of strawberry, some spices, and fine herbal elements. The wine develops a subtly smooth rather than bone-dry feel of red berry fruits and spices on the palate and leaves a nicely playful feel in the long and truly enjoyable finish. This Rosé will offer much fun over the coming months. Now-2023

2020er	Cantzheim	Saar Riesling Feinherb Die Gärtnerin	002 21	88
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Die Gärtnerin, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is an off-dry wine (with 21 g/l of residual sugar) made from Estate holdings in the Wiltinger Schlossberg, Wiltinger Schlangengraben, and Kanzemer Sonnenberg. It offers a subtle and fragrant nose made of fresh orchard fruits, a hint of apricot blossom, melon, and fine spices. The wine offers more juicy and subtly creamy elements of fruits on the palate and leaves a nice feel of subtly ripe and fresh fruits, a touch of cream, in the barely off-dry tasting finish. The aftertaste is quite flavorsome, nicely juicy, and beautifully persistent. Now-2028

2020er	Cantzheim	Saar Riesling Trocken Der Gärtner	001 21	88
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Der Gärtner, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from holdings in Kanzem (Sonnenberg), Wiltingen, and Wawern. It offers a beautiful and nicely subtle nose made of white peach, minerals, fine spices, and smoky elements. The wine is beautifully light-footed on the palate, where loads of juicy fruits are wrapped into ripe and playful acidity. The finish is precise, airy, and hugely satisfying. This is a beautiful effort for a "mere" dry Estate Riesling. Now-2028

2020er	Cantzheim	Saar Müller-Thurgau Der Müller	007 21	86
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The Saar Der Müller, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the reference to the vintage is left to the back label), comes from holdings in Filzen. It offers a subtly aromatic nose made of vineyard peach, gooseberry, elderflower, cardamom, mirabelle, and smoky elements. A hint of rose water adds to the aromatic intensity on the otherwise rather focused and nicely playful palate. The wine leaves a smooth rather than bone-dry feel in the medium-long and slightly intense finish. Now-2023

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Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben

Weingut Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben (Ürzig – Middle Mosel)

Philippe Conzen is very satisfied with his 2020 vintage: "The weather conditions were good and we started our harvest on September 25. We first brought in grapes for our Estate and Kabinett wines for a full week, before the rains came. We then continued by doing some selections. It proved a really good harvest as the grapes remained very healthy and this right up to the end. The must weights however were moderate and did hardly evolve during harvest. We had to wait until the very end to be able to bring in some Auslese material. 2020 actually proves a vintage like in the old days, when the really top of the vintage was Auslese. We did not push to produce any GG as we felt that the concentration was not sufficient. The yields are in line with those from 2019. 2020 is a superb vintage with beautifully light and fine wines. I particularly like the fact that the vineyard differences are clearly noticeable."

The Estate produced its classic range of single-vineyard wines ranging from dry to sweet, right up to an Auslese *** from the Ürziger Würzgarten

The Estate produced a collection of outstanding wines which have all the fruity and light-feathered hallmarks that made its success but are also marked with more smoothness than others in 2020. This makes them seem to kick at a level higher than their declared Prädikat. We want to particularly commend the Riesling Christoffel, a beautiful Estate wine with fruity presence.

NB: The Erdener Treppchen Kabinett was not yet ready for tasting.

2020er	Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Auslese ***	08 21	92
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Auslese *** is made from partially botrytized (10%) fruit picked at 98° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (90 g/l). It offers a fresh and complex nose of fine spices, honeyed yellow peach, Conference pear, herbs, almond cream, tangerine, mint, and a hint of pina colada. The wine is beautifully juicy and playful on the palate, where the sweetness is already nicely wrapped into candied citrusy fruits. The finish is still on the sweet side of things, but its length and complexity are really superb. This wine will start to shine in a decade. 2030-2060

2020er	Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese	07 21	90
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese is made from fruit picked at 90° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (68 g/l). It offers some delicate and flowery scents of white pepper, cardamom, and fine herbs at first. After some airing, it reveals a richer side as notes of almond cream, yellow peach, pear, and a touch of pineapple kick in. The wine feels creamy, smooth, and comparatively sweet on the palate but reveals more freshness and spiciness in the finish. The aftertaste has the presence of an Auslese. This sweet wine will need a decade to integrate its components on the palate and reveal its underlying charm. 2030-2050

2020er	Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Spätlese	06 21	89+
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The 2020er Erdener Treppchen Riesling Spätlese was made from grapes harvested at 91° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (72 g/l). It offers a beautifully refined and refreshing nose of anise, thyme, rosemary, white pepper, and yellow peach. The wine proves sweet and creamy as well as comparatively soft and smooth on the palate. Its velvety side makes it taste more like an Auslese than a playful Spätlese. The finish is however superbly light-footed yet needs to integrate its sweetness (expect a decade of cellaring). As the Auslese it is, it will please lovers of cuddly, sweet, and light-feathered Riesling. It may well exceed our expectations at maturity if it develops more freshness and playfulness on the palate. 2030-2045

2020er	Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett	05 21	89
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett was made from grapes harvested at 85° Oechsle and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (48 g/l). It offers an attractive and perfumed nose of pear, candy floss, herbs, candied grapefruit, almond cream, and orange blossom. The wine is full on fruity on the delicately smooth and still rather soft and sweet palate. It proves very light and nicely long and playful in the finish. This smoother version of Würzgarten Kabinett only needs a couple of years to fully reveal its complexity and fresher side, which is already lurking around in the aftertaste. 2027-2040

2020er	Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben	Riesling Christoffel	04 21	87
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The 2020er Christoffel Riesling was made from grapes harvested at 87° Oechsle and was fermented down to off-dry levels of residual sugar (22 g/l). It offers a refreshing nose of herbs, smoke, and caraway, as well as anise, yellow peach, and pear. The wine feels more fruity-styled rather off-dry on the otherwise nicely playful and delicately fruity palate and leaves a delicately smooth and juicy feel in the medium long and engaging finish. 2023-2030



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"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben

(Ürzig – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	03 21	86
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett Feinherb is an off-dry wine with 20 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a quite creamy and fruity nose of almond cream, pear, apple, yellow peach, and greengage, as well as yellow flowers and herbs. The wine coats the palate with juicy and elegantly ripe notes of yellow fruits and leaves a medium long and creamy feel in the finish. It proves a pleasant, pure, and smooth expression of off-dry Riesling. 2022-2027

2020er	Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett Trocken	02 21	86
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett Trocken comes from early harvested fruit and lower yields in the upper part of the vineyard. It offers a quite smoky nose dominated by anise, pear, and herbs. The wine proves very light-footed as well as nicely zesty and linear on the palate. Some fruity flavors of pear, yellow peach, and grapefruit then kick in which add a smoother side. Yet, the finish has nice freshness, plenty of spices, and superb length. 2022-2025

2020er	Joh. Jos. Christoffel Erben	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Trocken	01 21	84
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Trocken comes from the lower part of the vineyard. It offers a quite aromatic, powerful, and spicy nose of almond, barbecue herbs, anise, and camphor. The wine proves packed with fruity flavors on the quite creamy and not fully dry-tasting palate. The finish is light but powerful and intense. The aftertaste shows tartness and earthy spices with some pear and mirabelle. This wine will please lovers of light extracted but powerful wines. It is best be served with some food. Now-2023

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Fritz Haag

Weingut Fritz Haag

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

Oliver Haag sees much to like in his 2020 vintage: "We decided to start our harvest fairly early because the vintage proved another warm one, as in 2019 and 2018 for instance, and because we wanted to keep as much freshness and lightness in the wines as possible. Botrytis was really rare and we could only bring in very few grapes for one Auslese GK and one TBA and I did not want to force things. Clean grapes also meant that we had more quantities than in 2019 and we were able to harvest grapes with moderate Oechsle levels, which ultimately gave us plenty of Kabinett level wines. We also made separate selections for our younger vines. After 2018 and 2019, which were also dry, I think that also our younger vines are starting to get used to these conditions and their rooting system goes deeper in the soil. We saw a few yellow leaves here and there, but nothing compared to such hot vintages as 2003. In addition, we had a larger harvest team than usual, which allowed us to have faster harvests as well as to do selections when necessary. We could produce a new GG this year, from the Monzeler Kätzchen, bringing our portfolio of GGs to a total of five different wines. All GGs are slightly finer and have even less residual sugar than in previous vintages. They offer a classic Mosel style with freshness and animation. Overall, the vintage offers a lot of fun and I think the wines will be ready earlier than their 2019 siblings. I really like the elegance, lightness, freshness, and filigreed style of the 2020s."

The Estate was able to produce its usual portfolio of wines right up to GG and Auslese as well as a few liters of TBA from the Juffer-Sonnenuhr. The portfolio of GG is extended once again this year, with the addition of one from the Monzeler Kätzchen, a vineyard situated in the steep part above the Kestener Paulinshofberg (introduced last year). The collection will also include three different wines from the Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr, a GG from the Lieu-Dit im Falkenberg, a Kabinett, and a Spätlese (#14).

The Estate produced a hugely convincing collection in 2020 which shines through its highlights in all stylistic directions. The new GG from the Monzeler Kätzchen proves a great addition to the portfolio of GGs dominated by the rendition from the Juffer-Sonnenuhr this year. The off-dry wines are beautifully playful and the fruity-styled wines subtly creamy yet wrapped into the great sense of lightness that has made the success of the Estate over the years. The sweet wines are, dare we write as usual, among the finest that the region can offer.

NB: The auction wines will be reviewed in the upcoming Issue No 59 to be released ahead of the Auctions. The Juffer-Sonnenuhr TBA was not ready for tasting.

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese #10	10 21	96
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The 2020er Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese #10, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was made from clean fruit harvested from younger vines situated in the lower part of the vineyard and was fermented down to fully sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a gorgeous floral, creamy, delicate, and ripe nose of anise, candied pineapple, mirabelle, whipped cream, and herbs. The wine proves very delicate and pure on the infused and airy palate. It leaves a gorgeously delicate and filigreed feel in the long finish. A touch of sweetness in the aftertaste is beautifully wrapped into a great sense of lightness and finesse. 2030-2070

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	06 21	95
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The 2020er Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was made from clean fruit and was fermented down to fully sweet levels of residual sugar. It immediately captures one's attention with its superbly fresh and animating nose of lemon, fresh pineapple, herbs, grapefruit, spices, floral elements, cassis, greengage, and vineyard peach. The wine reveals some creamy pear, yellow peach, and nuances of honeyed yellow fruits on the smooth and fruity palate but reveals a more filigreed, zesty, and hauntingly smooth but also smoky side in the finish. The aftertaste is magnificent persistent and full of energy. This outstanding and gorgeous Auslese needs at least a decade to integrate all its elements, but patience will be rewarded. 2030-2060

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese GK	09 21	94+
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The 2020er Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese, as it is referred to on the consumer label and with a golden capsule, was made from partially botrytized grapes harvested at 110-115° Oechsle and was fermented down to noble-sweet levels of residual sugar. It proves still hugely reductive and only gradually reveals a highly aromatic and ripe nose of exotic fruits (mango, guava, passion fruit, and roasted pineapple), as well as toffee, minty herbs, William's pear, and acacia. The wine proves juicy and fully fruity with quite some exotic presence on the subtly honeyed palate and leaves a sense of pure notes of mango, tangerine, and candied grapefruit wrapped into some zesty elements in the gorgeously playful finish. This noble-sweet wine now only needs some patience to integrate its elements and reveal its full potential. 2030-2060

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Auslese	20 21	94
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The 2020er Juffer Riesling Auslese, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a beautifully aromatic nose of pineapple, citrus, coconut, vineyard peach, spices, smoke, pear, anise, and a hint of almond cream and exotic fruits. The wine proves delicately smooth, juicy, and honeyed on the superbly creamy and sweet tasting palate and leaves a great sense of complexity and richness in the refined and elegant finish. 2030-2060



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Weingut Fritz Haag

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Spätlese	05 21	94
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The 2020er Juffer Riesling Spätlese, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a gorgeous and beautifully attractive nose of candied grapefruit, orange, fine apricot, almond cream, bergamot, smoke, Conference pear, and herbs, as well as a fine bakery touch from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine is still on the richer side of life at this early stage but already shows great balance and finesse in the smooth yet very animating and filigreed finish. The aftertaste is very precise, sappy, and hugely long. This is a great Spätlese in the making! 2030-2050

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	07 21	94
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The 2020er Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a magnificent refreshing and complex nose of smoke, anise, white flowers, peach, and herbs. The wine develops great fruity and ripe presence on the palate driven by apricot, ripe peach, and even some exotic fruits, all wrapped into honeyed elements. The finish is delicately smooth and sweet. 2030-2060

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	08 21	93
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The 2020er Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a complex and multi-layered nose of cassis, greengage, candied grapefruit, orange blossom, and vineyard peach. The wine proves beautifully creamy but also superbly spicy and minty on the palate and leaves a nice sense of lightness and energy in the focused finish. The aftertaste is all about fine spices and smoke. This very subtle and filigreed expression of dry Riesling is a huge success. 2024-2040

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Feinherb	19 21	92
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The 2020er Brauneberger Juffer Riesling, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is an off-dry wine (with 12 g/l of residual sugar) with a superbly smoky and fresh nose of grapefruit, lemon, almond, herbs, spices, and vineyard peach. The wine proves beautifully light and playful on the palate and leaves a superb zesty and linear spicy feel in the hugely long and already almost dry-tasting finish. It now only needs a few years of patience to develop even more complexity, but the result will be worth it. 2024-2040

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Kabinett	03 21	92
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The 2020er Juffer Riesling Kabinett, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was made from fruit picked at moderate Oechsle degrees and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar. It offers a beautifully aromatic and ripe yet elegant nose of yellow peach, pear, orange blossom, apricot flower, grapefruit, cardamom, and bergamot. The wine coats the palate with ample juicy and ripe yet fresh yellow fruits and leaves a fresh and nicely zesty feel in the fruity-styled and comparatively light and truly Kabinett-styled finish. This Kabinett proves superbly fruity and, at the same time, beautifully structured. 2026-2040

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Trocken GG	24 21	(91-93)
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The 2020er Juffer Riesling Trocken GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was fermented and aged in a mix of stainless-steel tank, Fuder, and large oak barrel. This cask sample offers a beautiful nose of anise, bergamot, grapefruit, herbs, and mint. The wine proves delicately juicy and fruity on the palate and leaves a smooth yet intense feel in the fully dry-tasting finish. It will however need a few years to fully integrate all its elements on the palate and reveal its potential 2025-2035

2020er	Fritz Haag	Kestener Paulinshofberger Riesling Trocken GG	27 21	(90-92)
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The 2020er Paulinshofberger Riesling Trocken GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a bone-dry wine made in Fuder and stainless-steel tanks from vines located just under the Monzeler Kätzchen and at the right-hand side of the rocky part of the vineyard. This cask sample offers a beautifully refined and aromatic nose of lemon, grapefruit, bergamot, anise, herbs, some black fruits, and smoke. The wine still has quite some CO2 on the palate, which only gradually gives way to a delicate sense of smoothness and fruitiness. The wine proves slightly broader and quite intense in the finish and leaves a smoky feel of aniseed herbs and spices wrapped into some tartness in the aftertaste. This dry wine will probably prove rather reduced at first and will only develop its full finesse over time. 2024-2033+



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Weingut Fritz Haag

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Fritz Haag	Monzeler Kätzchen Riesling Trocken GG	29 21	(89-91)
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The 2020er Kätzchen Riesling Trocken GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is the first vintage of GG made from parcels situated in the steep and full-south-facing part of this vineyard situated just above the Kestener Paulinshoferger. This cask sample hints at a refined nose of white flowers, raspberry, cassis, grapefruit, smoke, licorice, and mint. The wine delivers juicy and smooth flavors of fruits on the light and refreshing palate and leaves one with a nicely intense feel in the persistent finish. This lighter version of dry Riesling is delicious to enjoy but will prove even finer in a few years. 2024-2035

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Riesling Feinherb Tradition	04 21	90
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The 2020er Brauneberger Riesling Tradition, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes exclusively from the main Brauneberger hill (Juffer and Juffer-Sonnenuhr) and stopped its fermentation at 15 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a superbly refreshing and complex nose of lemon, grapefruit, herbs, yellow peach, pear, and bergamot. The wine develops quite some creamy and ripe fruity presence on the palate where the sweetness is nicely wrapped into almond cream. The finish already hints at beauty to come even if the mineral side is only slightly noticeable at this stage in the aftertaste. This off-dry wine will benefit from a few years of cellaring in order to reveal its inner balance. 2025-2035

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Riesling Semi-Dry Tradition	04 21	90
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The 2020er Brauneberger Riesling Tradition, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes exclusively from the main Brauneberger hill (Juffer and Juffer-Sonnenuhr) and stopped its fermentation at 15 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a superbly refreshing and complex nose of lemon, grapefruit, herbs, yellow peach, pear, and bergamot. The wine develops quite some creamy and ripe fruity presence on the palate where the sweetness is nicely wrapped into almond cream. The finish already hints at beauty to come even if the mineral side is only slightly noticeable at this stage in the aftertaste. This off-dry wine will benefit from a few years of cellaring in order to reveal its inner balance. 2025-2035

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Riesling Trocken J	17 21	90
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The 2020er Brauneberger Riesling Trocken J is made from fruit harvested in the Juffer and Juffer-Sonnenuhr vineyards (hence the J). Subtle scents reduction quickly give way to riper yet refined notes of pear, yellow peach, almond cream, dried flowers, and bergamot. The wine is beautifully playful on the palate where fruity and creamy elements are nicely wrapped into a kick of ripe and zesty acidity. A touch of tartness and some ground spices still need to integrate in the finish. This dry Riesling will be great with food in a few years' time. 2023-2030

2020er	Fritz Haag	Riesling	01 21	88
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The 2020er Riesling comes mainly from Estate's holdings in the Brauneberger Klostersgarten, Burgener Römerberg, Mülheimer Sonnenlay, and Monzeler Kätzchen as well as from young vines from the Brauneberger Juffer, and was fermented down to off-dry levels of residual sugar (17 g/l). It offers an attractive and subtly ripe nose of pear, yellow peach, apple, mint, and almond. The wine is delicately smooth and fruity with already well integrated sweetness on the palate and leaves a refreshing and clean feel in the long and fruity finish. This off-dry wine is very well made in a clean and light style. 2023-2030

2020er	Fritz Haag	Riesling Trocken	02 21	88
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The 2020er Riesling Trocken comes from Estate's holdings in the Brauneberger Klostersgarten, Burgener Römerberg, Mülheimer Sonnenlay, and Monzeler Kätzchen as well as from young vines from the Brauneberger Juffer. It offers a very subtle and floral nose of white peach, anise, herbs, greengage, almond, and spices. The wine proves linear and driven by zesty acidity on the light and airy palate. It proves long and lightly tart on the herbal and spice-driven finish. It will need at least a year to integrate a touch of tartness in the aftertaste and fully reveal its finesse. 2022-2028

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Julian Haart

Weingut Julian Haart

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

Julian Haart is hugely satisfied with his 2020 vintage, even though it proved yet another warm vintage: "We got again a very warm and hot summer in 2020, as we had in the two previous vintages. Again, I did not want to have ripe and opulent wines and decided to start the harvest early, in mid-September. Oechsle degrees were already very good and acidity levels were also still high enough. We started by bringing in grapes for our Kabinett and entry level wines. The weather proved very good and we could continue with our selections for our top dry wines as well as our Spätlese, pretty much avoiding the rains which came in at the end of the month. The bottled wines prove really superb and I particularly like my Kabinett wines, which show a lot of freshness and purity, in this vintage."

The Estate was able to produce its usual portfolio in 2020, except for the village Wintricher, but includes its dry wines from all Grand Cru vineyards, as well as its fruity styled portfolio including two Kabinett Alte Reben and two Spätlese. It did not push for a special selection of Auslese this year as Oechsle degrees were moderate, the development of botrytis not ideal, and the goal to bring in grapes as quick as possible. The wines were bottled at the end of May.

Julian Haart produced a hugely impressive set up of wines in 2020, which combine the freshness and elegance of the early harvested fruit with the depth and density from low yields. Already its village wine from Piesport is a massive success and gives many GGs and other high-end dry wines more than a run for their money. The Ohligsberg and Goldtröpfchen are easily among the finest dry wines of the vintage ... anywhere in Germany. The Kabinett line-up is simply breathtaking and shows the potential of the vintage, when superbly mastered. The Ohligsberg Kabinett Alte Reben is, simply put, an absolutely glorious wine!

NB: The Mosel Riesling, Haart Riesling, and J.J. were not tasted.

2020er	Julian Haart	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Kabinett Alte Reben	11 21	97
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The 2020er Ohligsberg Kabinett, as it is referred to on the white and golden consumer label (the reference to Alte Reben is provided on the back label), was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar. It offers a very unique, gorgeous, and magic fragrance of essential essences, complemented by dried white flowers, fine minty herbs, whipped almond cream, lavender, and cassis. The wine develops great balance and precision with enormous depth and intensity in the palate. There is still a touch of sweetness in need of integration in the finish but the finesse and elegance are just plainly breathtaking. This is an absolutely magical Kabinett in the making! 2030-2050

2020er	Julian Haart	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling	20 21	96
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The 2020er Ohligsberg, as it is referred to on the red and silver consumer label, is a bone-dry wine made from fruit picked on almost century-old vines. It offers a most beautiful and complex nose with plenty of elegance and finesse. Scents of white flowers, cardamom, white pepper, lavender, cassis, pear, herbs, and mint come out of the glass. The wine is elegant and very delicate on the palate and leaves one with a fantastic sense of cut, energy, and salty elements in the finish. The aftertaste is beautifully focused, bone-dry, salty, and spicy. This wine is without doubt a strong candidate for dry Riesling of the vintage. 2024-2040

2020er	Julian Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling	19 21	95
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen, as it is referred to on the red and silver consumer label, is a bone-dry wine fermented in stainless steel. It still proves hugely reductive and marked by quite some residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation at first. It takes a while to reveal its smoky, very spicy, and herbal nose with nuances of dried flowers, vineyard peach, almond, and candied grapefruit. The wine develops great energy and presence without any undue weight on the palate. The mid-palate still has some baby fat presence, but the finish is hugely long and persistent, with plenty of spicy and floral elements. This is a magnificent dry Riesling in the making. 2026-2040

2020er	Julian Haart	Wintricher Grosser Herrgott Riesling Kabinett	19 21	94
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The 2020er Herrgott Kabinett, as it is referred to on the red and silver consumer label, offers a beautifully complex, elegant, and refreshing nose of almond cream, vineyard peach, herbs, gooseberry, pear, smoke, and anise. The wine is gorgeously well balanced with a dash of yellow fruits, almond cream, ripe zesty fruits, and freshness on the palate. The finish is very pure, focused, and vibrating. This is a great Kabinett in the making! 2028-2045



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Weingut Julian Haart

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Julian Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett Alte Reben	22 21	94
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Kabinett, as it is referred to on the white and golden consumer label (the reference to Alte Reben is provided on the back label), was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar. It offers a gorgeous and superbly elegant and complex nose of pear, yellow peach, candied grapefruit, orange, cassis, lavender, and minty herbs. The wine is focused and very pure on the palate where some ripe flavors of vineyard peach elements interplay with zesty fruits. It leaves an already more off-dry than really fruity feel in the finish. The aftertaste is almost racy but very focused and intense. This is a great drinking Kabinett with huge complexity and finesse. 2028-2040

2020er	Julian Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese	12 21	93+
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Spätlese, as it is referred to on the red and silver consumer label, was made from ripe but fully clean fruit and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar. It proves quite reductive and only reveals faint notes of white flowers, vineyard peach, herbs, and spices at first. Then, gradually, scents of orange blossom, tangerine, vineyard peach, spices, and mint kick in with more airing. The wine is beautifully juicy and finely spicy on the elegant and multi-layered palate. There is still a touch sweetness still noticeable in the finish, but time will allow it to integrate and the wine may even turn out better than expected if it gains finesse. 2030-2050

2020er	Julian Haart	Piesporter Riesling	17 21	93
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The 2020er Piesporter, as it is referred to on the red and silver consumer label, comes from the Goldtröpfchen. It offers a beautifully fresh, spicy, and floral nose of green herbs, smoke, pepper, white peach, greengage, almond, and still residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine is very straight and focused on the lively and even racy palate. It finishes bone-dry, pure, and vibrating with salty and spices elements. This dry wine is superbly balanced and shines through its energy and finesse. 2024-2040

2020er	Julian Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett	21 21	93
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Kabinett, as it is referred to on the red and silver consumer label, was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar. A spicy and reductive feel gives way to fruity scents of pear, quince, anise, and almond cream on the nose. The wine proves superbly juicy and well balanced on the fully fruity and creamy palate yet the finish has the lightness and freshness of Kabinett. This is a beautiful expression of Kabinett in the making. 2028-2040

2020er	Julian Haart	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Spätlese	13 21	93
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The 2020er Ohligsberg Spätlese, as it is referred to on the red and silver consumer label, was made from ripe but fully clean fruit and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a quite elegant, fresh, and spicy nose of pear, vineyard peach, cassis, lavender, and almond. The wine is nicely fruity and creamy on the palate, where some riper fruits (pear, pineapple, and coconut) join the party. The finish has good presence and intensity in a comparatively smooth and spicy way. It proves already delicious now, but will only reveal its full potential in a decade or more. 2030-2050

2020er	Julian Haart	Nieder-Flörsheimer Frauenberg	18 21	92
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The 2020er Frauenberg, as it is referred to on the red and silver consumer label, comes from the Nieder-Flörsheimer Frauenberg, a well-known "Grand Cru" vineyard on limestone soil in Rheinhessen, where the Estate took over a parcel in 2018. The grapes were brought to and fermented at the facilities in Piesport down to bone-dry levels of residual sugar. It offers a very fine and aromatic nose of yellow peach, apricot, herbs, mint, and almond cream. The wine develops good presence and juicy fruits on the palate and leaves a rather opulent yet fine taste in the very long and intense finish. There is still a touch of tartness in need of integration, so that this wine will really only shine in a few years. 2024-2035

2020er	Julian Haart	Riesling Red Rock	16 21	90
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The 2020er Riesling Red Rock comes from the lower part of the Nieder-Flörsheimer Frauenberg, a well-known "Grand Cru" vineyard on limestone soil in Rheinhessen, where the Estate took over a parcel in 2018. The grapes were brought to and fermented at the facilities in Piesport down to bone-dry levels of residual sugar. It offers a quite aromatic nose of grapefruit, pear, tangerine, yellow flowers, and almond. The wine develops good fruity presence on the palate and leaves a nicely creamy feel wrapped into spicy and zesty notes in the fully-dry tasting finish. The aftertaste is more assertive but really rewarding. This is a more assertive and fruit-driven yet delicious dry Riesling. 2022-2030

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Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Reinhold Haart

Weingut Reinhold Haart

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

Johannes Haart does not beat around the bush when he speaks about how happy he is with his 2020 vintage: "2020 was in fact a relaxed vintage. We had no particular issues in the vineyards, even not hydric stress as we sometimes experienced here and there in 2019 or 2018. The summer was of course dry but we had some rains which helped our vines to get the right amount of water at the right time. We decided to start our harvest on September 20 with grapes for our Kabinett wines as well as our entry level wines before the rains started to fall. We then did a pause for a few days. The grapes did not really develop more Oechsle degrees during the rest of the harvest, a fact I am particularly happy with as this yielded lighter and more elegant wines. I love the combination of early yeasty and fruity notes, a combination which we only rarely see. Also, acidity levels are on paper sometimes lower, but the acidity is almost all tartaric and the pH levels are low, so the sensation of acidity is actually higher than the numbers would suggest. The result is scores of superbly well-balanced wines. The overall yields are in line with those of 2019."

The Estate was able to produce its usual set of wines right up to one Auslese from the Goldtröpfchen. The lack of botrytis did not allow it to do a special selection, so there is no auction Auslese on offer this year. There will be four GGs (Goldtröpfchen, Grafenberg, Kreuzwingert, and Ohligsberg), which are all likely to be only released next year or later.

Johannes Haart and his team managed to take full advantage of the lower ripeness level to produce a very classic and appealing collection of wines, which combine fruit richness and intense zesty presence. A special mention has to go to the Goldtröpfchen Spätlese, a superb wine in the making. Yet the rest of the collection is also highly recommendable and lovers of this address can plunge on any (better: all) of the 2020 wines.

NB: The Piesporter Trocken and the GGs were not yet ready for tasting. For completion, we added the tasting note of the 2019er Goldtröpfchen GG which we did not have the chance to taste last year

2020er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Auslese	30 21	94
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The Goldtröpfchen Auslese, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the vintage is written on the neck label), was made from late harvested clean fruit picked at 95-96° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (91 g/l). It offers a delicately creamy and smoky nose of almond, minty herbs, blackberry, orange blossom, jasmine, and a touch of coconut cream. Plenty of ripe apricot, pineapple, and honeyed yellow peach make for a smooth and rich feel on the hugely juicy, fruity, and sweet palate. The finish is well balanced by some playful and delicate acidity. This is a gorgeous Goldtröpfchen Auslese. 2030-2060

2020er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese	25 21	94
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The Goldtröpfchen Spätlese, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the vintage is written on the neck label), was made from fruit picked at approx. 90° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (79 g/l). It proves really restrained at first and needs a few moments to reveal its elegance and complexity as refined notes of anise, yellow peach, herbs, smoke, greengage, red fruits, and cassis emerge from the glass. The wine is superbly sweet and fully juicy on the light exotic fruit driven palate. The finish has superb length and intensity with ripe juicy acidity adding a playful side to this beautiful richer version of Spätlese. 2030-2050

2020er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Domherr Riesling Spätlese	35 21	93+
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The Domherr Spätlese, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the vintage is written on the neck label), was made from fruit picked at 88-89° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (78 g/l). It proves quite reductive and restrained at first and needs quite a few minutes in the glass to reveal some spicy and smoky notes of herbs, greengage, pear, grapefruit, and cassis. The wine develops good fruity presence and structure on the palate, where the sweetness is already well wrapped into zest and mineral elements. The finish is quite intense and focused, with great length and even a touch of power (despite the wine's moderate 8% of alcohol). This superb Spätlese needs a decade or more to integrate all its elements and may even exceed our expectations if it gains finesse with age. 2030-2050

2020er	Reinhold Haart	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Kabinett	41 21	93
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The Ohligsberg Kabinett, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the vintage is written on the neck label), was made from fruit picked at 88° Oechsle and was fermented down to fully sweet levels of residual sugar (52 g/l). It offers a beautifully refined, refreshing, and precise nose of white flowers, vineyard peach, spices, pear, lavender, cassis, anise, and smoke. The wine starts off on the juicy and smooth side on the palate but develops great focus and structure in the long and well-delineated finish. The aftertaste has still some pear-driven fruity flavors, even though spices and smoke are dominating. This needs a couple of years to show its best. 2028-2040



Mosel Fine Wines

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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Reinhold Haart

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Grafenberg Riesling Kabinett	46 21	(92-93)
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The Grafenberg Kabinett, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the vintage is written on the neck label), was made from fruit picked at 85-86° Oechsle and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (54 g/l). This cask sample offers a fresh, clean, and smoky nose of white peach, pear, grapefruit, lemon, spices, and mint, as well as residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine proves superbly well balanced on the palate as the touch of sweetness and fruity presence is well wrapped into zesty fruits right from the start and into the very long and focused finish. This is a superbly focused Kabinett in the making. 2027-2040

2020er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett	22 21	92
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The Goldtröpfchen Kabinett, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the vintage is written on the neck label), was made from fruit picked at 85-86° Oechsle and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (53 g/l). The first nose is still quite marked by bacon-driven notes of smoky reduction from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine then reveals scents of pear, yellow peach, yellow flowers, and almond cream. It is driven by riper fruits (including apricot, pineapple, and tangerine) on the nicely fruity and quite juicy palate. The finish is quite intense, structured, and very long, which makes for a lighter sense of residual sugar than what one could expect on the mid-palate. 2027-2040

2020er	Reinhold Haart	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Spätlese	42 21	92
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The Ohligsberg Spätlese, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the vintage is written on the neck label), was made from fruit picked at approx. 90° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (72 g/l). It offers a gorgeously refined, pure, and enticing nose of white pepper, white flowers, smoke, herbs, fresh almond, cardamom, anise, cassis, and smoke, as well as some bacon-driven scents from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine proves quite juicy and fruity on the sweet, ripe, and even slightly exotic palate. The finish is slightly broader yet retains great presence and intensity despite its slightly moderate feel of acidity. While the aromatics are already hugely compelling, the wine needs to integrate its tale of sweetness in order to fully shine. 2028-2045

2019er	Reinhold Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken GG	20 20	90
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The Goldtröpfchen GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the vintage is written on the neck label), is a bone-dry wine (2 g/l of residual) which was fermented on its gross lees and aged in Fuder for 10 months. It proves quite baroque and opulent as ripe and hugely aromatic scents of pineapple, honeyed pear, barbecue herbs, toffee, apricot, nut, camphor, and ginger-driven spices emerge from the glass. This sensation of opulence and power carries over on the broad and intense palate. Flavors of toffee, spices, and mirabelle come through in the very long and ostentatious finish. Quite some tartness and tannins are still present in the aftertaste which still need to integrate. This Mosel upon Wachau Smaragd expression of dry Riesling needs time to further integrate its elements. It is thus best enjoyed in the years to come with hearty dishes. It will particularly please lovers of ostentatious and big dry Riesling. 2023-2027

2020er	Reinhold Haart	Riesling Haart to Heart	05 21	90
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The Haart to Heart Mosel Riesling, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the vintage provided written on the back label), is an off-dry wine (with 23 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked in the Piesporter Grafenberg, Goldtröpfchen, and Günterslay. It proves quite reduced and marked by its spontaneous fermentation at first and only gradually reveals its nose made of smoke, herbs, pear, yellow peach, and white flowers. The wine proves delicately juicy and smooth on the fruity and nicely spicy palate and leaves a nice sense of focus and persistence in the finish. It proves incredibly easy to drink as it has great balance between fruits and spices, but also offers superb complexity and freshness. 2022-2030

2020er	Reinhold Haart	Riesling Haart Estate	05 21	90
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The 2020er Haart Riesling Mosel, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is an off-dry wine (with 23 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked in the Piesporter Grafenberg, Goldtröpfchen, and Günterslay. It proves quite reduced and marked by its spontaneous fermentation at first and only gradually reveals its nose made of smoke, herbs, pear, yellow peach, and white flowers. The wine proves delicately juicy and smooth on the fruity and nicely spicy palate and leaves a nice sense of focus and persistence in the finish. It proves incredibly easy to drink as it has great balance between fruits and spices, but also offers superb complexity and freshness. 2022-2030

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Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Karthäuserhof

Weingut Karthäuserhof

(Eitelsbach – Trier-Ruwer)

Richard Grosche, who was appointed Estate manager since the beginning of 2020 together with Mathieu Kaufmann (learn more about this in the Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 53 – Aug 2020), is really happy about how their efforts paid off: "With Mathieu, we only had minor influences on the 2019 vintages as we could only adapt the portfolio with wines in their *élevage* phase. In 2020, we were able to follow the whole vintage, from start to end, and, above all, do exactly what we had in mind, without need to compromise. We started our harvest early but Oechsle levels were already very good, sometimes even surprisingly good, as for instance our Weissburgunder already had 94° Oechsle on the first day of harvest. But the Oechsle degrees of our Riesling grapes were of course lower. Their acidity levels still very good and only slightly went down after the few days of rain at the end of September. In fact, there were only 4 days of rain, on which we did not harvest any grapes but went through all the vineyards to defoliate the vines. We could harvest a very few grapes with 96° Oechsle. But the bulk of the harvest came in at moderate levels of ripeness, which suits the Karthäuserhof style perfectly. We pressed the grapes whole bunch and let the wines on their gross lees with minimal but not too low levels of sulfur."

The Karthäuserhof team was able to further simplify and adjust its portfolio. The Bruno line-up is composed of 3 wines: the Pinot Blanc Dry (Weissburgunder Trocken), the Riesling Dry (Trocken), and the Riesling Kab (Kabinett Feinherb). As Richard underlined, "the Riesling Dry and Kab were rather close in term of residual sugar last year, but in 2020 we kept them more apart." The dry portfolio is composed by the Schieferkristall, the Alte Reben, and the GG, and the fruity-styled wines are composed by one Kabinett and one Spätlese from the Karthäuserhofberg. The vintage did not allow for more selections. In addition, the Estate released its 2019er Karthäuserhofberg GG.

The 2020 collection crafted by Karthäuserhof is really compelling. Except for the Bruno Weissburgunder, all wines show the usual lightness and freshness which has made the reputation of the Estate over the years but do this with, in addition, nice depth and focus. The "village" Riesling Trocken Alte Reben is a huge success and would easily pass as a GG at many Estates. The fruity-styled wines are also highly recommended and are comparatively lower in residual sugar, which make them utterly drinkable and also great food companions. All in all, there is much to love at this address in 2020!

NB: The 2020er Karthäuserhofberg GG will be reviewed next year, upon its commercial release.

2020er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Spätlese	08 21	93+
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The 2020er Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Spätlese was made from fruit harvested in the Kronenberg and Sang section of the vineyard and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (approx. 50 g/l). It immediately captures one's attention with its beautiful perfumed and attractive nose of vineyard peach, whipped coconut and almond cream, a dash of exotic elements (mango, guava, and passion fruit), and aniseed and minty herbs. The wine is very delicate and smooth on the palate, with quite some energy and intensity, and leaves a very long and smoky finish. These elements have yet to integrate and, if the airy side can gain the advantage at maturity, it could even turn out better than initially anticipated. 2028-2040+

2020er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Kabinett	05 21	92
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The 2020er Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Kabinett was made from fruit harvested mainly in the Burgberg and Sang section of the vineyard and was fermented down to fully off-dry levels of residual sugar (approx. 30 g/l). It offers a delicately flowery and creamy nose of almond, herbs, anise, spices, vineyard peach, orange blossom, and grapefruit. The wine proves superbly balanced on the zesty and spicy palate. A subtly fruity structure then gives way to a more off-dry feel in the long and intense finish. This very playful and energetic Kabinett is superb. 2025-2040

2020er	Karthäuserhof	Eitelsbacher Riesling Trocken Alte Reben	07 21	92
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The 2020er Riesling Trocken Alte Reben, as it is referred to on the neck label, was made from fruit picked on at least 30-year-old (and up to 70-75-year-old) vines in the Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg which was matured until June in a mix of stainless-steel tanks and Stückfass (1,200-liter oak barrel). It offers a superbly delicate, complex, and refined aromatic and flowery nose of herbs, almond, vineyard peach, spices, herbs, and a hint of yellow fruits. The wine is delicately textured and refined on the smooth yet also finely chiseled and spicy palate. The finish has more opulence, despite the label only indicating 11% of alcohol. Earthy spices and good grip, as well as a hint of fruity elements, round off the experience in the aftertaste. This needs a few years to develop even more complexity and will prove a great dry Riesling to enjoy with food. 2024-2035



Mosel Fine Wines

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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Karthäuserhof

(Eitelsbach – Trier-Ruwer)

2019er	Karthäuserhof	Karthäuserhofberg Riesling Trocken GG	11 20	90
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The 2019er Karthäuserhofberg Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the neck label, shows a quite ripe and aromatic nose of pineapple, almond cream, pear, mirabelle, some buttery elements, licorice, a hint of camphor, and honeyed yellow fruits. The wine proves delicately fruity and creamy on the juicy yet fresh and citrus-driven palate. The finish is full of presence and even a hint of power and is nicely aromatic and slightly broader. There is just a hint of tartness in need of integration. Although not typical of Ruwer and Karthäuserhof, this wine proves a superb ostentatious, ripe, and rather broad expression of dry Riesling to enjoy on its primary attractive and aromatic side. 2022-2026

2020er	Karthäuserhof	Riesling Trocken Schieferkristall	04 21	90
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The 2020er Riesling Trocken Schieferkristall comes mainly from the Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg as well as from Estate's holdings in Mertesdorf and Waldrach. It proves slightly reductive at first but quickly reveals its beautifully refined and refreshing smoky nose of white flowers, spices, yellow peach, minty herbs, anise, and cardamom. The wine is superbly focused and zesty on the palate and leaves a quite refined side in the long, spicy, and herbal finish. There is energy and intensity, despite the wine only having 10.5%. This is a delicious dry Riesling. 2024-2035

2020er	Karthäuserhof	Riesling Kabinett Feinherb Bruno	02 21	89
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The Bruno Riesling Kab, as it is referred to on the front label (the reference to the vintage is left for the back label), comes from Estate holdings mainly in Eitelsbach (including from the Karthäuserhofberg), and was fermented down to off-dry levels of residual sugar (18 g/l). It offers an attractive and subtly fruity nose of yellow peach, herbs, candied grapefruit, greengage, earthy spices, and a touch of blackberry. The wine is driven by even more fruity elements on the delicately smooth and juicy palate, where yellow peach, melon, and pear are wrapped into a touch of almond cream. The finish is nicely straight and focused with fine zest, citrusy fruits, and spices coming through in the aftertaste. 2022-2030

2020er	Karthäuserhof	Riesling Trocken Bruno	03 21	89
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The Bruno Riesling Dry, as it is referred to on the front label (the reference to the vintage is left for the back label), comes from Estate holdings in Eitelsbach (including from the Karthäuserhofberg), Waldrach, Mertesdorf, and the neighboring Fell. It was fermented down to fully dry levels of residual sugar (4 g/l) and aged for 5 months on its lees before bottling. Slightly reductive at first, this opens up to offer superbly refreshing scents of grapefruit, smoke, lemon, herbs, gooseberry, and white minerals. The wine is pure and driven by zesty acidity on the palate, and leaves a mouth-watering feel of spices in the long, bone-dry tasting, and smoky finish. This fully dry-tasting Riesling is very nice in a dynamic and spicy style. 2022-2028

2020er	Karthäuserhof	Weissburgunder Trocken Bruno	01 21	87
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The 2020er Bruno Pinot Blanc Dry, as it is referred to on the front label (the reference to the vintage is left for the back label), was made from fruit picked at 94° Oechsle in the Eitelsbacher Karthäuserhofberg and was fermented in stainless steel and wooden cask. It offers a rather ripe, big, and aromatic nose of mirabelle, pear, yellow peach, herbs, smoke, and a hint of camphor. The wine is structured and quite intense on the palate, where tannins and tartness drive the flavor profile. The finish is powerful and also very spicy with some fresher flavors of grapefruit and lime coming through. This imposing and impressive Pinot Blanc needs a few years to integrate its elements and will best be served with hearty food. 2023-2026

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Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Knebel

Weingut Reinhard & Beate Knebel (Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

Matthias Knebel is really happy with his 2020 vintage: "2020 saw a lot of sunshine and little rain, much as 2019 and 2018. Fortunately, we had gained more experience with such vintages, knowing which areas are more prone to dryness, which grapes to avoid at harvest, etc. Overall, we started the harvest early, around mid-September, and really went through the vineyards at pace including on Sundays to bring in all the grapes in three weeks. There was some rain during the harvest but, on the whole, it proved a rather uneventful harvest except for the low yields. Once again, we did not reach 40 hl/ha. But the result is really to my liking. The wines have a great fruity core which is wrapped into beautiful zest. We had changed our approach for dry wines over the years (including not doing any pre-fermentation cold soak, relying on whole-bunch pressing, etc.) and this paid off nicely in 2020."

The Estate produced its usual collection of wines ranging from the Estate wine right up to its two GGs from the Röttgen and the Uhlen and, on the sweet side, an Auslese lange GK from the Röttgen (to be released via the annual Auction in November) and a TBA (which is still fermenting).

Knebel produced a gorgeous set of wines which shine through presence and elegance. The stars of the collection are, probably as expected, the two GGs and the beautiful regular Auslese. But beyond this, we were also impressed by the raciness and focus which the Estate managed to pack into its Kabinett and Spätlese and which defies the "riper" DNA of both the Terrassenmosel and the vintage. The Estate wines are, as usual as well, beautifully alluring and refined. 2020 is another great success here!

NB: The TBA was not ready for tasting. The auction Auslese lange GK will be reviewed in the upcoming Issue No 59 to be released ahead of the Auctions.

2020er	Knebel	Winninger Uhlen Riesling GG	13 21	94+
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The 2020er Riesling Uhlen GG, as it is referred on the main part of the label, is a legally dry wine which comes from old vines in the grey-slated Laubach part of the vineyard and which was fermented and aged on its fine lees in stainless steel (75%) and used small oak barrel (25%) for 9 months. It offers a beautiful and subtle ripe nose made of grapefruit zest, minerals, melon, pear puree, earthy spices, and fresh minty elements. The wine proves beautifully pure and smoothly dry (rather than bone-dry) on the palate and leaves a great complex feel of fruits, herbs, and fine spices in the long finish. This great dry wine combines depth and presence with elegance and finesse. What a great success! We would not be surprised if it eventually turns out to be a classic, especially as the wine reveals its depth. 2025-2040

2020er	Knebel	Winninger Röttgen Riesling Auslese	03 21	94
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The 2020er Röttgen Auslese, as it is referred to on the main part of the label, was made from fruit picked at a full 110° Oechsle and was fermented down to noble-sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a beautifully pure nose of almond paste, melon, mint, green apple, pear, and raisin. The wine reveals a stunningly suave feel of almond paste packed into an almost Eiswein-styled acidity on the palate and leaves a gorgeously racy and feel on the finish. The aftertaste is racy, focused, yet also beautifully multi-layered and honeyed. 2030-2040+

2020er	Knebel	Winninger Röttgen Riesling GG	12 21	93
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The 2019er Riesling Röttgen GG, as it is referred on the main part of the label, is a legally dry wine which comes from old vines in the terraced part of the vineyard and which was fermented and aged on its fine lees in stainless steel (75%) and used small oak barrel (25%) for 9 months. This bright-yellow-colored wine offers a beautiful nose made of pear, vineyard peach, mirabelle, subtle earthy spices, and creamy elements. The wine is smoothly dry (rather than bone-dry) on the palate. More fruity elements are beautifully packed into tart and delicately racy notes. The finish is hugely deep, layered, and persistent. This is a superb dry Riesling in the making which combines presence, delicately, elegance, and finesse! 2025-2040

2020er	Knebel	Riesling von den Terrassen Réserve	10 21	92
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The 2020er Riesling von den Terrassen Réserve is a barely off-dry wine (with 10 g/l of residual sugar) made from Estate holdings in the Winninger Uhlen. It proves still massively reduced and takes a while to hint at more than reveal some gorgeous elements of grapefruit, creamy melon, earthy spices, and smoky elements on the nose. The wine is rather firm and full of grip on the palate and leaves a nicely long and juicy feel in the beautifully playful finish. The aftertaste is tart, salivating, and full of greatness to come. 2024-2032

2020er	Knebel	Winninger Röttgen Riesling Kabinett	01 21	92
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The 2020er Röttgen Kabinett, as it is referred to on the main part of the label, was made from fruit picked at a full 88° Oechsle and was fermented down to barely fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (45 g/l). It offers a nicely reduced nose made of citrusy fruits, apricot blossom, wet stone, herbs, and spices. The wine develops great cut on the subtly creamy palate and leaves an electrifying feel of lemon, pear, herbs, and spices in the long and focused finish. Sorbet fruits underline the raciness of this beautiful "Spätlese Eiswein"-styled wine in the aftertaste. 2030-2040+



Mosel Fine Wines

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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Reinhard & Beate Knebel

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

2020er	Knebel	Winninger Röttgen Riesling Spätlese	02 21	91+
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The 2020er Röttgen Spätlese, as it is referred to on the main part of the label, was made from fruit picked at a full 106° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (89 g/l). It offers a beautiful nose made of melon, pear, citrusy fruits, grapefruit zest, chalk, aniseed herbs, a dash of whipped cream, and smoke. The wine starts off on the subtly ripe and smooth side on the palate but a minty kick of racy acidity quickly kicks in and adds cut to the experience. The finish is long but also slightly straight. This fascinating effort could well exceed our expectations, especially as it integrates its elements at maturity. 2030-2040+

2020er	Knebel	Riesling von den Terrassen	07 21	91
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The 2020er Riesling von den Terrassen was made from parcels in the Winninger Hamm and the terraced parts of the Winninger Domgarten as well as declassified casks from the Winninger Röttgen and was fermented in a mix of stainless-steel tanks (75%) and wooden casks (25%) down to dry levels of residual sugar (8 g/l). It offers a beautiful nose made of grapefruit, chalky minerals, fine spices, and delicately smoky elements. The wine is firm and full of grip on the dry-tasting palate and leaves a nicely focused and refreshing feel in the finish. Zesty elements add cut and a great mouthwatering feel to the aftertaste. 2022-2030

2020er	Knebel	Winninger Riesling Alte Reben	11 21	90
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The 2020er Riesling Alte Reben, as it is referred to on the main part of the label (the reference to the village is left for the side of the label), is a tank-fermented off-dry wine (with 21 g/l of residual sugar) made from parcels planted with 50-year-old vines in terraced parts of the Winninger Brückstück, Röttgen, and Hamm. It offers a nicely juicy nose made of mirabelle, pear, rose water, whipped cream, earthy spices, and smoky elements. The wine delivers quite some ripe and creamy flavors of fruits on the off-dry palate but these flavors are immediately pepped up by some racy acidity. The finish is smooth yet hugely lively and persistent. Only a touch of sweet-tart tension in the aftertaste makes us opt to wait for two years or more before opening another bottle. 2023-2032

2020er	Knebel	Riesling	06 21	89
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The 2020er Riesling is a dry wine (with 7 g/l of residual sugar) made from Estate holdings in the Winninger Domgarten. It offers a nicely engaging even if slightly ripe nose made of melon, mirabelle, citrusy fruits, earthy spices, a dash of cream, and herbs. The wine is juicy and rather mouthwatering on the palate, where zesty acidity firms up the flavors and adds focus to the experience. The finish is racy, still a tad rough, but nicely alluring (certainly by "mere" Estate wine standards). We would advise to start drinking this wine only as of next year. 2022-2028

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Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Loersch

Weingut Loersch

(Leiwen – Middle Mosel)

Alex Loersch is immensely happy with his 2020 vintage: "It's a vintage with wines exactly as I wanted them to be! The growing season proved essentially very warm with early bud break and also very dry ... until the autumn, when cooler and cloudier weather settled down. The result is that we started our harvest early, on September 22 for the Pinot varieties and on September 25 for Riesling, but not as early as I initially anticipated. Still, we were, I think, the first to harvest in Trittenheim. Our first focus was to bring in Kabinett wines and this allowed us to then concentrate on our Spätlese and high end dry and dry-tasting wines until mid-October. There was not a lot of botrytis but enough for a TBA. As I mentioned at the beginning, I love the 2020 vintage: The wines came from grapes with moderate Oechsle degrees and prove therefore beautifully refreshing, filigreed, and hugely classic. It also allowed us to reduce the residual sugar in our wines which adds to their drinkability. How can I not be happy?"

The Estate was able to produce its full portfolio right up to its dry and off-dry single parcel wines from the Jungheld, Vogelsang, and Sängerei as well as small amounts of TBA. The Estate will also release its 2019er Jungheld GG in Spring 2022 (the 2020er version will only be released in Spring 2023).

Alex Loersch outdid himself in 2020. It is as simple as that. He had already established himself as one of the finest producers of noble-sweet wines and confirmed this with an amazing set of Auslese and a sheer perfect TBA. But his 2020 collection also shows great consistency and quality at Kabinett level. The wines shine through freshness and playfulness. Also in the dry register, the Estate is making huge strides in quality. Among others, his dry Vogelsang is a little beauty of elegance and finesse and his Jungheld GG shows immense potential! Finally, the Estate wines are some of finest money can buy in 2020. This Estate is on fire!

NB: The Pinot varieties were not tasted.

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Trockenbeerenauslese	22 21	100
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The 2020er Trittenheimer Apotheke Trockenbeerenauslese, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, was made from fruit picked at 190° Oechsle and was fermented to fully noble-sweet levels of residual sugar (335 g/l). This bright yellow-golden-colored wine offers a stunningly pure and airy nose made of baked pineapple, coconut, apricot puree, honey, dried fruits, candied lemon zest, and smoke. Despite its intensity viscous structure, the wine proves absolutely stunningly focused and even airy on the palate. Loads of exotic fruits, honey, almond, and spices are mingling with citrusy elements to Riesling perfection. The finish is hugely racy, focused, and incredibly multi-layered and deep. This completely defies the vintage (known for not being favorable to botrytis) and is a hot contender for noble-sweet wine of the vintage. 2030-2060

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Auslese Alte Reben	12 21	96
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The 2020er Alte Reben Trittenheimer Apotheke, as it is referred to on the central part of the label (the reference to Auslese is only written in small on the right part of the label), was made from early harvested and botrytized (50%) fruit at a full 115° Oechsle on 50-100-year-old vines in the terraced Vogelsang, Mockenlay, Jungheld, Kaulsbohr, and Laurentiusberg parts of the vineyard and was fermented to noble-sweet levels of residual sugar (110 g/l). It offers a beautifully dramatic and subtly creamy nose made of almond cream, baked pineapple, coconut, laurel, dried fruits, and smoky elements. The wine develops the delicately viscous yet focused presence of a light BA on the palate and leaves a superb yet ripe and rich feel of dried fruits, smoke, almond cream, and earthy spices in the long finish. Citrusy elements add the necessary depth to the experience in the after-taste. What this stunning beauty now only needs is a little bit of patience for it to integrate its tail of sweetness and reveal its full glory: What a great success! 2030-2050

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Auslese	11 21	95
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The 2020er Apotheke Riesling Auslese, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, was made from early harvested and partially botrytized (10-20%) fruit at 102° Oechsle in the Laurentiusberg part of the vineyard and was fermented down to fully sweet levels of residual sugar (95 g/l). It offers a gorgeous nose made of almond cream, melon, apricot blossom, vineyard peach, date, passion fruit, and smoky elements. The wine develops the unctuous presence of a high-end Auslese GK on the creamy yet nicely focused and playful palate and leaves a gorgeously citrus-infused feel of honeyed almond cream, coconut, and pineapple in the long and impeccably balanced finish. This is a stunning sweet wine in the making! 2030-2050

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Jungheld Holzfass GG	N.A.	93+
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The 2020er Trittenheimer Apotheke Jungheld Holzfass, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, is a bone-dry wine (with 3 g/l of residual sugar) made from 80-120-year-old un-grafted vines in this prime south-west-facing sector of the Apotheke and which was fermented and aged in an acacia cask. This bright yellow-white colored wine proves still rather backward but already more than hints at greatness to come as gorgeously subtle flavors of zesty fruits, peach, earthy herbs, mint, and juicy pear emerge from the glass. The wine is hugely complex and impactful on the palate and leaves an almost powerful feel of herbs and spices in the long and beautifully dry finish. This gorgeous dry Riesling is still in its infancy but the potential is huge! 2025-2035



Mosel Fine Wines

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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Loersch

(Leiwen – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Loersch	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett	08 21	93
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, was made from fruit harvested at 81° Oechsle in the south-west facing Alz sector (next to the Gärtchen) of the vineyard and was fermented to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (42 g/l). It offers a gorgeous nose made of pear, melon, citrusy fruits, cassis, a hint of apricot blossom, earthy elements, and some whipped cream. The wine develops the subtly creamy yet also firmly racy structure of a Spätlese or light Auslese from the 1990s on the palate and leaves a great smooth-racy tension in the long finish. Reductive earthy elements drive the after-taste at the moment but these elements will give way to superbly fresh one at maturity. 2030-2050

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Kabinett	05 21	93
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The 2020er Apotheke Riesling Kabinett, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, was made from fruit harvested at 83° Oechsle in the Vogelsang part of the vineyard situated high up the hill, and was fermented to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (47 g/l). It offers a subtle nose made of pear, whipped cream, melon, cardamom, floral elements, and smoke. The wine proves delightfully light-footed and playful on the palate, where some racy acidity is currently not yet fully integrated into the delicately creamy elements. The finish is however already beautifully focused, intense, and persistent. This modern-day equivalent of a Spätlese or light Auslese from the 1990s now just needs a bit of patience in order to shine! 2030-2050

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Kabinett WinePorn	07 21	93
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The 2020er WinePorn, as it is referred to on the central part of the label (the reference to the vineyard and Prädikat are left to the side label), is an exclusive wine for a well-known local retailer in Bernkastel. It was made from fruit harvested at 83° Oechsle in a part high up the central sector of the vineyard and was fermented to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (47 g/l). It offers a beautiful nose made of minty herbs, citrusy fruits, vineyard peach, fine spices, and herbal elements. The wine is superbly racy on the light-footed and focused palate and leaves a simply superb feel of fresh fruits, minerals, smoke, and hints of spices in the long and racy finish. While its youthful exuberance is quite hard to resist, this gorgeous Kabinett will only truly shine in a few years. What a beautiful success! 2030-2050

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Trocken Vogelsang	16 21	93
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The 2020er Trittenheimer Apotheke Vogelsang, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, comes from the similarly-named sector high up the central part of vineyard. This bright white-yellow-colored wine offers a beautiful nose made of pear, vineyard peach, subtle grapefruit, and hints of floral elements wrapped into delicately earthy spices. The wine is superbly light-feathered on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of fresh fruits and spices in the long and playful finish. A kick of zest adds precision and finesse to overall intense but stunningly light-footed after-taste. This wine is a stunning success and a must-buy for any lover of elegant dry Mosel wine. 2023-2032

2020er	Loersch	Dhroner Hofberg Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	13 21	92
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The 2020er Hofberg Riesling Kabinett Feinherb, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, was made from fruit at 82° Oechsle in the Hengelberg hill and the main hill of the vineyard and was fermented to off-dry levels of residual sugar (21 g/l). It offers a beautiful nose made of pear, passion fruit, mint, whipped cream, spices, and herbal elements. The wine is gorgeously lively and packed with citrusy flavors on the palate. It leaves a gorgeous feel of spices, floral elements, and fine chalky elements in the nicely tart and mouthwatering finish. This beautiful off-dry Kabinett now just needs a little bit of patience to shine. 2025-2035

2020er	Loersch	Dhroner Hofberg Sängerei Riesling Trocken GG	20 21	92
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The 2020er Dhroner Hofberger Sängerei, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, is made from fruit picked on 50-year-old vines in this prime Lieu-Dit in the central part of the original Hofberg hill and was fermented and aged in a mix of cask and stainless-steel tank. It offers a gorgeous nose made of citrusy fruits, fine herbs, elegant spices, and floral elements. The wine is beautifully intense yet superbly delineated on the palate and leaves a stunning feel of herbs and spices in the long and juicy finish. The finesse and playfulness are really remarkable given the presence and aromatic intensity. 2025-2035



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Weingut Loersch

(Leiwen – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Feinherb Fels-Terrassen	17 21	92
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The 2020er Trittenheimer Apotheke Fels-Terrassen, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, is an off-dry wine (with 21 g/l of residual sugar) from the Jungheld part of the vineyard. It offers a subtly ripe nose made of herbal elements, quince, pear, melon, a hint of lemon, and loads of earthy spices, all wrapped into residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine is on the smooth side on the palate and leaves an earthy and spicy but beautifully precise feel in the long finish. Pear and quince round off the impression of ripe precision in the lingering after-taste. This off-dry wine will need some time to shed its primary ripe juiciness but will then prove a superb ambassador of this style. 2028-2040

2019er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Jungheld Holzfass GG	22 20	92
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The 2019er Trittenheimer Apotheke Jungheld Holzfass, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, is a bone-dry wine (with 3 g/l of residual sugar) made from 80-120-year-old un-grafted vines in this prime south-west-facing sector of the Apotheke and which was fermented and aged in an acacia cask. This lightly yellow-colored wine offers a slightly ample and creamy nose made of pear, grapefruit, cardamom, earthy spices, and floral notes. The wine proves subtly creamy and ample on the palate (without however being overpowering) and leaves a slate-infused touch in the hugely creamy, spicy, and mineral finish. 2024-2034

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese Alte Reben	10 21	92
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The 2020er Alte Reben Trittenheimer Apotheke, as it is referred to on the central part of the label (the reference to Spätlese is only written in small on the right part of the label), was made from fruit harvested at 91° Oechsle on 60-70-year-old vines in the steep Mockenlay and Kaulsbohr part of the vineyard and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (70 g/l). It offers a gorgeously creamy nose made of apricot blossom, vineyard peach, pear, citrusy fruits, starfruit, ginger, and lots of whipped cream. The wine develops the creamy yet focused presence of a light-footed Auslese GK on the palate, where creamy pear mingles with apricot blossom, a touch of honey, coconut, and fine spices. The finish is subtly rich, creamy, and hugely long. 2030-2050

2020er	Loersch	Neumagener Rosengärtchen Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	14 21	91
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The 2020er Rosengärtchen Riesling Kabinett Feinherb, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, was made from fruit at 81° Oechsle and was fermented to off-dry levels of residual sugar (20 g/l). This bright-yellow-colored wine offers a gorgeous nose made of citrusy fruits, vineyard peach, aniseed herbs, quite some earthy cardamom, and smoke. The wine is playful and elegant on the palate and leaves a refreshing feel of orchard fruits wrapped into some minty but also quite some earthy elements in the light-footed and mouthwatering finish. 2025-2035

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Altärchen Riesling Trocken	03 21	91
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The 2020er Altärchen Riesling Trocken, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, comes from vines planted in 1964 from the hilly south-east facing Falkenberg sector of the vineyard. The wine still proves slightly marked by its spontaneous fermentation at this stage and requires quite some time to open up. It then rewards one with telltale floral elements wrapped into fresh orchard fruits and a hint of smoky slate. The wine proves gorgeously intense yet delineated on the palate and leaves a juicy and playful feel in the long finish. Despite a low 11%, this wine oozes intensity, precision, and finesse. Only a hint of tartness in the after-taste still needs to mellow away. What a great success! 2025-2035

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Devon-Terrassen Trocken GG	20 21	91
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The 2020er Trittenheimer Apotheke Devon-Terrassen GG, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, is made from fruit picked on 60-100-year-old vines in the prime terraced part of Vogelsang and the Kaulsbohr sectors on the main hill and was fermented and aged in a mix of cask and stainless-steel tank. This bright-yellow-colored wine offers a beautiful and subtly ripe nose made of quince, pear, a hint of yellow peach, lemon zest, and quite some cardamom-driven earthy spices. The earthy and spicy elements also define the flavors on the subtly creamy and intense palate and lead to a gorgeously creamy, ripe, and subtly fruity feel in the long and slightly imposing finish. The after-taste is all about intense and creamy fruits, a hint of tartness, and some earthy elements. Lovers of dry Riesling with a dash of presence will particularly appreciate this effort! 2024-2032

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese Laurentiusberg	09 21	89+
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The 2020er Trittenheimer Apotheke Laurentiusberg, as it is referred to on the central part of the label (the reference to Spätlese is only written in small on the right part of the label), was made from fruit harvested at 87° Oechsle in the similarly named part of the vineyard and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (60 g/l). It offers an attractive nose made of melon, pear, a hint of button mushroom, fine spices, and ripe apple. The wine comes over as subtly smooth and broad on the nevertheless light-footed palate and delivers a touch of zest in the long and lingering finish. This ripe and spicy expression of Spätlese may eventually develop more cut and finesse with age. 2030-2050



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Weingut Loersch

(Leiwener – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Loersch	Riesling Feinherb Glimmerschiefer	02 21	89
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The 2020er Riesling Feinherb Glimmerschiefer is an off-dry wine (with 21 g/l of residual sugar) from young vines in the hilly south-east facing Falkenberg sector of the Trittenheimer Altärchen. It offers a beautiful nose made of grapefruit, vineyard peach, floral elements, a hint of passion fruit, and chalky minerals. The wine is beautifully playful on the off-dry tasting palate and leaves a very nice feel of ripe fruits in the still slightly fully off-dry tasting finish. We would opt to leave this wine alone for a year or two in order to give it the time to develop a touch more cut. 2022-2028

2020er	Loersch	Riesling Trocken Blauschiefer	01 21	89
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The 2020er Riesling Trocken Blauschiefer comes from the hilly part of the Leiwener Klostergarten situated on blue slate soil. This bright-yellow-colored wine offers an engaging and subtly aromatic nose of white peach, floral elements, fine spices, a touch of herbs and whipped cream, and loads of refreshing scents of citrusy fruits. The wine is balance, direct, and yet nicely complex on the palate (certainly by Estate wine standards) and leaves a juicy feel in the playful, pure, and subtle finish. This is a beautifully easy-drinking yet deep expression of dry Estate Riesling. 2022-2028

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Hermann Ludes

Weingut Hermann Ludes

(Thörnich – Middle Mosel)

Julian Ludes is quite satisfied with his 2020 vintage: "2020 started off as 2019 and 2018 with an early bud break and flowering but, overall, the summer was not as hot and dry as the vintages before. We saw less of the characteristic yellow leaves in the vineyard. It was nevertheless an early vintage and we started picking grapes already on September 16. The weather was very hot at first but then turned notably cooler with the odd shower. It took us the best part of a month to complete our harvest as we always waited a bit to get better weather and grapes. The cooler weather meant that sugar levels did not go through the roof, and in fact it proved difficult to exceed 90° Oechsle. But I see this more as an advantage as this resulted into filigreed wines with a great sense of lightness as only the Mosel can do. Our wines do not have massive acidity, even if the pH is very low, and this makes them more approachable early than in other vintages."

The Estate produced a full collection of wines which includes a dry Riesling, a barely off-dry Estate wine, a dry tasting Village wine, and several off-dry wines as well as two Kabinett and one Spätlese.

Once again, the Estate dished up a collection which shines through focus, precision, airiness, and incredible vibrant intensity. The intrinsic lightness of the 2020 vintage gives them an even greater sense of precision than usual. The dry Spätlese is a little jewel in its genre. The off-dry Kabinett are deep and hugely persistent, the fruity-styled wines subtly creamy yet beautifully playful at the same time. Even the simple Estate wine is a remarkable effort by any standard. If intense lightness is your thing and you are partial to some raciness, the Hermann Ludes Estate will be on your must-buy list in 2020!

2020er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Spätlese	09 21	93
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The 2020er Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Spätlese was made from fruit picked at 85° Oechsle in a south-facing steep part of the vineyard and was fermented down to barely fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (33 g/l). It offers a stunning nose made of wet stone, Provence herbs, lemon, grapefruit, pear, apple, and fine spices. The wine is beautifully zesty and playful on the subtly creamy yet incredibly light-footed palate and leaves a gorgeously complex feel of juicy fruits in the impeccable balanced finish. The aftertaste proves vibrant and beautifully enticing. 2030-2050

2020er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Kabinett Feinherb "Gackes Unten"	08 21	92+
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The 2020er Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Kabinett Feinherb "Gackes Unten" is an off-dry wine (with 20 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked at 82° Oechsle in the lower part of this central and fully-south-facing sector of the vineyard planted with up to 85-year-old and still largely un-grafted vines. It proves still rather reduced and under the impact of its spontaneous fermentation at this early stage and takes a while to reveal some faint but superbly refined notes of citrusy fruits, minty herbs, vineyard peach, and ginger. The wine is beautifully subtle and elegant on the palate, where a hint of smoothness adds depth to the focused and multi-layered flavors of citrusy fruits and herbs. The finish is multi-faceted and long. This is a hugely impressive off-dry Riesling in the making. We would be surprised if it even exceeds our already high rating. The potential is quite remarkable! 2025-2035

2020er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Kabinett	05 21	92
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The 2020er Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Kabinett was made from fruit picked at 79° Oechsle in the central steep part of the vineyard and was fermented down to barely off-dry levels of residual sugar (27 g/l). It offers a rather reduced nose made of residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation only faintly giving way to some notes of vineyard peach, herbs, and apple. The wine is still rather wild on the nose but already hints at greatness to come in the long and superbly playful finish. The aromatic profile seems to be on the riper side but the wine does have the ethereal lightness that has made the reputation of the Estate. 2028-2040

2020er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Kabinett "Monster"	06 21	92
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The 2020er Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Kabinett "Monster" was made from fruit picked at 81° Oechsle from 75-80-year-old vines in the central south-facing part of the vineyard and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (50 g/l). It offers a stunning and subtly creamy nose made of vineyard peach, herbs, citrusy elements, ginger, spices, and smoke. The subtly creamy theme carries over on the incredibly light-footed palate. Here, more fruity flavors mingle with some elements of apricot and fine herbal elements which lead to a graceful, airy, and subtle finish. The complexity of this fruity-styled wine made in the style of a light-footed Auslese from the 1990s is simply remarkable. 2028-2040

2020er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	07 21	92
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The 2020er Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Kabinett Feinherb is an off-dry wine (with 21 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked at 82° Oechsle in the steep central part of the vineyard. It proves still hugely reduced and hints at more than reveals some citrusy elements wrapped into spices and a dash of whipped cream on the nose. Subtly creamy elements wrapped into ripe citrusy elements make for a beautifully playful yet also serious feel on the palate. The finish is still a bit rough on the edges but the precision, depth, and light-footed freshness of this wine are already quite remarkable at this early stage. 2025-2035



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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Hermann Ludes

(Thörnich – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Spätlese Trocken	04 21	92
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The 2020er Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Spätlese Trocken was made from fruit picked at 88° Oechsle in a prime vineyard situated in the central part of the vineyard. It offers a gorgeous nose made of reductive elements (nut, wet stone, spices) which gradually give way to beautifully refreshing scents of herbs and spices. The wine is beautifully playful on the palate and leaves a stunningly fragrant and feather-light feel in the long and refined finish. This dry wine will prove irresistible to lovers of feather-light and fragrant expressions of the genre! Packing so many flavors into 11.5% of alcohol strength remains one of the great features of dry Mosel Riesling! 2022-2028

2020er	Hermann Ludes	Pölicher Held Riesling Kabinett Halbtrocken	02 21	91
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The 2020er Pölicher Held Riesling Kabinett Halbtrocken is an off-dry wine (with 17 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked at 81° Oechsle in the west-facing steep part of the vineyard. It proves still rather reduced and marked by residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation at this stage. The wine is subtly creamy on the ethereally racy and light-footed palate and leaves a beautiful feel of ripe fruits, a hint of earthy elements, a dash of whipped cream, and minerals in the long and almost dry-tasting finish. Racy citrusy elements add freshness to the aftertaste. 2022-2030

2020er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Riesling	03 21	90
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The 2020er Thörnicher Riesling is an off-dry wine (with 20 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked in the steep parts of the Enggass and Ritsch. It offers a beautifully fragrant and elegant nose made of citrusy elements, pear, vineyard peach, fine minerals, and floral notes. The wine is packed with fresh flavors on the beautifully zesty and light-footed palate and leaves a gorgeously ethereal and focused feel of fruits and minerals in the almost dry-tasting finish. This is a stunning wine made with a modest touch of smoothness to buffer of the great citrusy core of zest. Now-2030

2020er	Hermann Ludes	Riesling "Hermann"	01 21	89
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The 2020er Riesling "Hermann" is an off-dry wine (with 16 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked in prime vineyards on the main hill of the Klüsserather Bruderschaft. This wine proves still quite marked by residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation at first and only gradually reveals some citrusy and floral elements on the nose. The wine proves beautifully balanced and light-footed on the palate and leaves a gorgeously playful feel in the long finish. A stunning feel of intense citrusy zest, minerals, and fine spices makes this wine come over as much more elegant and deeper than your regular Estate wine. What a great success! Now-2025

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Mönchhof

Weingut Mönchhof

(Ürzig – Middle Mosel)

Philippe Conzen is very satisfied with his 2020 vintage: "The weather conditions were good and we started our harvest on September 25. We first brought in grapes for our Estate and Kabinett wines for a full week, before the rains came. We then continued by doing some selections. It proved a really good harvest as the grapes remained very healthy and this right up to the end. The must weights however were moderate and did hardly evolve during harvest. We had to wait until the very end to be able to bring in some Auslese material. 2020 actually proves a vintage like in the old days, when the really top of the vintage was Auslese. We did not push to produce any GG as we felt that the concentration was not sufficient. The yields are in line with those from 2019. 2020 is a superb vintage with beautifully light and fine wines. I particularly like the fact that the vineyard differences are clearly noticeable."

The Estate was able to produce its regular collection of wine, from its Mosel Slate right up to an Auslese from its prime holdings in the Erdener Prälat.

The Estate produced a collection which is more marked by smoothness than others in 2020. This makes them seem to kick at a level higher than their declared Prädikat but, once one integrates this factor, the wines retain some of the drinkability which has made the success of the Estate over the years.

2020er	Mönchhof	Erdener Prälat Riesling Auslese	10 21	91+
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The 2020er Erdener Prälat Riesling Auslese was harvested with partially botrytized (15%) fruit picked very late at 97° Oechsle on extremely old un-grafted vines mostly in the original part of the vineyard and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (89 g/l). It offers a complex and nicely rich nose of candied pineapple, mango, honeyed peach, anise, almond cream, fine spices, and yellow flowers. The wine is fully sweet on the palate yet has good zesty presence which accompanies it right into the long and fruity finish. There is still quite some sweetness at play in the aftertaste, but the underlying complexity is already lurking around. Expect at least a decade for this little beauty to fully develop its complexity and shine, it has even some upside potential. 2030-2055

2020er	Mönchhof	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese	09 21	89
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese was harvested at 86° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (65 g/l). It offers a quite smoky and spicy nose of yellow peach, pineapple, herbs, pear, and anise. The wine proves nicely dynamic on the palate, yet the juicy (almond cream) and fruity (pear) side take over in the delicately smooth, soft, and suave finish. There is a touch of lightness and even fine watery and light zesty side in the aftertaste. 2027-2040

2020er	Mönchhof	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese Trocken Alte Reben	02 21	89
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese Trocken Alte Reben was made from 70-80-year-old un-grafted vines in the prime terraced part at the center of the vineyard. It offers an expressive yet refined and elegant nose of white flowers, spices, grapefruit, orange blossom, and plenty of spices. The wine coats the palate with juicy and nicely ripe but also elegant and light fruits and leaves a nicely spicy and herbal feel in the long and not bone-dry finish. It proves a delicious dry Riesling in the making. 2023-2028

2020er	Mönchhof	Riesling Spätlese Mosel Slate	08 21	88
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The 2020er Riesling Spätlese Mosel Slate was harvested at 88° Oechsle in the Erdener Treppchen and was fermented down to fully fruity-styled of residual sugar (62 g/l). It offers a delicate, light, and perfumed nose of anise, grapefruit, whipped cream, earthy spices, greengage, and a whiff of pineapple. The wine proves beautifully smooth, soft, and velvety on the fully sweet palate. Ripe yellow and honeyed fruits leave a juicy feel in the nicely long finish. It combines Auslese richness with the lightness of a Spätlese. Lovers of suave and round Spätlese will find much to like here. 2027-2040

2020er	Mönchhof	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett	07 21	88
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Kabinett was harvested at 84° Oechsle and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (49 g/l). It offers a quite aniseed-driven nose of spices, herbs, yellow peach, poached pear, almond cream, and melon. The wine proves fully fruity and smooth on the palate, where plenty of ripe yellow fruits give it a quite velvety side. The finish has good freshness and focus, but is still somewhat disjointed from the mid-palate. So, patience is needed here for all the elements to blend in. 2027-2040



Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Weingut Mönchhof

(Ürzig – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Mönchhof	Riesling	06 21	87
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The 2020er Riesling is a fully off-dry wine (with 30 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked at 85° Oechsle in Erden and Ürzig. It offers a nicely aromatic and tangerine-driven nose of spices, almond, herbs, anise, and apple. The wine proves smooth and velvety on the fully off-dry tasting palate. A gentle feel of spices freshen up this overall soft wine in the finish. It gains in presence as it opens up in the glass, so it is best left alone for a few years to give the wine time to integrate its components. 2023-2028

2020er	Mönchhof	Riesling Trocken Grand Lay	01 21	87
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The 2020er Riesling Trocken Grand Lay comes from Estate holdings in Erden and Ürzig. It offers a delicately flowery and spicy nose of lavender, herbs, blueberry, white peach, and curry. The wine proves straight, very light, and linear on the palate but reveals more presence and intensity in the long and broader finish. 2022-2025

2020er	Mönchhof	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese Feinherb Fass 33	05 21	87
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Spätlese Feinherb Fass 33 was harvested at 88° Oechsle on extremely old un-grafted vines and was fermented down to off-dry levels of residual sugar (22 g/l). It offers a nicely complex, aromatic yet refined nose of spices, anise, pear, canned yellow peach, orange blossom, and smoke. The wine is comparatively smooth and still slightly on the sweet side on the mid-palate and leaves a medium long yet finely spicy and zesty finish. 2023-2028

2020er	Mönchhof	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	04 21	86
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The 2020er Erdener Treppchen Riesling Kabinett Feinherb was harvested at 86° Oechsle and was fermented down to off-dry levels of residual sugar (22 g/l). It offers a smoky and fresh nose of anise, apple, herbs, mint, a touch of licorice, and sea breeze. The wine is finely fruity and smooth on the palate. While the creamy side is still quite dominant at the moment, the wine leaves a nice and direct herbal feel in the slightly tart finish which gives slightly more focus to the experience. 2022-2026

2020er	Mönchhof	Riesling Feinherb Salve	03 21	85
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The 2020er Riesling Salve, as it is referred to on the front label, is an off-dry wine (with 16 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked in Erden and Ürzig. It offers a quite spicy and beautifully fresh nose of pear, herbs, yellow peach, anise, greenapple, and grapefruit zest. The wine is delicately smooth and light on the spicy and round palate. The finish is light but also more structured and earthy. This fairly easy-drinking off-dry wine is nice to enjoy on a hot summer day. Now-2025

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Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Selbach-Oster

Weingut Selbach-Oster

(Zeltingen – Middle Mosel)

Johannes Selbach was all smile when talking about his 2020 vintage: "It was again a dry vintage which lasted essentially until early October. The drought did not affect the pinot varieties but well Riesling. When rain came at the end of September, many panicked as they saw a remake of 2013 and 2014. However, we observed that the skin of the berries was still rather thick. So, we decided to wait and give the vines to dry out after the rain and re-gain more physiological ripeness. I am convinced that this was the right approach in 2020 even if it made for a long and quite costly vintage. We started our Riesling vintage at the end of September and only finished it in early November. But this approach helped us to bring in grapes which yielded very intense wines without making them fat. Overall, it is a superbly classic and multi-layered vintage like in the old days. The grapes remained clean which proved, among others, ideal for dry wines. Also yields were quite good: The only weakness of 2020 is that there was not much botrytis. If I am honest, I can live with this as we were gifted with botrytis-rich vintages over the last years."

The Estate was able to produce its usual range of wines which now also includes four bottlings of GG (with two new bottlings, namely from the Graacher Domprobst and the Bernkasteler Graben). The Estate was able to produce its four flagship wines made from block-harvest single Lieu-Dit. The collection includes one BA and one TBA, both from the Zeltinger Sonnenuhr.

The Estate produces a remarkable collection of wines, which shine through transparency and elegance with some great intensity. We were particularly impressed by the stunning set of dry Riesling which confirm the huge strides in quality made over the last years. The off-dry wines are superbly intense and packed with flavors (we have a particular soft spot for the Zeltinger Himmelreich Kabinett Halbtrocken!). The fruity-styled wines are beautiful and transparent with good presence and intensity. The single-block Auslese from the Rotlay, Schmitt, and Anrecht, once again, prove sensational. The BA and TBA are on track to be among the highlights of the vintage. Once again, Selbach-Oster handsomely delivered!

NB: The 2020er Pinot wines as well as the 2020er Bömer were not yet ready for tasting. Also, the Estate may still release further fruity-styled wines.

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Trockenbeereauslese	39 21	(96-98)
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The 2020 Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Trockenbeereauslese was made from botrytized fruit and was fermented down to fully noble-sweet levels of residual sugar. This cask sample offers a gorgeous nose of baked pineapple, fine spices, and herbal elements. The wine proves beautifully animating and engaging on the creamy yet superb and finely chiseled palate. It leaves a great feel in the long finish. 2035-2060

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Beereauslese	38 21	(94-96)
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The 2020 Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Beereauslese was made from botrytized fruit and was fermented down to fully noble-sweet levels of residual sugar. This cask sample offers a rather intense and spicy nose made of apricot, date, raisin, and fine herbs. The wine proves rather smooth and still on the sweet side on the beautifully multi-layered palate and leaves a great feel of fresh and dried fruits in the unctuous finish. This will need quite some time to reveal its beauty. 2035-2060

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Auslese Schmitt	15 21	95
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The 2020er Schmitt, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was block-harvested in the similarly named Lieu-Dit situated in a steep part of the vineyard (the reference to Zeltinger Schlossberg is only provided on the back label), and was fermented down to fully sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a beautifully airy nose made of white flowers, ginger, cassis, herbs, and fine smoky elements. The wine is beautifully racy yet packed with complex flavors of fruits on the palate and leaves a remarkably racy yet pure feel in the long finish. The intensity, freshness, and refinement are truly remarkable! 2030-2050

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese Rotlay	16 21	95
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The 2020er Rotlay, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was block-harvested in this privileged sector of the vineyard situated near the border to Wehlen (the reference to Zeltinger Sonnenuhr is only provided on the back label), and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a beautiful nose made of white peach, elderflower, a hint of almond cream, floral elements, and fine spices. The wine is beautifully creamy and subtly assertive on the palate and leaves a long and intense feel of spices, herbs, a hint of cream, and racy fruits in the long and lingering finish. This is a beautiful Auslese in the making! 2030-2050

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	34 21	(94-96)
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2020 Sonnenuhr Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from the lower third and rocky part of the slope (but not directly near the river). This cask sample offers a stunning nose of white peach, elderflower, cassis, and a subtle hint of oak impact (the wine was partially aged in 3-4-year-old casks). The wine proves stunningly creamy yet packed with flavors delivered with great presence and multi-layered finesse. The finish is rich, subtle, and elegant. This is a truly remarkable dry Riesling in the making! 2025-2040



Mosel Fine Wines

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Weingut Selbach-Oster

(Zeltingen – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Himmelreich Riesling Auslese Anrecht	22 21	94
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The 2020er Anrecht, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was block-harvested in the similarly named Lieu-Dit situated in a steep part of the vineyard (the reference to Zeltinger Himmelreich is only provided on the back label), and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a still rather reductive nose made of herbs and fine spices where orchard fruits only join after a while. The wine is subtly creamy on the palate and leaves a superbly focused and elegant feel in the long and subtly powerful finish. 2030-2050

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Auslese	11 21	94
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The 2020 Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Auslese was made from slightly botrytized fruit and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a beautiful nose of white peach, cassis, elderflower, and a hint of whipped cream and a touch of apricot blossom. The wine has a nicely creamy feel of apricot and fine herbs in the long finish. 2030-2050

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese Feinherb Ur-Alte Reben MCM	18 21	93+
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The 2020 Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Feinherb Ur-Alte Reben MCM, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is an off-dry wine made from clean fruit harvested in a parcel planted with century-old un-grafted vines situated in the prime Class I Lieu-Dit Kackert, and which formerly belonged the von Schorlemer Estate. It offers a deep and still rather backward nose made of pear, greengage, herbs, and fine spices, as well as cardamom. The wine proves deep and elegant on the palate, where its off-dry structure is elegantly wrapped into multi-layered notes of spices, minerals, and herbs. The finish is incredibly persistent and long. This off-dry wine really needs a full decade to show its best. 2030-2040

2019er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Trocken Bömer	25 21	93
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The 2019er Bömer, as it is simply referred to on the consumer label, is made from fruit picked in this prime sector of the vineyard and was fermented and aged in cask until Spring 2021 (hence the late AP number). It offers a gorgeous nose made of elderflower, melon, ripe fruits, and fine spices. The wine proves beautifully playful on the not bone-dry tasting palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of herbs and spices. The wine is beautifully long and multi-layered. A touch of tartness still needs to integrate in the aftertaste. 2027-2034

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese	14 21	93
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The 2020 Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese was made from clean fruit and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a subtly ripe nose made of white peach, melon, floral elements, fine spices, and herbs. The wine is nicely juicy and playful on the palate and leaves a great feel of floral elements in the long and multi-layered finish. 2030-2050

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	13 21	93
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The 2020 Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese was fermented down to barely sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a superb nose made of cassis, elderflower, and apricot blossom. The wine proves quite pure and playful on the rather intense palate and leaves a nicely creamy and subtly apricot infused feel in the racy finish. 2030-2050

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Trocken GG	33 21	(92-94)
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This cask sample of the 2020er Schlossberg Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a beautifully fresh nose made of white peach, white flowers, herbs, and spices. The wine is hugely deep and playful on the palate. The wine develops great presence with a touch of power in the long and juicy finish. 2025-2035

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese	21 21	92+
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The 2020 Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese was fermented down to barely sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a beautiful nose of mint, white peach, and herbal elements. The wine proves quite structured and intense on the palate (it does have 9% of alcohol). It leaves a gorgeous feel of herbs and fine spices in the slightly tart and quite pure finish. It could exceed our high expectations as it develops more finesse with age. 2026-2040



Mosel Fine Wines

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Weingut Selbach-Oster

(Zeltingen – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese	02 21	92
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The 2020 Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a gorgeous nose of canned white peach, a hint of apricot blossom, whipped cream, and herbal elements. The wine offers great presence and structure on the palate (it has 9% of alcohol) and leaves a great feel of orchard fruits, ginger, flowers, and fine spices. The finish is not overly sweet which makes the wine already quite enjoyable in its slightly powerful style. 2026-2040

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Auslese	23 21	92
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The 2020 Graacher Domprobst Riesling Auslese was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a subtle nose of melon, white peach, and floral elements. The wine proves nicely playful and packed with creamy elements and leaves a nicely firm and straight feel of fresh fruits in the long finish. 2030-2050

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Trocken GG	17 21	92
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The 2020er Domprobst Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from a parcel located just under the Domprobst lettering. It offers a rather animating nose made of white peach, mint, fine herbs, and smoke. The wine develops great presence and proves slightly assertive on the palate. It leaves a gorgeous feel of herbs and spices in the focused finish, which is superbly packed with flavors. 2025-2035

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Spätlese Feinherb Alte Reben	19 21	92
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The 2020er Graacher Domprobst Riesling Feinherb Alte Reben, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is an off-dry wine (with 25 g/l of residual sugar) is made from fruit harvested in a parcel planted with 90-year-old un-grafted and high-density vines trained on single pole. It offers a stunning nose made of white peach, melon, fine herbs, and spices. The wine still proves rather backward on the palate and leaves a powerful feel of herbs and spices in the long finish. The after-taste is truly great and intense. 2028-2040

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Spätlese	10 21	92
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The 2020 Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Spätlese was fermented down to barely sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers a gorgeous and subtly intense nose made of white peach, melon, apricot blossom, and fine spices. The wine proves subtly assertive and full of presence on the palate (it has 9% of alcohol) and leaves an almost tart feel of fruit and herbs in the long and racy finish. 2026-2040

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett	12 21	92
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The 2020 Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar. It offers a beautiful nose of cassis, passion fruit, herbs, and spices. The wine proves subtle and racy on the palate and leaves a gorgeously intense feel of racy and zesty fruits in the nicely light-footed finish. The after-taste underlines the raciness and playful side of the wine. It may have a touch more presence than your usual Kabinett but makes this more than up through intensity and focus. 2026-2040

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Bernkasteler Graben Riesling Trocken GG	31 21	(91-94)
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The 2020er Graben Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from un-grafted vines in the prime Graacher Tor sector of the vineyard. This cask sample offers a nice and elegant nose made of cassis, pear, cardamom, and fine herbs. The wine is gorgeously playful and elegant on the palate, where a feel of grip is nicely wrapped into minerals and fine herbs. The wine offers great potential and finesse. 2025-2035

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Riesling Spätlese Trocken Alte Reben	36 21	(91-93)
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The 2020er Riesling Spätlese Trocken Alte Reben was made from fruit picked in the Zeltinger Sonnenuhr. This cask sample offers a rather ripe and elegant nose made of mint, cassis, peach, cardamom, smoke, and spices. The wine proves rather playful and full of grip on the palate and leaves a sense of tartness in the long and playful finish. This wine blends freshness, depth, and finesse. It now only needs a few years to absorb its tartness and reveal its full glory. 2024-2032



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Weingut Selbach-Oster

(Zeltingen – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett Halbtrocken	24 21	91
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The 2020er Zeltinger Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett Halbtrocken is an off-dry wine made from fruit picked in the steep part of the vineyard. It offers a superb nose made of pear, white peach, mint, passion fruit, citrusy fruits, and floral elements. The wine proves superbly playful and elegant on the palate and leaves a stunningly fresh and quite complex feel in the long finish. The after-taste feels almost dry-tasting and juicy. This is a great expression of off-dry Kabinett. 2025-2040

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett	04 21	91
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The 2020 Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar. It offers a rather engaging nose made of pear, peach, and citrusy fruit, and floral elements. The wine develops quite some presence on the palate (it has 9% of alcohol) and leaves a subtle feel of canned peach in the long finish. It develops a great feel of finesse and presence in the after-taste. 2026-2040

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Kabinett	09 21	91
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The 2020 Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Kabinett was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar. It offers a rather engaging nose made of citrusy fruit zest, passion fruit, ginger, and fine herbal elements. The wine develops great presence on the nicely playful and engaging palate (it has 9% of alc.) and leaves a gorgeous feel of fresh orchard fruits and fine spices in the long and subtly assertive finish. 2026-2040

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Riesling Feinherb	26 21	88
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The 2020er Riesling Feinherb is an off-dry wine made from fruit picked in Kinheim, Erden, and Zeltingen (Himmelreich). It offers an aromatic nose of canned white peach, ginger, herbs, and spices. The wine proves rather elegant and playful on the off-dry tasting palate and leaves a nicely racy and animating feel in the long and playful finish. The after-taste is remarkable persistent. 2022-2030

2019er	Selbach-Oster	Pinot Blanc Trocken Réserve	01 21	90
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The 2019er Pinot Blanc Réserve is a legally dry wine made from the best steep parcels in a south-west orientated part of the Zeltinger Schlossberg and was aged in 2-3-year-old barrique before being bottled in the first quarter of 2021 (hence the late AP number). It offers a rather powerful and ample nose made of fine herbs, lemon zest, spices, pear, a hint of vanilla, and herbal elements. The wine proves rather intense and assertive on the palate and leaves a slightly powerful but hearty feel of fruits and spices in the long finish. Now-2024

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Riesling Kabinett Trocken	30 21	90
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The 2020er Zeltinger Riesling Kabinett Trocken was made from fruit picked from vines situated at mid-slope behind the village. It offers a beautiful nose made of peach, citrusy fruits, herbs, and fine spices, as well as a touch of cardamom. The wine develops quite some presence by Kabinett standards on the palate (despite a low 11.5% of alcohol) but makes more than up for this through its racy and playful structure. The finish is hugely long and impactful. 2022-2030

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Gewürztraminer Trocken	37 21	(87-89)
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This cask sample of the 2020er Gewürztraminer Trocken offers a subtly aromatic nose made of rose water, herbs, smoke, and pear, all wrapped into a hint of cardamom. The wine proves direct and enjoyable with moderate acidity on the palate and is nicely creamy and playful in the direct finish. Now-2025

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Riesling Trocken	28 21	87
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The 2020er Riesling Trocken comes from fruit picked mainly in the Zeltinger Himmelreich as well as other plots in Zeltingen. It offers a beautifully reductive nose made of white peach, citrusy fruits, and herbs. The wine is subtle but also full of grip on the palate and leaves some direct flavors of fruits in the long and juicy finish. A touch of power adds to the seriousness of the wine in the aftertaste. 2022-2025

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Mosel Fine Wines

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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Dr. Wagner

Weingut Dr. Wagner (Saarburg – Saar)

Christiane Wagner is really happy with her 2020 vintage: "We had a warm and dry summer and the grapes remained very healthy and beautiful until the end. 2020 proved our earliest harvest ever and the first time we actually started in September (30). The grapes were so beautiful that I did not want to take any risk to delay the start any further. There were some showers and we had to stop for one or two days, but the rest of the harvest happened under ideal conditions. The must weights did not increase significantly during harvest: Even when we made some special selections, the Oechsle degrees remained moderate. Our harvest lasted until just after mid-October. We could bring in top healthy grapes and I'm hugely satisfied with the wines as they show elegance and lightness."

The Estate produced its classical portfolio which stops however at Spätlese in 2020. In addition, it produced 3 different GGs, namely from the Ockfener Bockstein, Saarburger Kupp, and Saarburger Rausch. As in 2019, which was the first vintage, it released a Pet Nat. On the news front, the Estate introduced a new label.

The Estate is known for its light and animating expressions of Riesling also in riper vintages. This translates in truly light-featured wines without excessive raciness in 2020. The sweet spot of the collection is clearly the fruity-styled line-up, among which, in particular, the Kabinett Laurentius made from the Saarburger Laurentiusberg single vineyard (but not yet classified as Grosse Lage by the VDP). The dry wines will particularly appeal to lovers of feather-light Saar wines. The Pet Nat is a wonderful wine for lovers of the genre.

NB: The GGs were not tasted.

2020er	Dr. Wagner	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Spätlese	12 21	92
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The 2020er Bockstein Riesling Spätlese, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was made from fruit harvested at 84° Oechsle in the prime frontal part (Herrenberg) of the vineyard and was fermented down to barely sweet levels of residual sugar (65 g/l). It offers a wonderfully complex nose which combines riper notes of juicy vineyard peach, candied orange, and a touch of mango with fresher elements including green apple, minty herbs, and cassis. The wine proves nicely playful on the palate, where the sweetness driven by ripe yellow fruits is well wrapped into candied zest and orange blossom driven freshness. The finish is nicely long, light, and precise. 2028-2045

2020er	Dr. Wagner	Saarburger Riesling Kabinett Laurentius	14 21	92
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The 2020er Saarburger Laurentius Riesling Kabinett was harvested at 81° Oechsle from 120-year-old un-grafted vines in the prime and under-rated Laurentiusberg vineyard solely owned by the Estate and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (46 g/l). It offers a gorgeous and superbly complex nose of vineyard peach, whipped almond cream, bergamot, grapefruit, minty herbs, and granny smith apple. The wine develops the intensity of a Spätlese on the rather creamy and smooth palate yet leaves one with the exquisitely light feel one expects from a Kabinett in the finish. While this wine does not have the usual racy side of Saar wine, its wonderful complexity and delicacy make more than up for it. 2028-2045

2020er	Dr. Wagner	Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Kabinett	11 21	91
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The 2020er Bockstein Riesling Kabinett, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was harvested at 82° Oechsle in the prime frontal part (Herrenberg) of the vineyard, and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (42 g/l). It offers a beautifully floral and delicate nose of orgeat syrup, vineyard peach, bergamot, whipped coconut cream, orange blossom, and candied grapefruit. The wine is subtly playful and elegantly smooth and velvety on the palate, where quite some juicy yellow fruits add the overall rather round and creamy feel. The wine leaves one with the lightness one expects from a Kabinett in the very long and surprisingly intense finish. 2027-2045

2020er	Dr. Wagner	Saarburger Rausch Riesling Spätlese Josef Heinrich	10 21	90
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The 2020er Rausch Riesling Spätlese Josef Heinrich, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was harvested at 82° Oechsle on over 50-year-old vines and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (42 g/l). It offers a quite herbal and minty nose of white spices, gooseberry, ginger, green apple, and lime. The wine proves light-weighted and driven by fine zesty notes on the palate and leaves a big feel of spices and herbs in the long and off-dry rather than fully-fruity-styled finish. 2025-2035

2020er	Dr. Wagner	Riesling Trocken Pétillant Naturel	(No AP)	89
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The 2020er Riesling Trocken Pétillant Naturel with Lot 1-2021 comes from the Saarburger Rausch which was refermented in bottle without any sulfur, filtration or disgorgement. It offers a quite appealing and spicy nose of yellow apple, curry, herbs, anise, pear, and licorice. The mousse proves still quite active on the palate and livens up the flavor on the palate. Notes of wheat, baking powder, lemon, and herbs leave a very clean and long finish. Lovers of Pet Nat will particularly appreciate this Saar expression of the genre. 2022-2024



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Weingut Dr. Wagner (Saarburg – Saar)

2020er	Dr. Wagner	Saarburger Riesling Trocken Laurentius	13 21	89
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The 2020er Saarburger Laurentiuslay Riesling Trocken was made from 120-year-old un-grafted vines in the prime and under-rated Laurentiusberg vineyard solely owned by the Estate. Residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation quickly give way to delicate and flowery scents of almond cream, vineyard peach, jasmine, rose, orange blossom, and minty herbs on the nose. The wine proves slightly rich which makes it come over as seemingly not fully dry at first on the palate. It proves more focused in the finish as zesty elements but also a touch of tartness come through. This dry Riesling proves superbly light (the label indicates only 10% of alcohol) and needs a few years to integrate its components on the palate. 2023-2030

2020er	Dr. Wagner	Riesling Generation V	09 21	88
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The 2020er Riesling Generation V is an off-dry wine (with 15 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked in the Saarburger Rausch. It offers an overtly aromatic and refined nose of pear, lavender, yellow peach, grapefruit, herbs, anise, and tangerine. The wine is packed with zesty elements delivered with quite some intensity on the palate and leaves a linear and pure feel of crushed white fruits and lime in the nicely long, yet very light, and already dry-tasting finish. 2022-2030

2020er	Dr. Wagner	Saarburger Kupp Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	06 21	87
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The 2020er Kupp Riesling Kabinett Feinherb, as it is referred to on the front label, comes from more than 50-year-old vines at mid-slope and was fermented down to off-dry levels of residual sugar. It offers a subtle and smoky nose of apple, gooseberry, herbs, and anise. It proves quite herbal and light-footed on the almost dry-tasting palate and leaves a nicely smoky and fresh feel in the long finish. A slightly tart feel in the aftertaste still needs to integrate in the aftertaste. 2022-2026

2020er	Dr. Wagner	Saarburger Riesling Trocken Alte Reben	07 21	87
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The 2020er Saarburger Riesling Trocken Alte Reben is a dry wine made from over 55-year-old vines in the Saarburger Kupp. It offers a beautifully refined and smoky nose of cardamom, white flowers, anise, cassis, vineyard peach, may tree, and smoke. The wine proves delicately juicy and not fully dry-tasting on the smooth and velvety palate but leaves a nicely zesty and herbal feel in the finish and a nicely refreshing and smoky feel in the aftertaste. Only a touch of tartness needs to integrate in the aftertaste of this subtle expression of dry Riesling. 2023-2030

2020er	Dr. Wagner	Saar Riesling Trocken	05 21	85
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Trocken comes exclusively from Grand Cru vineyards (Ockfener Bockstein, Saarburger Rausch, and Saarburger Kupp). It offers a light and delicate nose of anise, mint, rosemary, cassis leaf, greengage, candied lemon, and dried flowers. The wine proves very light and full of zesty notes on the palate, which give it a straight and linear profile. The finish is spicy and very dry in taste, yet has good intensity and persistence. This dry Riesling is made for lovers of old-styled light and dry Saar Riesling. 2022-2025

2020er	Dr. Wagner	Saar Riesling Feinherb	04 21	84
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Feinherb comes exclusively from Grand Cru vineyards (Ockfener Bockstein, Saarburger Rausch, and Saarburger Kupp) and was fermented down to off-dry levels of residual sugar (22 g/l). It offers quite some reduction at first and needs a few minutes in the glass to reveal some smoky scents of greengage, gooseberry, earthy herbs, anise, incense, and smoke. The wine is light and juicy in the medium-long and direct finish. It needs a year or two to show its best. 2022-2025

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2020 Vintage – Other Noteworthy Wines

2020 Mosel – Other Noteworthy Wines (Part II)

This section includes noteworthy wines tasted during our summer tastings. We also included some 2019 and 2018 wines when these had not yet been presented to us and hence not reviewed before. In addition, older vintages were also reviewed if these have just been released or still available at the Estate.

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|---|----------------------------|
| A.J. Adam <i>(Complement)</i> | <i>Neumagen-Dhron</i> |
| Blees-Ferber | <i>Leiwen</i> |
| Bollig <i>(Complement)</i> | <i>Wintrich</i> |
| Peter Burens | <i>Saarburg</i> |
| Falkenstein <i>(Complement)</i> | <i>Konz</i> |
| Reinhold Franzen | <i>Bremm</i> |
| Fries | <i>Winningen</i> |
| Albert Gessinger | <i>Zeltingen</i> |
| Markus Heeb | <i>Traben-Trarbach</i> |
| Dr. Hermann <i>(Complement)</i> | <i>Erden</i> |
| Immich-Anker | <i>Enkirch</i> |
| Kilburg | <i>Wintrich</i> |
| Peter Lauer <i>(Complement)</i> | <i>Ayl</i> |
| Schloss Lieser | <i>Lieser</i> |
| Maximin Grünhaus <i>(Complement)</i> | <i>Mertesdorf</i> |
| G.F. von Nell - Felix von Nell <i>(Complement)</i> | <i>Trier-Olewig</i> |
| Max Ferd. Richter <i>(Complement)</i> | <i>Mülheim</i> |
| Später-Veit | <i>Piesport</i> |
| Günther Steinmetz <i>(Complement)</i> | <i>Brauneberg</i> |
| Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch (Müller-Burggraef) | <i>Bernkastel-Kues</i> |
| Stefan Vetter | <i>Karlstadt (Franken)</i> |





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A.J. Adam

Weingut A.J. Adam

(Neumagen-Dhron – Middle Mosel)

Complement

NB: The bulk of the 2020 collection and the Estate review were published in the Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 57 (July 2021), a copy of which is available to all subscribers on simple email request.

2020er	A.J. Adam	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken GG	08 21	94
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen, as it is referred on the consumer label (the reference to GG is provided in small print on the side of the label), was fermented in Fuder with fruit picked on partially un-grafted vines planted in 1909 and partially vines planted in the 1940s, both in the sector situated above the village of Ferres. It offers a superb nose made of passion fruit, pear, freshly cut apple, white flowers, and fine spices. The wine is beautifully playful and packed with intense yet juicy flavors on the dry palate and leaves a gorgeously tart and subtly racy feel in the fresh and animating finish. This is a gorgeous dry Riesling in the making! 2025-2035

2020er	A.J. Adam	Dhroner Hofberg Riesling Trocken GG	07 21	93
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The 2020er Hofberg, as it is referred on the consumer label (the reference to GG is provided in small print on the side of the label), was fermented in Fuder with fruit picked on up 55 to 60-year-old vines situated in classical parts on the main hill of the vineyard. It offers a gorgeous nose made of melon, citrusy fruits, wet stone, herbs, and spices. The wine proves well balanced and yet packed with gorgeous flavors of fruits, minerals, and herbs on the dry rather than bone-dry palate and leaves a juicy and gorgeously tart feel in the long and intense finish. The aftertaste of this beautiful dry wine is still on the smoky side and will require a few years of patience to develop more fruitiness. 2025-2035

2020er	A.J. Adam	Dhroner Häs'chen Riesling Trocken GG	06 21	91+
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The 2020er Häs'chen, as it is referred on the consumer label (the reference to GG is provided in small print on the side of the label), is a dry wine fermented in oak cask with fruit picked on un-grafted vines planted in 1933. It offers a gorgeous even if still slightly reduced nose made of mirabelle, greengage, smoke, citrusy fruits, and fine herbal elements. The wine develops quite some presence despite a low 12% of alcohol on the palate. Juicy fruits and smoke lead to a nicely playful and subtly racy feel in the finish. A hint of cardamom underlines the aromatic ripeness in the otherwise beautifully playful and animating finish. This wine is still quite primary so there could be some upside development down the road, especially as the flavors mellow away. 2025-2035

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Blees-Ferber

Weingut Blees-Ferber

(Leiwener – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Leiwener Klostersgarten Riesling Eiswein ***	20 21	95
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The 2020er Leiwener Klostersgarten Riesling Eiswein *** was harvested at 153° Oechsle in the early hours of November 30 and comes from the free-running juice (the second pressing fraction produced the Eiswein AP 10). It was fermented down to fully noble-sweet levels of residual sugar (225 g/l). It offers a stunningly fresh and elegant nose of fine honeyed vineyard peach, tangerine, acacia, orange zest, a hint of mango, pineapple, and mirabelle, all wrapped in delicate smoke and nougat. A sensation of full sweetness, which is underlined by plenty of honeyed elements on the palate, make the wine come over more as a Beerenauslese than a real zesty Eiswein. The finish is hugely long, very intense, and concentrated. The Eiswein zest and acidity only come through in the aftertaste. While not entirely packed with Eiswein raciness, this wine nevertheless turns out to be a magnificent dessert wine in the making. 2030-2055

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Leiwener Klostersgarten Riesling Eiswein	10 21	94
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The 2020er Leiwener Klostersgarten Riesling Eiswein was harvested at 147° Oechsle in the early hours of November 30 and comes from the second pressing fraction (the free-running juice produced the Eiswein ***). It was fermented down to fully noble-sweet levels of residual sugar (204 g/l). A hint of volatile quickly gives way to hugely attractive and complex scents of candied grapefruit, raspberry, honey, dried apricot, guava, melon, cherry, prune, licorice, and a hint of floral elements. The wine hits the palate with intensely rich and exotic sweetness and honeyed elements, but the acidity is also quick to join the party and to lift up all the aromatics. The finish is very pure and clean, and this despite all the sweetness and richness at play. The sweetness will allow this Eiswein to age gracefully. It is a little beauty of dessert wine. 2027-2040



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2020er	Blees-Ferber	Neumagener Sonnenuhr Riesling Beerenauslese Non Plus Ultra	21 21	94
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The 2020er Neumagener Sonnenuhr Riesling Beerenauslese Non Plus Ultra (referring to the slogan written on the sundial in Neumagen) was made from fully botrytized fruit picked at 156° Oechsle and was fermented down to fully noble-sweet levels of residual sugar (221 g/l). A hint of volatile acidity accompanies hugely ripe, rich, and honeyed scents of toffee, coconut cream, melon, pineapple, prune, orange blossom, and lemon on the nose. The wine is intensely sweet and honeyed on the very creamy and smooth palate. It shows great concentration and presence right into the finish packed with flavors of candied zest and spices, which add a nice playful side to this overall very luscious and syrupy dessert wine. 2030-2050+

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Neumagener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese *** Non Plus Ultra	19 21	93
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The 2020er Neumagener Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese *** Non Plus Ultra (referring to the slogan written on the sundial in Neumagen) was made from partially botrytized fruit picked at 105° Oechsle and was fermented down to noble-sweet levels of residual sugar (112 g/l). It offers a beautifully complex and elegantly ripe nose of yellow peach, tangerine, mango, fine herbs, a whiff of apricot, and whipped almond cream. The wine is beautifully playful on the palate, where juicy and slightly exotic flavors (apricot, mango, and pineapple) are wrapped into creamy elements and candied zest. While the mid-palate is all about concentration and the unctuous impact of botrytis, the finish is nicely long and sweet. This rich and intense Auslese will need at least a decade to fully reveal its potential. 2030-2060

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Neumagener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese *** Non Plus Ultra	23 21	91+
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The 2020er Neumagener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese *** Non Plus Ultra (referring to the slogan written on the sundial in Neumagen) was harvested at 97° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (91 g/l). It proves quite reserved and shy at first and only exhibits some faint notes of almond cream and honeyed pineapple. It is only with airing that it really reveals its complexity as scents of candied grapefruit, melon, William's pear, apricot cream, and orange zest kick in. The wine proves hugely ripe and aromatic on the sweet and very creamy palate. This sensation of smoothness and sweetness carries over right into the long and nicely playful finish. This ripe and rich Auslese-styled Riesling will please lovers of intensely sweet dessert wine. 2030-2050

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese	24 21	91
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The 2020er Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese was harvested at 93° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (76 g/l). It delivers a finely and still quite reduced nose of herbs and fine spices as well as smoke, grilled lemon, grapefruit, mint, and vineyard peach. The wine comes over as nicely playful and well balanced on the palate, where the richness of the fruit is noticeable but well wrapped into fresher elements of mint and spices. The finish is energetic and pure. While this wine develops quite some Auslese presence, it does also offer some zesty presence which makes for a balanced experience. 2027-2040

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Piesporter Gärtchen Riesling Auslese	22 21	90
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The 2020er Piesporter Gärtchen Riesling Auslese was made from fruit picked at 100° Oechsle in the Niederemmel part of the vineyard and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (93 g/l). It offers a ripe and hugely creamy nose of apricot, pineapple juice, honeyed yellow peach, William's pear, and coconut cream. The wine is sweet and smooth on the palate, yet there are already nice zesty notes coming through in the long finish. This big expression of Auslese will need a decade (if not more) integrate its primary sweetness and fully shine. 2030-2050

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese ***	17 21	90
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The 2020er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese *** was harvested at 94° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (84 g/l). It offers a superb complex and hugely attractive nose of herbs, yellow peach, anise, candied grapefruit, orange blossom, and apricot. The wine is fully creamy and hugely sweet on the smooth and even soft palate. This sensation of smoothness is underlined by the honeyed elements which emerge in the long and intense finish. This Auslese in-all-but-name will please lovers of bigger expressions of sweet Mosel. 2030-2045

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Neumagener Sonnenuhr Riesling Non Plus Ultra	14 21	90
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The 2020er Neumagener Sonnenuhr Riesling Non Plus Ultra (referring to the slogan written on the sundial in Neumagen) is a barely off-dry wine (with 10 g/l of residual sugar) with a quite herbal and opulent nose of pear, pineapple, barbecue herbs, mirabelle, licorice, eucalyptus, and smoke. The wine proves both structured on the palate and smooth and slightly off-dry on the palate. The finish is more opulent and straight and has a hint of hot spices. It will appeal to lovers of more ostentatious off-dry Riesling. 2022-2028



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2020er	Blees-Ferber	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese Trocken *** Alte Reben	15 21	90
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The 2020er Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Spätlese Trocken *** Alte Reben comes from 50-year-old vines in the Laurentiusberg part of the vineyard and was fermented spontaneously in stainless-steel tank. It proves slightly reductive at first and only gradually reveals some smoky and quite spicy notes of pear, grapefruit, almond cream, cassis, vineyard peach, and dried white flowers. The wine proves nicely playful on the not fully dry-tasting palate where some creamy and ripe fruits make for a comparatively smooth and elegant feel. The finish is superbly long, smoky, and focused. There is presence and even some power lurking around, yet it remains well under control. We would opt to enjoy this dry-tasting wine in its early days, before the power will take over. 2022-2026

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Piesporter Gärtchen Riesling Spätlese Feinherb	11 21	89
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The 2020er Piesporter Gärtchen Riesling Spätlese Feinherb is an off-dry wine (with 26 g/l of residual sugar) made from this single vineyard solely owned by the Estate. It has a floral nose of spices, fresh pineapple, grapefruit, stone fruit, and minty herbs. The wine is playful and delicately smooth and fruity on the light weighted and pure palate. The finish is spicy, minty, and zesty. This very nice off-dry Riesling offers both drinking pleasure and complexity. 2023-2030

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese Trocken ***	12 21	88
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The 2020er Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese Trocken *** was made from fruit picked at 91° Oechsle in the Hohlweide (Niederemmel) part of the vineyard and was fermented spontaneously in stainless-steel tank. It offers a nicely complex and aromatic nose of spices, anise, pineapple, grilled citrus, grapefruit, herbs, and barbecue herbs. The wine develops quite some presence at first on the palate but reveals more finesse as it develops. The finish is well focused and spicy, but also slightly more powerful and linear. Some CO2 lifts up the flavors in the tart after-taste. 2023-2027

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Neumagener Rosengärtchen Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	08 21	87
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The 2020er Neumagener Rosengärtchen Riesling Kabinett Feinherb is an off-dry wine (with 22 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked at 88° Oechsle. It has a rather direct and quite zesty nose of lime, grapefruit, mint, greengage, green apple, and gooseberry, as well as some almond and pear with airing. The wine is delicately smooth and creamy on the palate and leaves a light fruity and medium long finish. This very easy to drink off-dry Riesling will best be enjoyed as of next year. 2022-2026

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Schweicher Herrenberg Riesling Feinherb Alte Reben	13 21	87
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The 2020er Herrenberg Riesling Feinherb Alte Reben, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is an off-dry wine (with 24 g/l of residual sugar) made from a parcel planted with 45-year-old Riesling vines at the bottom hill, just next to the Longuicher Maximiner Herrenberg. It offers a subtly aromatic nose of almond cream, anise, tangerine, earthy spices, grapefruit, and some floral elements. The wine is very delicate and smooth on the palate and leaves a medium long yet attractive feel in the nicely focused and structured finish. 2022-2026

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Leiwener Laurentiuslay Riesling Kabinett	16 21	88
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The 2020er Leiwener Laurentiuslay Riesling Kabinett was made from fruit picked at 89° Oechsle in the Bubental part of the vineyard and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (68 g/l). Residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation give quickly way to quite ripe scents of almond cream, yellow peach, pineapple juice, pear, melon, and a hint of apricot on the nose. The wine is on the sweet and smooth side on the palate defined by Spätlese-level richness. The finish has more freshness but needs a couple of years to fully integrate its richness and develop more complexity. 2028-2040

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Kabinett Trocken	07 21	86
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The 2020er Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Kabinett Trocken was made from fruit picked at 87° Oechsle in the Laurentiusberg part of the vineyard. It offers a refreshing nose of anise, spices, pear, yellow peach, grapefruit, and lime, all wrapped into some residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine proves straight and zesty on the palate and leaves a very light and pure feel of herbs and spices in the nicely long finish. The aftertaste of this light-footed and zesty dry Riesling is slightly smooth and driven by almond cream. 2022-2026

2020er	Blees-Ferber	Leiwener Klostersgarten Riesling Hochgewächs	18 21	85
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The 2020er Leiwener Klostersgarten Riesling Hochgewächs comes from 35-year-old vines and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (68 g/l). It offers a quite expressive and finely aromatic nose of mint, grapefruit, fresh grape, yellow apple, and smoke. The wine proves quite direct and hugely fruity on the palate. Plenty of smooth and sweet notes of grape and apple juice make for an enjoyable and easy-drinking feel in the medium-long and quite sweet finish. 2024-2030



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2020er	Blees-Ferber	Riesling Trocken Hochgewächs	05 21	84
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The 2020er Riesling Trocken Hochgewächs comes from 35-40-year-old vines in the Leiwener Klostergarten. This lightly yellow-colored wine offers a quite opulent, aromatic, and earthy nose of pineapple, plenty of herbs, spices, apple, orange, and apricot. The wine does not come over as fully dry on the palate but creamy and smooth elements make for a comparatively joyful and pleasant experience. Tartness and zest in the finish add a slightly fresher side to this direct and rather broad dry Riesling. 2022-2024

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Bollig

Weingut Bollig

(Wintrich – Middle Mosel)

Complement

NB: Further 2020er and 2019er wines of this Estate were reviewed in the Mosel Fine Wines Issues No 57 (July 2021). A copy of this Issue is available to all subscribers upon simple email request.

2020er	Bollig	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Trocken Alte Reben Wurzelecht	15 21	90
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The 2020er Ohligsberg Alte Reben, as it is referred to on the main part of the label, comes from approx. 100-year-old un-grafted vines in the steep west-facing part (Brauert) of the vineyard. It was partially fermented whole-bunch in stainless steel tank. It offers a subtly aromatic and finely floral nose of vineyards peach, pear, anise, rosemary, smoke, and bergamot. The wine proves delicately smooth and not fully dry-tasting on the palate. Juicy and ripe fruits combined with a softer sense of acidity make for a velvety and fruity feel. The wine develops more structure and presence in the finish. The after-taste is all about spices and smoke and shows great focus. This is best left alone a few years in order to integrate its elements and fully develop its complexity. 2024-2032

2020er	Bollig	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Trocken	14 21	88
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The 2020er Ohligsberg Trocken, as it is referred to on the main part of the label, was made from fruit picked on 50-year-old and partially un-grafted vines in a steep west-facing part (Brauert) of the vineyard. It was partially fermented whole-bunch in an equal blend of aged barriques and stainless steel. The wine offers a quite expressive and anise-driven nose of blue berry fruits, lavender, yellow peach, candy floss, almond cream, and a hint of barbecue herbs. The wine proves quite structured and delicately smooth on the soft and medium-weighted palate and leaves a slightly tart and herbal feel in the direct yet persistent finish. It needs at least a full year to integrate this herbal side. 2022-2028

2020er	Bollig	Weissburgunder Trocken Kreuz	12 21	87
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The 2020er Kreuz Weissburgunder, as it is referred to on the main part of the label, comes from 20-year-old vines in a south-west facing part in the south-east facing part (Weierrech) of the Wintricher Grosser Herrgott and was fermented spontaneously and aged on its gross lees for 8 months in aged barriques. It offers a nicely aromatic and spicy nose of Conference pear, yellow peach, herbs, mirabelle, plum, almond, and smoke. The wine coats the palate with juicy ample and ripe yellow fruits and honeysuckle. It is delicately smooth even though quite some spices and a touch of CO2 add structure to the experience. The finish and even more the after-taste show a lot more presence and even power as well as a touch of tartness. This dry Weissburgunder will be best appreciated in its youth with food before its powerful side takes over. 2022-2025

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Peter Burens

Weingut Peter Burens

(Saarburg – Saar)

2020er	Peter Burens	Saarburger auf Schonfels Riesling Kabinett Fruchtig	03 21	91
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The 2020er auf Schonfels Riesling Kabinett Feinherb, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was made from fruit picked at 80° Oechsle in this privileged south-west facing and hugely steep Lieu-Dit in the Saarburger Fuchs and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (55 g/l). This yellow-hay-colored wine offers a rather aromatic nose made of apricot blossom, a hint of button mushroom, pear and melon puree, citrusy fruits, white flowers, and smoke. It is rather smooth (certainly by Saar standards) on the palate and leaves a creamy feel more typical of a Spätlese in the finish. While the wine remains light-footed, it has all the aromatic hallmarks of a light apricot-infused Auslese rather than a crispy Kabinett. As such, it is a really delicious wine with a bright future. 2030-2050



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2019er	Peter Burens	Riesling Trocken Alte Reben Réserve Unfiltriert	(No AP)	90+
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The 2019er Riesling Trocken Réserve Unfiltriert, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is dry Riesling (with 4 g/l of residual sugar) which was made from fruit picked on 40-year-old vines in the Saarburger auf Schonfels, a privileged south-west facing and hugely steep Lieu-Dit in the Saarburger Fuchs, and was aged for 18 months before being bottled unfiltered. It proves still rather reduced but offers beautiful scents of ripe fruits, a hint of citrusy fruits, a touch of cardamom, and smoky elements. The wine is nicely playful on the palate, where it unfolds great flavors with a dash of creamy elements and lots of racy notes to frame these riper elements. The finish is light-footed, elegant, and persistent even if slightly harsh at this stage. Once again, this Estate made a beautiful dry unfiltered Riesling for lovers of elegance and finesse which may even exceed our rating especially as it fleshes out. 2022-2029

2020er	Peter Burens	Niedermenniger Herrenberg Riesling Trocken Filtriert	01 21	89
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The 2020er Herrenberg Riesling Trocken Filtriert, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was made from fruit picked in the Kasselsheidchen sector of the vineyard. It offers a rather backward and subtle nose made of pear, cardamom, and fine herbal elements. The wine proves marked by more cardamom and camphor notes on the light-footed palate which is however nicely framed by some zesty acidity. The finish is still backward but full of intense flavors of wet stone, spices, and faint notes of fruits at this stage. This dry-tasting rather than bone-dry Riesling will benefit from a year or two of cellaring. 2022-2028

2020er	Peter Burens	Saarburger auf Schonfels Riesling Kabinett Feinherb	02 21	88+
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The 2020er auf Schonfels Riesling Kabinett Feinherb, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is an off-dry wine (with 18 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked at 77° Oechsle in this privileged south-west facing and hugely steep Lieu-Dit in the Saarburger Fuchs. It offers a rather shy and very subtle nose made of pear, melon, starfruit, earthy spices, and smoky elements. The wine feels rather light and subtle on the just off-dry palate and leaves a slightly direct feel in the long finish at this stage. It could well be that this wine will firm up with age but we remain a bit cautious for now. 2025-2035

2020er	Peter Burens	Grauburgunder Muschelkalk	04 21	85
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The 2020er Grauburgunder Muschelkalk is a tank-fermented just off-dry wine (with 9 g/l of residual sugar) made from holdings on limestone in Fellerich situated in the Obermosel. It offers a rather aromatic nose blending smoky elements with creamier notes of rose and litchi. The wine is smooth rather than dry on the palate but leaves a nicely flavorsome feel in the long finish. Simple but enjoyable flavors of rosewater wrapped into a hint of smoothness define the aftertaste. Now-2025

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Falkenstein

Hofgut Falkenstein

(Konz – Saar)

Complement

NB: The bulk of the 2020er wines from this Estate were reviewed in the Mosel Fine Wines Issues No 57 (July 2021). A copy of this Issue is available to all subscribers upon simple email request.

2020er	Falkenstein	Krettnacher Euchariusberg Riesling Spätlese Mammen	13 21	96
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The 2020er Krettnacher Euchariusberg Riesling Spätlese (the reference to this internal cask name is provided in small print on the label after the AP number) comes from fruit harvested at 85° Oechsle on vines planted in the 1950s in the prime Gross Schock sector of the vineyard (just above Gisela) and was fermented down to fully fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (55 g/l). It offers a stunningly refined and finely complex nose of white flowers, sea breeze, minty herbs, lime, smoke, fresh almond, and ginger. The wine develops great focus but also beautiful schmelz on the very delicate and elegant palate. The finish has cut and precision, with beautiful length and intensity. This is a magnificent filigreed Spätlese in the making! 2028-2045

2019er	Falkenstein	Niedermenniger Herrenberg Rotwein Trocken	10 21	92
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The 2019er Niedermenniger Herrenberg Rotwein Trocken is made from what was planted by the Webers as Spätburgunder 25 years ago but which the authorities now say is a mutation and not legally Spätburgunder, hence the fact that the wine is bottled simply as Rotwein, meaning red wine. It was fermented and aged for 18 months in traditional Fuder casks (hence the late AP number) without chaptalization and malolactic fermentation. It offers a superbly fresh and spicy nose of cherry, beetroot, violet, herbs, cassis, blackberry, and a volcanic-type of smoke. The wine is straight and driven by zesty fruits, plenty of spices and herbs on the intense and nicely structured palate. It leaves a feel of black fruits and tannins, which still need to integrate in the finish. This red wine cut more along the lines of a great Beaujolais than those of a light Burgundy is a remarkable success! 2023-2035



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2020er	Falkenstein	Niedermenniger Herrenberg Weissburgunder Spätlese Trocken	02 21	92
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The 2020er Niedermenniger Herrenberg Weissburgunder Spätlese Trocken comes from fruit harvested at 84° Oechsle on 35-year-old vines in the south-facing part of the vineyard situated just below the Estate's cellar. It offers a beautifully refined and delicately flowery nose of pear, yellow peach, mirabelle, herbs, anise, minty herbs, and dill. The wine delivers a very light touch of creamy fruits on the nicely balanced palate at first before a great zesty and focused side underpinned by layers of freshness cuts through in the long and beautifully salty finish. This is a great Weissburgunder in the making. 2022-2030

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Reinhold Franzen

Weingut Reinhold Franzen

(Bremm – Terrassenmosel)

2020er	Reinhold Franzen	Bremmer Calmont Riesling	16 21	92
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The 2020er Bremmer Calmont Riesling is a barely off-dry Riesling (with 9 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked in the historic and fully south-facing part of the vineyard. It offers a slightly ripe but very complex nose made of greengage, mirabelle, citrusy fruits, a hint of cream, caraway, and smoke. The wine comes over as slightly off-dry on the palate and leaves a juicy feel of herbs in the long and engaging finish. Reductive elements including nut, smoke, and wet stone round off the experience at this stage in the aftertaste. This off-dry tasting wine really needs a few years to shine. 2025-2035

2019er	Reinhold Franzen	Bremmer Calmont Riesling GG	22 20	91
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The 2019er Bremmer Calmont Riesling GG is a legally dry Riesling (with 6.5 g/l of residual sugar) picked on old vines in the classical and fully south-facing part of the vineyard. It was fermented and aged on its fine lees in stainless steel for 11 months before being bottled. It offers a beautiful and subtly ample nose made of elderflower, cassis, melon, greengage, caraway, laurel, whipped cream, and even a hint of pineapple. The wine is still slightly tart on the overall smooth rather than bone-dry palate and leaves a big and engaging feel of melon, dried herbs, ginger, and smoke in the long and subtly assertive finish. This wine will need a few years to shine. 2024-2034

2020er	Reinhold Franzen	Bremmer Calmont Riesling Kabinett	07 21	91
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The 2020er Bremmer Calmont Riesling Kabinett comes from fruit picked at 85° Oechsle in the classical and fully south-facing part of the vineyard and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (52 g/l). It offers a still rather reduced nose made of residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation, pear, white flower, earthy spices, a hint of whipped cream, and smoke. The wine proves nicely zesty but also quite creamy on the palate where a touch of primary sweetness still needs to integrate. The finish is playful and comparatively light-footed, yet also intense. Earthy elements add a sense of presence and seriousness to the wine which goes beyond that of your regular Kabinett. 2030-2040

2020er	Reinhold Franzen	Riesling der Sommer war sehr Gross	11 21	91
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The 2020er Riesling Der Sommer war sehr gross (literally translated into "The summer was really great") is a just off-dry Riesling (with 13 g/l of residual sugar) made from up to 60-year-old vines in the Bremmer Abtei Kloster Stuben, Ellerer Höll, Bremmer Calmont, and Neefer Frauenberg. It offers a beautiful nose made of fresh pear, ginger, floral elements, citrusy notes, a hint of caraway, and fine smoke. The wine is beautifully playful on the almost dry-tasting palate and leaves a subtle and remarkably multilayered feel in the long finish. The aftertaste is infused with herbs, pear, citrusy fruits, and smoke. This is, yet again, a gorgeous wine to enjoy over the coming years. Now-2028

2020er	Reinhold Franzen	Neefer Frauenberg Riesling	15 21	90
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The 2020er Neefer Frauenberg Riesling is a barely off-dry Riesling (with 9 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked in the historic and fully south-facing part of the vineyard. It offers a very subtle nose made of pear, melon, herbs, cardamom, and fine spices. The wine is rather smooth which adds to the off-dry feel on the palate. Spices, minerals, and herbs then kick in together with some citrusy acidity to add presence and structure to the finish. A sense of backward reduction in the aftertaste makes us opt to wait a few years before cracking open any bottle. 2025-2032

2020er	Reinhold Franzen	Riesling Quarzit-Schiefer	13 21	87
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The 2020er Riesling Quarzit-Schiefer is a legally dry Riesling (with 8 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked from the cooler east-facing part of the Bremmer Calmont (known as Kappellenberg until 1971). This light hay-white-colored wine offers an engaging nose made of pear, subtle citrusy elements, ginger, herbs, and spices. It proves nicely playful on the subtly smooth and not fully dry-tasting palate and leaves a gorgeous sense of zesty lemon, pear, cardamom, and fine herbs in the medium-long finish. The aftertaste is light and comparatively persistent. Now-2028

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Fries

Weingut Fries

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

Weingut Fries is a traditional Estate in Winnigen with holdings in various vineyards of the village. It has the particularity of being a pioneer of Pinot Noir and red wines right after these grapes were allowed again in the Mosel in the 1980s. After some winemaking studies and stints at Pinot specialists such as Ziereisen (Baden) and de Montille (Burgundy), young Daniel joined the family Estate. 2019 was his first vintage. The style for Pinot Noir is one of elegance and finesse.

2019er	Fries	Uhlen Laubach Riesling Trocken	20 20	92
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The 2019er Uhlen Laubach, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, was made from fruit picked on 50-year-old vines trained on single pole and was fermented and aged in stainless steel on its gross lees for 9 months. It proves rather backward and only reveals some faint scents of strawberry, anise, gooseberry, mint, green apple, and some pungent and earthy spices. The wine is hugely zesty on the subtly smooth rather than bone-dry palate and leaves a hearty and nicely racy feel in the finish. A touch of harsh tartness dominates the aftertaste at this stage so we would rather opt to enjoy this wine in a few years only. 2025-2035

2019er	Fries	Winniger Spätburgunder Trocken	04 21	92
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The 2019er Winniger Pinot Noir, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, is made from only 50% de-stemmed fruit picked in two steep south-east and east facing parts of the Winniger Domgarten and was fermented and aged in used barrique for 16 months before being bottled un-filtered. This pale-red-colored wine offers a stunning nose made of strawberry, blueberry, frozen raspberry, a hint of rosemary and clove, and subtly fine smoky notes. It proves succulently ripe, fresh, and packed with sweet spicy fruits wrapped in a gorgeously silky structure. The finish is airy yet deep, ripe, and juicy flavors. This is a truly remarkably Pinot Noir from the Mosel. 2022-2029

2019er	Fries	Spätburgunder Trocken vom Schiefer	03 21	90
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The 2019er Pinot Noir vom Schiefer, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, is made from only 25% de-stemmed fruit picked in a steep south-east facing part of the Winniger Domgarten and was fermented and aged in used barrique for 16 months before being bottled un-filtered. This pale-red-colored wine offers a superbly subtle nose made of cranberry, barbeque spices, blackberry, blueberry, and smoky elements, all wrapped into subtle elements of spices from the oak. It is beautifully silky yet nicely firm on the palate and leaves a superbly playful and multi-layered feel in the finish. Do not expect brightness and impact, this is a Pinot Noir made for lovers of the elegant type. What a great discovery! 2022-2029

2019er	Fries	Winniger Röttgen Riesling Trocken	19 20	90+
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The 2019er Röttgen, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, was made from fruit picked on 30 to 60-year-old vines and was fermented and aged in stainless steel on its gross lees for 9 months. It offers an attractive nose made of apple, gooseberry, melon, pear, earthy spices, cardamom, and chalky minerals. The wine lives at the moment from a racy-tart tension on the palate and reveals some of its nice underlying flavors of gooseberry, melon, mirabelle, and aniseed herbs only in the finish and the smooth rather than bone-dry aftertaste. This will need a few years to integrate its slight touch of harshness and power, and shine. It could well prove even better than anticipated. 2025-2035

2020er	Fries	Weissburgunder Trocken	12 21	89+
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The 2020er Weisser Burgunder, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, is made from fruit picked in the steep parts of the Winniger Domgarten and was fermented and aged in a mix of used barrique and a 2-year-old Stückfass for 10 months. It offers an attractive nose driven by fresh fruits and chalky elements, all wrapped in a whiff of oaky elements (which are actually quite noticeable but nicely integrated). The oak element is also marking the palate through some tartness and it is only in the finish that more of the succulently fresh and animating fruits and herbs emerge again. The aftertaste is quite firm and somewhat drying. This definitively needs a few years to integrate its oak and start to reveal some of its fruity goodies. It could then prove quite a surprise. 2024-2032

2020er	Fries	Riesling Trocken vom Schiefer	08 21	87
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The 2020er vom Schiefer Trocken, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, comes essentially from fruit picked in the Winniger Domgarten and Hamm. It offers a rather appealing and nicely subdued nose made of apple, citrusy fruits, herbs, and spices. The wine is nicely playful and subtly spicy on the palate and leaves a gorgeously elegant and filigreed feel in the long finish. This is a nice wine which combines elegance, a hint of presence, and delineation. Now-2028

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Albert Gessinger

Weingut Albert Gessinger

(Zeltingen – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Albert Gessinger	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese ** Caldo Infernale Alte Reben	07 21	92
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The 2020er Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Auslese ** Caldo Infernale was made from fruit harvested at 108° Oechsle on over 100-year-old ungrafted vines in the Gewann "im Kalk", the original part of the vineyard, and fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (88 g/l). It captures one's attention with quite ripe yet clean fruits including poached pear, pineapple, guava, apricot, melon, and a hint of passion fruit, as well as aniseed herbs and almond cream. The wine feels delicately smooth and rather fully sweet on the palate. Plenty of ripe and honeyed yellow and even exotic fruits then give way to an aromatic and sweet but also nicely mouth-wateringly light feel in the smooth finish. It will certainly take at least a decade to fully integrate all of its richness, but the patience will be worth the wait as there is quite some complexity at play here. 2030-2050

2020er	Albert Gessinger	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese Feinherb 56° Alte Reben	13 21	92
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The Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese Feinherb 56° Alte Reben is an off-dry wine (with 30 g/l of residual sugar) made from vines planted on very steep slopes. The wine provides a superbly pure, zesty, and complex floral and zesty nose driven by scents of yellow flowers, lime tree, tangerine, herbs, spices, and mint come through. The wine proves superbly balanced on the palate, where the primary fruity side (yellow peach, lemon, apple) is wrapped into zesty and playful acidity. While its mid-palate is still on the sweet side at this early stage, the wine leaves a superbly focused and elegant in the very long finish. This great off-dry Riesling will only start to fully deliver in a few years' time. 2026-2040

2020er	Albert Gessinger	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese Trocken Rothlay	06 21	90
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The 1895 Rothlay, as it is referred to on the front part of the label (the full reference is left for the side of the label), comes from vines planted in 1895 (hence the reference on the ax pictured on the label) and was fermented down to legally dry levels of residual sugar (just below 7 g/l). It offers a captivating nose driven by fruity elements including fresh yellow peach, apricot, candied grapefruit, and orange blossom, complemented by vanilla cream, and blueberry, with just a whiff of flintstone and Sulphur, the latter however quickly blows away. The wine coats the palate with nice fruity flavors as well as zest and spices. Although comparatively light-weighted, attractive, complex, and fruit-driven dry Riesling proves rather large and develops some intensity in the long and smoky finish. 2022-2028

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Markus Heeb

Weingut Markus Heeb

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2019er	Markus Heeb	Enkircher Herrenberg Riesling Auslese	01 20	92
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The 2019er Riesling Auslese, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, was made from almost fully botrytized fruit picked at 130° Oechsle and was fermented in stainless steel tanks down to noble-sweet levels of residual sugar (100 g/l). It offers a still rather reduced nose made of grapefruit zest, pear, aniseed herbs, a hint of almond cream, honey, and lots of smoky and cardamom elements. A vivid kick of acidity makes for a very playful and elegant feel on the almost fruity-styled (rather than sweet) tasting palate and leaves an almost Eiswein bite in the otherwise beautifully delineated and subtly creamy finish. The low sensation of sweetness makes for a terrific sense of balance. 2029-2049

2019er	Markus Heeb	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Trocken	02 20	91
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The 2019er Riesling Trocken, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, comes from a parcel situated higher up the central part of the vineyard and was fermented and aged on its fine lees in stainless steel for approx. 10 months. It offers a slightly broad nose made of grapefruit zest, ginger, chalky minerals, herbal elements, and fine spices. The wine is gorgeously playful and elegant on the palate and leaves a beautifully tart feel in the juicy finish. A touch of cardamom underlines the sunny nature of the vintage. While still a bit reduced, this beauty only needs a few years of bottle aging in order to reveal its full potential. 2024-2034

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Dr. Hermann

Weingut Dr. Hermann

(Erden – Middle Mosel)

Complement

NB: The bulk of the 2020 collection and the Estate review are available in the Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 58 (July 2021), a copy of which is available to subscribers on simple email request.

2020er	Dr. Hermann	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Trockenbeereenauslese GK	29 21	99
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The 2020er Erdener Treppchen Riesling Trockenbeereenauslese GK was made with fully botrytized fruit picked at 220° Oechsle and was fermented down to fully noble-sweet levels of residual sugar. This bright-yellow-colored wine offers an incredible subtle and delicate nose made of dried fruits, honey, almond cream, spices, and herbs. It offers some stunningly precise flavors of ripe pineapple, coconut, mint, honey, and almond cream on the oily and hugely racy palate and leaves an electrifying but oh so precise and refined feel in the finish. While the acidity is really driving the aftertaste, this TBA delivers enough oily intense flavors to elevate the experience to another level. We would opt to drink this beauty in the first part of its development as the acidity could eventually start to dominate. But in the coming 10-15 years, there are few noble-sweet wines which will give you such a shiver. What a wine! 2025-2035

2020er	Dr. Hermann	Erdener Prälat Riesling Trockenbeereenauslese Alte Reben GK	30 21	99
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The 2020er Erdener Prälat Riesling Trockenbeereenauslese Alte Reben GK was made with fully botrytized fruit picked at 200° Oechsle on over 100-year-old un-grafted vines and was fermented down to fully noble-sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers the most glorious and exciting nose made of pineapple, coconut, passion fruit, candied tangerine, almond cream, honey, dried fruits, and spices. Despite the oiliness, the wine proves hugely precise and subtle on the palate and leaves an incredibly focused feel of grapefruit, lime zest, and honeyed almond in the seemingly endless finish. The aftertaste then reveals more acidity and raciness. The acid structure makes for a sublime experience but we would opt to enjoy this wine over the coming 10-15 years in order to avoid any risk of the acid to take over. What a stunning sweet wine! 2025-2035

2020er	Dr. Hermann	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Trocken GG	24 21	93+
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The 2020er Erdener Treppchen Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a legally dry wine made from fruit picked in the prime Kriebislay part of the vineyard which was fermented and aged on its lees for 11 months. It offers a gorgeous and slightly ample nose made of greengage, elderflower, cassis, citrusy fruits, herbal elements, a dash of whipped cream, and smoke. The wine is gorgeously playful and intense on the palate but delivers its rich flavors of fresh fruits without excessive power and pressure. The wine delivers a comparatively powerful but hugely elegant feel of fresh fruits, a hint of smoke, and spices in the very long finish. This superb dry wine combines presence, freshness, and depth. A hint of harshness still needs to mellow away in the aftertaste. So, we would rather opt to wait a year or two before opening our bottles. We would not be surprised if it then even exceeds our high expectations, especially as it integrates its flavors. 2024-2035

2020er	Dr. Hermann	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Trocken GG	25 21	92
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a legally dry wine made from fruit picked on 80-100-year-old vines in the Urglück part of the vineyard and was fermented and aged on its lees for 11 months. This bright-colored wine offers a huge nose of strawberry, cassis, whipped cream, floral elements, and also some wet stone, cardamom, and smoke. It proves smooth rather than bone-dry on the palate where creamy fresh citrusy fruits, a hint of cardamom, and red-berried fruits are wrapped into tart and zesty elements. The finish is juicy and fruity. This flavorsome Riesling will offer much pleasure over the coming years. 2025-2040

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Immich-Anker

Weingut Immich-Anker

(Enkirch – Middle Mosel)

2018er	Immich-Anker	Enkircher Monteneubel Riesling Sekt Brut Nature Zéro Dosage	10 21	90+
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This 2018er Enkircher Monteneubel Riesling Sekt Brut Nature Zéro Dosage was made from vines planted in 1976 in the Enkircher Monteneubel (the vineyard is indicated in small characters on the side of the label) and was left on its lees for at least 3 years before being disgorged without any dosage. This bottle, from a lot disgorged on May 5, 2021 (the disgorgement date is written on the label), offers a superbly complex and captivating nose of fine spices, anise, herbs, fine and delicate notes of brioche, greengage, and vineyard peach. The mousse is still quite active at first and gives a quite lively and fresh side to this overall rich and opulent Sekt. Some power coming through on the mid-palate but it gives way to some quite herbal and tart elements in the finish. These elements will need a few years to integrate. The Sekt could then even turn out better than initially anticipated if gains some finesse with time. 2024-2033



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N.V.	Immich-Anker	Enkircher Monteneubel Riesling Sekt Brut Nature Zéro Dosage 1425	10 21	90+
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The Non-Vintage Riesling Sekt Brut Nature Zéro Dosage 1425 was made from a single vintage from vines planted in 1976 in the Enkircher Monteneubel (the vineyard is indicated in small characters on the side of the label) and was left on its lees for at least 3 years before being disgorged without any dosage. The AP 10 20 is made from fruit out of the 2018 vintage. This bottle, from a lot disgorged on May 5, 2021 (the disgorgement date is written on the label), offers a superbly complex and captivating nose of fine spices, anise, herbs, fine and delicate notes of brioche, greengage, and vineyard peach. The mousse is still quite active at first and gives a quite lively and fresh side to this overall rich and opulent Sekt. Some power coming through on the mid-palate but it gives way to some quite herbal and tart elements in the finish. These elements will need a few years to integrate. The Sekt could then even turn out better than initially anticipated if it gains some finesse with time. 2024-2033

2020er	Immich-Anker	Enkircher Steffensberg Riesling Trocken pures Schm-Anker-I Alte Reben	01 21	90
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The 2020er Riesling Trocken pures Schm-Anker-I, as it is referred to on the main part of the label (the reference to the vineyard and Alte Reben are only provided in small print on the side of label), is a tank-fermented wine made from over 40-year-old vines which Daniel Immich tends along organic principles (but without being certified). This wine offers a beautifully complex, fresh, and finely reductive nose of grapefruit zest, lemon, spices, anise, raspberry, and orange blossom. It proves superbly zesty and playful on the palate, where a smoother side provides the right frame to the flavors of creamy fruits. The finish is fully dry, spicy, and very long. A touch of CO2 still needs to integrate so it is best to leave this wine alone for a few years in order to get the most from it. 2024-2033

2018er	Immich-Anker	Enkircher Monteneubel Riesling Sekt Brut	11 21	89
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This 2018er Riesling Sekt Brut was made from vines planted in 1976 in the Enkircher Monteneubel (the vineyard is indicated in small characters on the side of the label) and was left on its lees for at least 3 years before being disgorged. This bottle, from a lot disgorged with a dosage of 10 g/l on May 5, 2021 (the disgorgement date is written on the label), offers a superbly attractive, aromatic, and finely ripe nose of Conference pear, yellow peach, mirabelle, licorice, coconut, herbs, and blackberry. It proves delicately fruity and smooth on the ripe and juicy palate. The mousse only comes through in the finish and, coupled to plenty of spices and tartness, adds a touch of freshness to this overall rich and broad Sekt. It proves superb to pair with food. 2022-2026

N.V.	Immich-Anker	Enkircher Monteneubel Riesling Sekt Brut 1425	11 21	89
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The Non-Vintage Riesling Sekt Brut 1425 was made from a single vintage of extremely old vines in the Enkircher Zeppwingert (the vineyard is indicated in small characters on the side of the label) and was left on its lees for at least 3 years before being disgorged. The AP 11 21 is made from fruit out of the 2018 vintage. This bottle, from a lot disgorged with a dosage of 10 g/l on May 5, 2021 (the disgorgement date is written on the label), offers a superbly attractive, aromatic, and finely ripe nose of Conference pear, yellow peach, mirabelle, licorice, coconut, herbs, and blackberry. It proves delicately fruity and smooth on the ripe and juicy palate. The mousse only comes through in the finish and, coupled to plenty of spices and tartness, adds a touch of freshness to this overall rich and broad Sekt. It proves superb to pair with food. 2022-2026

2020er	Immich-Anker	Enkircher Steffensberg Riesling Trocken Alte Reben	03 21	89
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The 2020er Alte Reben Riesling Trocken, as it is referred to on the main part of the label (the reference to the vineyard is written in small on the label), is a tank-fermented dry wine made from vines planted in 1979. It proves initially slightly reductive and quite smoky, and needs a few minutes in the glass to offer a fine and fresh nose of almond, herbs, vineyard peach, a hint of apricot, mint, and smoke. The wine starts off on the smooth and juicy side on the nicely fresh and zesty palate and leaves a light-weighted and superbly spicy feel in the long and lemon-driven finish. Now-2028

2020er	Immich-Anker	Riesling Trocken Eisbruch	04 21	89
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The 2020er Eisbruch Riesling Trocken, as it is referred to on the main part of the label, is a tank-fermented dry wine made from 60-80-year-old ungrafted vines on blue slate in the similarly named prime sector in the Enkircher Zeppwingert which was classified in the highest category in the old taxations maps. It offers a hugely aromatic and fruity nose of tangerine, passion fruit, apricot, and a dash pineapple, wrapped into some herbs and anise. The wine coats the palate with ripe yellow fruits at first but it quickly develops more focus as some spicy and zesty elements join the party. The finish is straight, nicely long, and fully dry. This attractive wine will suit lovers of aromatic and fruit-driven expressions of dry Riesling. 2022-2026

2020er	Immich-Anker	Enkircher Herrenberg Riesling Spätlese Halbtrocken Liebling vom Chef	06 21	86
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The 2020er Liebling vom Chef Riesling Spätlese Halbtrocken, as it is referred to on the main part of the label (the reference to the vineyard is written in small on the label), is an off-dry wine with 14 g/l of residual sugar. It offers a quite aromatic and finely fruity nose of William's pear, apple, orange, greengage, anise, and herbs. The wine is delicately smooth and light-footed on the palate and leaves a nicely fruity-zesty feel in the pear-infused finish. This well-made and easy to drink off-dry Riesling is made for a hot summer day. Now-2024

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Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Kilburg

Kilburg – Weingut Geierslay (Wintrich – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Kilburg	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Spätlese	18 21	93+
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The 2020er Ohligsberg Riesling Spätlese, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was made from clean fruit harvested at 87° Oechsle from up to 40-year-old vines and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (65 g/l). It offers an attractive even if still rather reduced nose made of pear, wet stone, citrusy fruits, apricot blossom, and spices. The wine proves subtly creamy on the palate but reveals more zest in the long and nicely peach and apricot infused finish. Quite some elements of reduction come through in the aftertaste at this stage which add a riper side to this otherwise nicely focused and racy Spätlese. But the potential is truly remarkable if it harnesses its different elements. 2028-2040

2020er	Kilburg	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett	16 21	92
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was made from fruit harvested early at 81° Oechsle from up to 40-year-old vines in the Zuckerberg section of the vineyard and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (50 g/l). It offers a beautiful nose made of cassis, passion fruit, a hint of apricot, fine spices, and herbal elements. The wine develops a touch of creaminess on the otherwise nicely racy palate and leaves a gorgeously zingy feel of citrusy fruits, fine herbal elements, and acid kick. The aftertaste is vibrant but also not devoid of presence. This slightly creamier expression of Kabinett with more than air of "Auslese from the 1990s" will prove quite a treat in a few years! 2028-2040

2020er	Kilburg	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese	23 21	92
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was made from partially botrytized fruit harvested at 91° Oechsle from up to 40-year-old vines in a parcel in the central part of the vineyard and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (68 g/l). It offers a remarkably elegant and refined nose made of grapefruit zest, cassis, lime, fine herbal elements, and spices. The wine is beautifully creamy yet also nicely playful on the palate and leaves a juicy and subtly sweet-tart feel in the long and engaging finish. The finesse and elegance of this slightly smooth Spätlese stand out. 2028-2040

2020er	Kilburg	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Kabinett	15 21	92
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The 2020er Ohligsberg Riesling Kabinett, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was made from fruit harvested early at 82° Oechsle on up to 40-year-old vines in the upper part of the Brauert section of the vineyard and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (46 g/l). It offers a remarkably subtle but also full-bodied feel of minty herbs, green apple, and fine spices on the nose. The wine is nicely juicy and racy on the palate, where green notes underline the freshness and liveliness of the wine. The finish is juicy and well-balanced. It proves really nice in a blend of a racy Kabinett with a subtle touch of creaminess on the mid-palate. The aftertaste is still a bit rough so we would rather enjoy this wine in a few years, once it will have found more balance. 2028-2040

2020er	Kilburg	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling Trocken	25 21	(90-93)
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The 2020er Ohligsberg Riesling Trocken, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a bone-dry Riesling (below 1 g/l of residual sugar) and comes from up to 40-year-old vines. The grapes were pressed with an old basket press and the wine was fermented and matured in stainless steel tanks. This cask sample offers a refreshing nose made of cassis, elderflower, smoke, grapefruit puree, and fine spices. The wine develops quite some presence on the palate and leaves one with a nicely full-bodied feel of minerals and fruits in the long and juicy finish. The aftertaste underlines the presence of this wine. 2025-2035

2020er	Kilburg	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken	26 21	(90-92)
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a bone-dry Riesling (below 3 g/l of residual sugar) and comes from up to 40-year-old vines in a parcel in the Niederemmel part of the vineyard. The grapes were harvested at 92° Oechsle and the wine was fermented and matured in a 500-liter stainless steel tank and an old Barrique. This cask sample offers a beautifully ample and inviting nose made of cassis, grapefruit, puree, smoke, cardamom, and fine spices. The wine develops quite some presence on the palate yet remains beautifully playful and racy right into the finish. Juicy notes of fruits add to the presence and fruitiness of this wine. 2025-2035

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Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Peter Lauer

Weingut Peter Lauer

(Ayl – Saar)

Complement

NB; The bulk of the 2020 collection by the Estate was reviewed in the Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 57 (July 2021), a copy of which is available to all subscribers upon simple email request.

2020er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Schonfels Riesling Trocken N°11 GG	11 21	96
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The 2020er Schonfels N°11 GG, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, comes from this steep south-east facing hill overseeing the Saar (legally part of the Ayler Kupp vineyard). It offers a magnificently fresh and elegant nose of white flowers, bergamot, minty herbs, grapefruit zest, lime, rosemary, and white peach. The wine delivers plenty of fresh flavors of mint and spices on the superbly focused palate. The finish has some crisp and chiseled citrusy fruits, and, above all, plenty of salty elements. The wine proves incredibly persistent and gorgeously intense, without any disturbing feel of power. It proves a stunningly complex dry Riesling in the making! 2026-2040

2020er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Kupp Riesling Trocken N°18 GG	18 21	94
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The 2020er Kupp N°18 GG, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, comes from the central part of the original Kupp hill. It proves rather reserved at first and only reveals some faint scents of smoke, roasted spices, cardamom, anise, fresh water, grapefruit, and greengage. The wine already shows some great finesse, presence, and intensity (from dry extract) on the palate and leaves a beautifully sharp, precise, and energetic fell of salt and spices in the very long and bone-dry finish. The aftertaste is all about smoke, herbs, and lime. This will need a couple of years to reveal all its complexity. 2025-2040

2020er	Peter Lauer	Biebelhausener Feils Riesling Trocken N°13 GG	13 21	93+
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The 2020er Feils N°13 GG, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, comes from this south-south-east facing Lieu-dit overseeing the Saar (legally part of the Ayler Kupp vineyard). It offers a beautifully refreshing and smoky nose of minty herbs, cassis leaf, pear, stone fruits, black pepper, grapefruit, raspberry, bergamot, and a hint of beeswax. The wine proves full of presence and intensity on the palate. Some fruity flavors of pear and peach add a sense of smoothness to the experience. The finish has more lightness, yet the whole thing remains on the riper side. It may however develop finesse and warrant an even higher score with time. 2026-2035

2020er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Riesling N°1	01 21	88
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The 2020er Ayler Riesling N°1 is an off-dry wine (with 11 g/l of residual sugar) made from the front, east-facing part of the original Kupp hill. It offers a rather aromatic and fully open nose of herbs, pineapple, Conference pear, a touch of mango, and earthy spices. The wine proves light-weighted and delicately smooth on the palate. The finish is nicely broader and quite intense, even if it is driven by spices and zesty fruits. It needs at least a year of bottle aging in order to integrate its primary fruit and roundness and reveal more freshness. 2022-2030

2020er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Riesling N°25	25 21	88
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The 2020er Ayler Riesling N°25 is a dry wine (with 4 g/l of residual sugar) made from the Scheidterberg and Rauberg side hills. It offers a rather restrained and smoky nose of anise and almond at first, before richer notes of pear, herbs, and a touch of camphor kick in. The wine proves juicy and smooth on the palate but, but comes over as more structured and intense in the focused and bone-dry tasting finish. This dry wine has good weight and presence and will be very good to enjoy with food as of next year. 2022-2028

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Schloss Lieser

Weingut Schloss Lieser

(Lieser – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Schloss Lieser	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken GG	33 21	95
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a breathtaking nose driven at first by a very refined touch coming from its spontaneous fermentation and then by very subtle spicy and smoky elements as well as white flowers, vineyard peach, minty herbs, and greengage. The wine proves straight and focused on the palate, where a just a hint of fruity elements quickly give way to almond cream and smoother elements. Yet the finish has (again) citrusy elements in spades and above all lime and yuzu. The wine proves airy and very delicate. This filigreed and very focused version of dry Riesling is gorgeous. 2025-2040



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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

2020er	Schloss Lieser	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	31 21	94
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The 2020er Juffer Sonnenuhr Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, proves very slightly reductive at first but quickly reveals a very attractive and aromatic nose of lime, spices, vineyard peach, orange blossom, licorice, a hint of earthy herbs and camphor. The wine proves superbly balanced and focused on the palate where some fine and juicy fruits are wrapped into smoky and citrusy fruits. The finish is fully dry, spicy, and beautifully long. There is a hint of power in the aftertaste which would make us opt to enjoy this beauty in its early stage of life. 2024-2032

2020er	Schloss Lieser	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Trocken GG	29 21	93
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The 2020er Himmelreich Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a hugely primary and finely reductive nose with still quite some presence from its spontaneous fermentation as bakery elements kick in, as well as plenty of spices, smoke, herbs, mint, almond, and blueberry. The wine proves precise, focused, and very spicy on the linear and herbal palate. The bracing acidity makes for a fully dry and focused feel in the long finish. The aftertaste is razor sharp and all about lime and ginger-driven spices. This smoky and racy dry Riesling needs a couple of years to fully integrate its acidity. 2025-2035

2020er	Schloss Lieser	Lieserer Niederberg Helden Riesling Trocken GG	30 21	93
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The 2020er Niederberg Helden Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is beautifully reductive and only gradually reveals a refined and captivating herbal and smoky notes of minty herbs, lime, white flowers, cassis, gooseberry, and almond. The wine is superbly balanced and proves both slightly creamy and fruit driven but also fresh and focused on the palate. The long finish is fully dry, deep, and complex. This is a great dry Riesling in the making. 2025-2040

2020er	Schloss Lieser	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	32 21	92+
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The 2020er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, proves still very primary, smoky, and musky at first. However, it quickly shows more ripeness and fruity presence of vineyard peach, orange blossom, and lime. The wine is driven by quite some racy acidity, which makes it come over as linear and strict feel on the palate at the moment. The long finish is very spicy and driven by herbs and lime. This bone-dry Riesling is quite rough at this early time and needs a couple of years to integrate its acidity. It could well turn even better than anticipated if it gains finesse and elegance. 2025-2035

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Maximin Grünhaus

Maximin Grünhaus – Weingut der Familie von Schubert

(Mertesdorf – Trier-Ruwer)

Complement

NB; The bulk of the 2020 collection by the Estate was reviewed in the Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 57 (July 2021), a copy of which is available to all subscribers upon simple email request.

2020er	Maximin Grünhaus	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Trocken GG	26 21	93
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The 2020er Maximin Grünhaus Abtsberg Riesling Trocken GG was fermented spontaneously and matured in traditional old Fuder casks. It offers a beautifully restrained yet complex nose of smoke, herbs, lavender, lime, grapefruit, cassis, lead pencil, white flowers, and fine spices, packed into primary scents of residues from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine proves very precise and refined on the zesty and focused palate and leaves a superb feel of cut and intensity in the finish. While it is still on the primary side, the wine already shines with its very spicy, very salty, and smoky side. It will take a few years for it to reach its maturity. 2026-2040

2020er	Maximin Grünhaus	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Trocken GG	25 21	91+
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The 2020er Maximin Grünhaus Herrenberg Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was fermented spontaneously and aged in traditional Fuder cask. It offers a superbly attractive and finely aromatic nose of citrusy fruits (lemon, grapefruit, tangerine), some floral nuances, anise, herbs, lavender, a hint of blueberry, and mint. The wine is fine and delicately juicy on the palate, which shows focus and intensity thanks to a most lively and refreshing ripe acidity. The finish is smoky, fully dry, and very spicy and the aftertaste proves slightly broader and hotter. There is quite some tartness at play, which needs to integrate before true greatness. This very promising GG may even turn out better than anticipated as it develops more finesse. 2024-2033



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By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

2020er	Maximin Grünhaus	Maximin Grünhäuser Bruderberg Riesling Trocken GG	24 21	90
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The 2020er Maximin Grünhaus Bruderberg Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was fermented spontaneously and aged in traditional Fuder cask. It offers a quite smoky and herbal nose with also fruity presence (peach, apricot, pineapple, banana), earthy spices, caraway, and a hint of camphor. The wine proves delicately juicy and initially not fully dry in taste, yet it develops more presence and a broader side in the intense, herbal, and smoky long finish. There is some aniseed tartness in the background which still needs to integrate. We would opt to enjoy this dry Riesling in its youth on its flamboyant side and before the powerful side may take over. 2022-2028

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G.F von Nell – Felix von Nell

Weingut G.F. von Nell – Felix von Nell (Olewig – Trier-Ruwer)

Complement

NB: The bulk of the 2020 collection was reviewed in the Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 57 (July 2021), a copy of which is available to all subscribers on simple email request.

2020er	G.F. von Nell	Trierer Jesuitenwingert Riesling Beerenauslese	06 21	92
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The 2020er Trierer Jesuitenwingert Riesling Beerenauslese was made from fruit picked at 142° Oechsle at -6°C on November 30 and was fermented down to fully noble-sweet levels of residual sugar. This yellow-hay colored wine offers a huge nose of melon cream, pear, and mirabelle, all wrapped into aniseed spices. The wine is rather smooth and soft on the palate, which is driven at this stage by overtly fruity elements. The finish develops a bit more complexity as spices and herbs join the party. While the wine does not have the usual cut of Mosel noble-sweet wines, it still proves a gorgeous dessert wine in a rounder style with a kick of acidity coming through after a few days. Now-2040

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Max Ferd. Richter

Weingut Max Ferd. Richter (Mülheim – Middle Mosel)

Complement

NB: A large part of the 2020 collection and the Estate review were published in the Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 57 (July 2021), a copy of which is available to all subscribers on simple email request.

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken Uralte Reben GG	42 21	95
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The 2020er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken Uralte Reben GG is a bone-dry wine (with 3 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked on ungrafted vines planted in 1890. It proves rather backward at first and really needs a few moments to reveal some subtle but still faint scents of white peach, herbs, fine spices, and floral elements. The wine is hugely focused but beautifully deep on the palate. A touch of zest frames the flavors at the moment and enhances the tart side in the nicely firm and focused finish. The aftertaste is simply a thing of beauty as layer upon layer of fine fruity flavors are enhanced by minerals, spices, and herbs. This hugely impressive dry Riesling now only needs a few years of bottle aging to reveal its splendor. What a great success! 2025-2040

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	43 21	93
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The 2020er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG was made with fruit picked in the Falkenberg part of the vineyard. It offers a subtly creamy and *beautifully* aromatic nose driven by pear, melon, apricot blossom, whipped cream, smoke, and spices. The wine feels smooth and delicately creamy *but remains stunningly* light-footed on the palate. Flavors of ripe fruits add to this *great* sensation of *subtle* smooth and delicate presence right into the finish. The aftertaste reveals some *fresh fruit*, a *hint of smoke*, more creamy elements, and a touch of presence. This is a beautiful even if slightly ampler expression of dry Riesling in the making! 2025-2035

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Trocken Alte Reben	36 21	92
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The 2020er Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Trocken Alte Reben was made with fruit picked on 80-90-year-old vines in the central part of the vineyard just below the Kammer. It offers a rather subtle and nicely enticing nose made of elderflower, apricot blossom, gooseberry, peach, mint, chalky minerals, and subtle smoky elements. The wine is nicely fresh and spicy on the nose and proves beautifully focused and packed with complex flavors on the palate. The lightness is that of a Kabinett and the depth and subtle ripeness of flavors that of a Spätlese. The finish is beautifully animating and refreshing. What a gorgeous light-footed wine in the making! 2025-2040



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2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Alte Reben	41 21	92
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The 2020er Graacher Domprobst Riesling Alte Reben is a dry wine (with 7 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit on 80-90-year-old vines in the original Domprobstbann part of the vineyard. It proves still rather backward and only gradually reveals some faint scents of wet stone, minerals, citrusy fruits, melon, fine spices, and smoke. The wine develops a subtly creamy side on the overall very light-feathered and delineated palate and delivers a superb feel of citrusy fruits, mirabelle, and earthy spices in the long and delicately creamy finish. This combination of refined creaminess and elegant light-footedness is really enticing. 2025-2040

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Mülheimer Sonnenlay Riesling Feinherb Alte Reben	48 21	92
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The 2020er Mülheimer Sonnenlay Riesling Feinherb Alte Reben is an off-dry wine (with 17 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit on 75-80-year-old vines in the Himmelsleiter part of the vineyard. It proves still rather backward and driven by residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation on the nose and really only reveals its subtle beauty on the palate where gorgeous flavors of vineyard peach, white flowers, whipped cream, and a hint of wet stone make for a truly enjoyable experience. A kick of zest in the finish adds the right zest and gives the wine an incredibly juicy feel. All this gorgeous off-dry wine now needs is a little bit of patience. 2025-2040

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Veldenzer Riesling Alte Reben	46 21	92
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The 2020er Eisenberger Riesling Alte Reben, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a barely off-dry wine (with 9 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit on 75-year-old vines in this prime vineyard. It proves still rather backward and driven by residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation on the nose. The wine reveals not much beyond flintstone, herbs, a dash of lemon zest, and fine spices on the almost dry-tasting palate. At this stage, it is only in the focused finish and, above all, in the incredibly complex and alluring aftertaste that this gorgeous off-dry wine reveals its true beauty. More citrusy fruits are joined by apple, white flowers, a hint of herbs, dark spices, and a great under-toned sense of tartness. This is a gorgeous off-dry wine in the making. 2025-2040

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Kabinett	38 21	91+
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The 2020er Erdener Treppchen Riesling Kabinett is made with fruit picked at 82° Oechsle and was fermented down to barely fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (42 g/l). It offers a superbly subtle nose made of citrusy fruits, herbs, and smoke, all wrapped into residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine is beautifully lively and racy on the palate, which provides the right frame to some subtly creamy flavors of pear, apricot-blossom, and gooseberry. The finish is focused, as light as a feather, yet packed with intensely mineral and slightly ripe fruity flavors. This is a beautiful Kabinett which will need a few years to reveal its best and has even some upside potential. 2030-2045

2016er	Max Ferd. Richter	Pinot Blanc Sekt Brut Nature	29 21	91
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The 2016er Pinot Blanc Sekt Brut Nature is made from grapes picked in the Veldenzer Eisenberg and was refermented and aged in bottle on its lees for 45 months before being disgorged without dosage in May 2021 (the disgorgement date is provided on the label). This bright-white-yellow-colored Sekt offers a gorgeous nose made of white peach, green apple, a hint of earthy spices, mint, and smoke. It is beautifully delineated and subtly fizzy on the palate and leaves a still slightly firm and tart feel in the long finish. As it breathes, the subtly fruity side comes through and adds class and charm to this nicely backward Sekt. This is a hugely refined effort which is still as fresh as a daisy and needs at least a year in bottle before true greatness. 2022-2026

2019er	Max Ferd. Richter	Mülheimer Sonnenlay Riesling Sekt Brut	50 20	90
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The 2019er Mülheimer Sonnenlay Riesling Sekt Brut was refermented and aged in bottle on its lees for 15 months before being disgorged with a dosage of 4 g/l in June 2021 (the disgorgement date is provided on the label). It offers a beautiful nose made of fresh apple, elderflower, wet stone, mint, melon, pear, and citrusy fruits. The Sekt proves nicely fresh and alluring. The mousse adds to the mouthwatering feel of tartness on the palate and in the finish. Some subtle flavors of fresh fruits, flowers, minerals, and spices round off the experience in the aftertaste. This is a gorgeous Sekt to enjoy mindlessly over the coming years. Now-2029

2019er	Max Ferd. Richter	Spätburgunder Trocken Pinot Noir	46 20	90
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The 2019er Pinot Noir, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is made from fruit picked in the Mülheimer Sonnenlay and was fermented and aged in a blend of 2 to 3-year-old oak barrels for 16 months before being bottled unfiltered. This dark-red-colored wine offers an appealing nose of cranberry, stewed strawberry, a touch of blueberry, clove, herbs, a dash of creaminess, and a hint of volatile acidity. The wine is silky yet subtly fresh on the palate and leaves a nice blend of red and black berried fruits in the long and suave finish. A touch of acidity adds a sense of structure and freshness in the finish of this nicely alluring Pinot Noir. Now-2029



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2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Trocken Alter Satz	49 21	90
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The 2020er Alter Satz, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a dry wine fermented in Fuder from a field blend of ancient grape varieties including Gelber Kleinberger, Gelber Orleans, Grüner Adelfränkisch, Grünfränkisch, Weisser Heunisch, Weisser Traminer, and Riesling. It offers a subtly aromatic nose made of peach, melon, rose water (as if there was a dash of Grauburgunder), citrusy fruits, and floral elements, all wrapped into some cardamom and other earthy spices. The wine feels smooth rather than bone-dry on the palate and leaves a nicely fruity, subtly creamy, and delicately flowery (with rose water) in the long and juicy finish. Now-2030

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Riesling Classic	26 21	87
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The 2020er Riesling Classic is a barely off-dry wine (with 10 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked in the Burgener Hasenläufer and the Veldenzer Kirchberg. It offers a rather subtle and nicely fruit-driven nose made of pear, citrusy fruits, melon, a hint of wet stone, cardamom, and white flowers. The wine is nicely juicy on the zesty but off-dry tasting palate and leaves a nice and satisfying feel of fruits and minerals in the light-footed but still remarkably intense finish. Now-2028

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Riesling Trocken Richter	40 21	87
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The 2020er Riesling Trocken Richter is made from fruit picked in the Erdener Treppchen and Herrenberg as well as in the Brauneberger Juffer. This bright-white-colored wine offers some attractive scents of white peach, white flowers, a hint of smoke, and a dash of whipped cream. It proves fruity but also quite smoky and driven by flavors of cardamom on the palate and leaves a juicy feel of fresh fruits and minerals in the direct and satisfying finish. 2022-2028

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Riesling Richter Dry	40 21	87
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The 2020er Riesling Richter Dry is made from fruit picked in the Erdener Treppchen and Herrenberg, as well as in the Brauneberger Juffer. This bright-white-colored wine offers some attractive scents of white peach, white flowers, a hint of smoke, and a dash of whipped cream. It proves fruity but also quite smoky and driven by flavors of cardamom on the palate and leaves a juicy feel of fresh fruits and minerals in the direct and satisfying finish. 2022-2028

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Weissburgunder Trocken	47 21	87
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The 2020er Weissburgunder Trocken is made from fruit picked in a parcel next to the Estate on gravel and in a parcel in the Veldenzer Elisenberg. This bright-colored wine offers a very subtle and hugely appealing nose made of pear, a hint of starfruit, herbs, whipped cream, and herbal elements. It proves playful and animating on the palate and leaves one with a great sense of fresh fruits, zest, and spices in the light-footed and perfectly balanced finish. A touch of power underlined by cardamom emerges in the aftertaste of this otherwise beautiful Weissburgunder. Now-2028

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Später-Veit

Weingut Später-Veit (Piesport – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Später-Veit	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese Jupp	10 21	93
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese, as it is referred to on the front label (the reference to Jupp is left for the back label), was made from fruit harvested at 88° Oechsle in a parcel situated in the prime full south-facing Taubengarten sector of the vineyard which previously belonged to "uncle Josef" (Jupp is the local slang for Josef), and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (70 g/l). It offers a hugely elegant and refined nose of vineyard peach, almond, grapefruit, smoke, thyme, greengage, minty herbs, and a hint of tangerine zest. The wine is superbly playful on the sweet tasting yet well-balanced palate. Creamy and juicy elements wrapped into zest and smoke make for an intense and superbly focused feel in the long and precise finish, which already taste more off-dry than truly sweet due to the high acidic concentration. 2027-2040



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"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

2020er	Später-Veit	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett Armes	13 21	92
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett, as it is referred to on the front label (the reference to Armes is left for the back label), was made from fruit picked at 81° Oechsle in the similarly-named Lieu-Dit in the Ferres part of the vineyard and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (60 g/l). It offers a quite aromatic and ripe nose of rich almond cream, yellow flowers, William's pear, yellow peach, apricot, licorice, and smoke. The wine shows its richness also on the palate, as plenty of creamy elements make for a smooth and clearly Spätlese feel. The finish has however great focus and almost raciness, which makes it come over as clearly Kabinett in style. The aftertaste is full of lime, greengage, and smoke. There is still some sweet-sour tension running through the wine and which needs to integrate. This very impressive Kabinett just needs a couple of years to fully shine. 2027-2040

2020er	Später-Veit	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett	08 21	91
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett, as it is referred to on the front label, was made from fruit picked at 84° Oechsle and was fermented down to fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (45 g/l). It offers a very delicate and attractive reductive nose of fine spices and smoke, and quickly develop its complexity with flowery elements including white flowers and orange blossom as well as yellow peach, almond cream, mint, and pear. The wine has great zesty presence on the delicately juicy and fruity palate and leaves a precise and focused feel in the superbly long and smoky finish. This is a nicely racy Kabinett in the making. 2027-2040

2019er	Später-Veit	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken Reserve	05 21	89
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The 2019er Goldtröpfchen Reserve Riesling Trocken, as it is referred to on the front label, was aged on its gross lees in traditional wooden casks for 18 months before being bottled (hence the late AP number). It offers a quite aromatic and fruit-driven nose of herbs, yellow peach, William's pear, a hint of mango, as well as ginger-driven spices, vanilla cream, a hint of butter, and blackberry. The wine coats the palate with juicy yellow fruits and creamy elements, yet leaves a nice sense of presence and intensity on the rich and structured palate. The finish is long but also has some weight and substance. This wine will particularly appeal to lovers of more opulent and richer expression of dry Riesling. Now-2025

2020er	Später-Veit	Riesling Feinherb Rotschiefer	12 21	88
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The 2020er Riesling Feinherb Rotschiefer is an off-dry wine (with 23 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked at 82° Oechsle in the Piesporter Grafenberg. It offers a very nicely and finely reductive nose of herbs and spices, as well as grapefruit, cassis, white peach, and anise. The wine is very nicely balanced on the palate where a touch of fruity presence is wrapped into zesty elements and spices. The finish is fresh and nicely long. Only a touch of sweetness still needs to integrate in the aftertaste, something which should have happened with the next two years. 2023-2028

2020er	Später-Veit	Siefersheimer Heerkretz Riesling Trocken	15 21	86
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The 2020er Heerkretz Riesling Trocken, as it is referred to on the front label, comes from grapes from befriended Frank Achenbach (Wonsheim, Rheinhessen) in this high south-exposed vineyard on Porphyry soils (volcanic origin). This still slightly reductive wine only gradually reveals its quite herbal and smoky nose of pear, grapefruit, cassis, freshly cut herbs, barbecue herbs, and cardamom. It is driven by richness and fruitiness on the palate, yet the acidity and freshness quickly take over the lead in the rich and intense finish. 2023-2028

2020er	Später-Veit	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken	11 21	85
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken, as it is referred to on the front label, is tank-fermented dry wine made from fruit picked in the Krank part of the vineyard, which is located just above the Domherr. Rather shy and almost non-saying at first, this wine needs a few minutes in the glass to reveal its fresh scents of lime, grapefruit, anise, gooseberry, green apple, and earthy spices. The wine is driven by zesty elements and plenty of spices on the linear and refreshing palate. The finish is herbal and still tart but also broad. It needs a few years to develop its aromatic and integrate its tartness on the palate. 2023-2027

2020er	Später-Veit	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken No. 1 Unfiltriert	14 21	85
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen No. 1 Riesling Trocken, as it is referred to on the front label, comes from the Taubengarten sector of the vineyard and was partially (10%) fermented with the skins for 2 weeks and matured on its lees in Fuder for 7 months before bottling. It offers a quite minty and smoky nose of anise, lime, rosemary, grapefruit zest, and ginger-driven spices. The wine is straight and intensely zesty on the palate and leaves a rather tart and bitter, tannic, and broad feel in the powerful finish. This dry wine with lots of tension and freshness will be best in two years or more. 2023-2027

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Mosel Fine Wines

"The Independent Review of Mosel Riesling ... and Beyond!"

By Jean Fisch and David Rayer

Günther Steinmetz

Weingut Günther Steinmetz

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

Complement

NB: The bulk of the 2020 collection and Estate review of this Estate was reviewed in the Mosel Fine Wines Issue No 57 (July 2021), a copy of which is available to all subscribers on simple email request.

2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Brauneberger Mandelgraben Riesling Eiswein "Limited Edition"	23 21	97
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The 2020er Brauneberger Mandelgraben Riesling Eiswein "Limited Edition" is made from fruit harvested with 161° Oechsle at -11°C (12°F) on February 10, 2021, and was fermented down to noble-sweet levels of residual sugar. It offers an absolutely stunning nose made of passion fruit sorbet, pear, almond cream, dried fruits, herbs, and fine spices. The wine is richly luscious and sweet on the palate. Layers upon layers of TBA-styled flavors (including dried fruits, almond, raisin, pear puree, etc.) add to the smoothness on the palate. This roundness is then superbly lifted up by some citrusy sorbet zest in the finish. The aftertaste is still dominated by sweetness at this stage but the potential of this TBA-Eiswein styled dessert wine is absolutely remarkable. The most difficult part will be to refrain from the urge to open a bottle in its youth. What a stunning success in a smoother than racy style of noble-sweet wine! 2035-2070

2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling "GB"	26 21	94
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The 2020er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr "GB" (a wordplay on Grosser Brauneberger) is a legally dry wine with an engaging nose made of ripe pear, citrusy elements, cardamom, herbs, and spices. The wine proves beautifully filigreed on the palate. Here, a touch of zest adds to the sense of rich focus. This leads to a great and nicely tart feel of minerals and fresher fruits than on the nose, and, above all, beautifully smoky elements in the finish. The aftertaste is long, multi-layered, and almost forcing one to go for more. This is a stunning dry Riesling in the making. 2025-2035

2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Piesporter Treppchen Riesling "von den Terrassen"	24 21	94
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The 2020er Piesporter Treppchen Riesling "von den Terrassen" is a legally dry wine (with 7 g/l of residual sugar) picked on 90-year-old vines in the steep-hill "vor dem Berg" sector of the vineyard situated just next to the Wintricher hill. It offers a beautifully aromatic yet also quite subtle nose made of mint, vineyard peach, pear, aniseed herbs, a dash of whipped cream, and smoke. The wine proves smooth rather than bone-dry on the palate and leaves a superbly fruity feel in the long and airy finish. The aftertaste is all about floral elements, vineyard peach, herbs, and fine spices. We would opt to wait a little bit before cracking open any bottle in order to give the wine the chance to firm up. It will then truly shine. 2030-2040

2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Dhroner Grosser Hengelberg Riesling "Monopollage"	27 21	93
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The 2020er Dhroner Grosser Hengelberg Riesling "Monopollage" is an off-dry wine (with 12 g/l of residual sugar) picked in this vineyard solely tended by the Estate. It offers a hugely backward but quite impressive nose made of quince, herbs, spices, apricot blossom, and smoky elements, all wrapped into firm residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine is gorgeously playful yet also not devoid of presence on the otherwise nicely focused palate and leaves a huge feel of wet stone, smoke, and herbs in the long and quite intense finish. The aftertaste is still not offering much at first. This wine currently takes a few days to reveal its inner core. It will be a cracker at maturity. 2030-2040

2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Dhroner Hofberg Riesling "GD"	22 21	93
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The 2020er Dhroner Hofberg "GD" (a wordplay on Grosser Dhroner) is a legally dry wine made from fruit picked in the classical part of the vineyard. It still proves massively reduced and only gradually reveals some scents of cassis, herbs, spices, a hint of apricot blossom, and minty elements, all wrapped into chalky minerals and residual elements of oak (the wine did see some fully used barrique). The wine is firm and structured yet also gorgeously light-footed and playful on the nicely dry-tasting rather than bone-dry palate and leaves a superb feel of fruits, minerals, and herbs in the long finish. This is a gorgeous Riesling with quite some cut, great delineation, and lots of presence in the making. 2025-2035

2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Kestener Paulinshofberg Riesling "GK"	28 21	93
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The 2020er Kestener Paulinshofberg "GK" (a wordplay on Grosser Kestener) is a bone-dry wine (with less than 2 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked on 50-year-old vines. It proves still slightly reduced at first and only gradually reveals its beautiful nose of gooseberry, pear, melon, mint, cassis, smoke, and wet stone. The wine is beautifully playful and subtly juicy on the nicely dry and filigreed palate. It leaves a gorgeous feel of fruits, flowers, mint, and minerals in the long finish. The aftertaste is airy, herbal, and quite frankly hugely alluring. This is a gorgeous dry wine with huge presence, delicacy, and freshness: What a great success. 2025-2035



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2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling "GB"	25 21	92
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The 2020er Brauneberger Juffer "GB" (a wordplay on Grosser Brauneberger) is a barely off-dry wine (with 10 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked in the finest sectors of the Hasenläufer part of the vineyard. It offers a subtly broad and quite aromatic nose driven by smoke and cardamom elements at the moment. Vineyard peach, mirabelle, and aniseed herbs take a while before joining in. The wine is nicely smooth with a moderate sensation of zest on the palate and leaves a slightly broad but still light-footed feel in the long finish. This wine will benefit from aging. 2030-2040

2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Wintricher Geierslay Riesling "GW"	28 21	92
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The 2020er Wintricher Geierslay "GW" (a wordplay on Grosser Wintricher) is an off-dry wine (with 13.5 g/l of residual sugar) wine made from fruit picked on 60-year-old vines in the central part of the vineyard. This hay-colored wine offers a rather backward nose made of residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation, passion fruit cream, citrusy elements, aniseed herbs, and mint. The wine develops a nice sense of sweet-acid tension on the subtly off-dry tasting palate and leaves a nice even if slightly broad feel in the long and juicy finish. A tail of smoothness still needs to integrate in the aftertaste, something which will have happened in a decade or so. 2030-2040

2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Pinot Noir Rosé Schlummerfuchs	17 21	90
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The 2020er Pinot Noir Rosé Schlummerfuchs is a bone-dry wine (with less than 2 g/l of residual sugar) fermented in used barrique from fruit picked in the Estate's prime holdings in the Kestener Herrenberg. It offers a beautifully subtle nose of plum, cooked strawberry, a hint of herbs, and smoky elements. The wine proves delicately crisp on the palate and leaves a tart feel underlined with ripe fruits and spices in the long and quite focused finish. This is a superb Summer Rosé with enormous seriousness to it as well. Now-2024

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Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Müller-Burggraef

Weingut Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Kabinett	25 21	92
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The 2020er Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Kabinett was made from fruit picked at 85° Oechsle and was fermented down to fully fruity-styled levels of residual sugar (64 g/l). It offers a subtly ripe and quite complex nose driven by pear, laurel, citrusy elements, smoke, and fine spices. The wine is beautifully playful and elegant on the palate and leaves a delicately apricot-infused feel in the finish which underlines the Spätlese-styled creaminess of this wine. A nice touch of zest adds some focus to the aftertaste of this comparatively smooth but complex expression of Doctor Kabinett. 2030-2050

2020er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef	Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese	26 21	92
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The 2020er Berncasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese was made from fruit picked at 91° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (72 g/l). It offers a rather subdued nose made of cream, herbs, a hint of apricot, smoke, wet stone, and laurel. The wine is still dominated by a zesty-sweet tension at this early stage on the palate, which blocks the superb underlying flavors to emerge. The finish is assertive and hugely impressive in an Auslese style. This sweet wine could well prove quite remarkable at maturity, once its elements will have blended together. 2030-2050

2019er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef	Bernkasteler Graben Riesling GG	03 21	92
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The Bernkasteler Graben Riesling GG is a dry wine made from old vines next to the Bernkasteler Doktor and was fermented and aged in Doppelstückfass (2,400-liter oak barrel) for 17 months (hence the late AP number). It offers a rather backward nose made of herbs, lime, elderflower, spices, and minerals. The wine is subtly creamy but also rather firm on the palate, where a touch of cardamom adds a touch of power to the experience. The finish is nicely intense but also assertive. 2022-2031

2020er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef	Bernkasteler Graben Riesling Spätlese	24 21	91
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The 2020er Bernkasteler Graben Riesling Spätlese was made from fruit picked at 86° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (74 g/l). It offers a nicely smooth and creamy nose made of pear, laurel, apricot blossom, herbs, and spices. The wine develops the intensely creamy and complex side of a light Auslese on the palate. The smoothness is nicely wrapped into some ripe acidity in the long and enticing finish. A touch of sweetness in the aftertaste still requires integration. 2030-2050



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2018er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef	Riesling Sekt Brut	12 21	92
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The Riesling Sekt Brut, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the reference to the vintage is left for the back label), was made from fruit picked in the Bernkasteler Badstube and was refermented and aged in bottle for 12 months before being disgorged with a dosage of 9.7 g/l in Mai 2021 (the disgorgement date is not provided on the label). It offers a beautiful nose made of earthy and subtly creamy flavors of pear, fine spices, and a superbly classy touch of herbs. It is beautifully full-bodied yet also refined on the palate and leaves a stunningly complex feel of herbs, smoke, pear, and spices. The aftertaste is perfectly balanced and adds to the overall grandness of this Sekt. What a huge success! 2022-2028

2019er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef	Bernkasteler Lay Riesling GG	04 21	91
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The Bernkasteler Lay Riesling GG is a dry wine made from fruit picked in the Olk part of the vineyard still trained on single pole and was fermented and aged in Doppelstückfass (2,400-liter oak barrel) for 17 months (hence the late AP number). It offers a subtly creamy nose made of pear, mirabelle, apricot blossom, fine herbal elements, and spices. The wine is nicely intense yet precise on the palate and leaves an assertive feel in the long finish. Some power underlined by cardamom comes through in the aftertaste. 2022-2031

2020er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef	Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Kabinett	15 21	90
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The 2020er Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Kabinett was made from fruit picked at 82° Oechsle and was fermented down to sweet levels of residual sugar (71 g/l). It offers a subtle creamy and apricot-infused nose enhanced by mint, minerals, and spices. The wine is quite smooth and creamy on the otherwise nicely light-footed palate and leaves a still slightly sweet feel of fruits, flowers, and minerals in the finish. This creamy expression of fruity-styled wine will need a few years to absorb its smoothness. 2030-2050

2019er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef	Pinot Noir Sekt Rosé Brut	13 21	90
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The Pinot Noir Rosé Sekt Brut, as it is referred to on the consumer label (the reference to the vintage is left for the back label), was made from fruit picked in the Lieserer Niederberg Helden and was refermented and aged in bottle for 17 months before being disgorged without dosage in February 2021 (the disgorgement date is not provided on the label). It offers a beautiful nose made of strawberry, mint, aniseed herbs, and fine spices. The Sekt proves nicely playful on the palate where the mousse underlines the subtle flavors of chalk and red berried fruits. The finish is nicely juicy even if there is a tail of smoothness and power lurking around. This is a gorgeous Sekt which actually would benefit from a few years of bottle aging to show its best. 2024-2031

2020er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef	Pinot Noir Rosé	09 21	87
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The 2020er Pinot Noir Rosé is a Fuder-fermented and just off-dry wine (with 9.9 g/l of residual sugar) from holdings in the Lieserer Niederberg Helden. It offers some subtle scents of small red berried fruits, a hint of Provence herbs, and spices. The wine proves the Mosel equivalent of the partridge-eyed Rosé from the South of France as the fragrant and flowery side drives the flavors on the smooth (rather than bone-dry tasting) and quite full-bodied palate. The finish is silky and slightly round. This wine combines easiness with quite some serious presence. Now-2025

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Stefan Vetter

Weingut Stefan Vetter
(Karlstadt – Franken)

2020er	Stefan Vetter	Riesling Trocken Donner Vetter	(No AP)	92
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The 2020er Donner Vetter, as it is referred to on the commercial label, comes from 45-year-old vines tended by the related A.J. Adam Estate in the Dhroner Hofberg. It underwent a light pre-fermentation cold soak (due to the travel of the grapes from the Mosel to the Franken region) before being pressed, fermented spontaneously, aged in wooden casks without any sulfur added for 9 months, and bottled unfiltered with a small 15-18 mg/l of sulfur added. This bright colored wine offers a show-stopping nose made of fresh fruits, a hint of chalkiness, floral elements, and just a fleeting sense of funk. The wine is precise, focused, and gorgeously elegant on the palate. It leaves a sensationally playful finish with a great feel of fresh fruits, deepness, and elegance. This is a truly remarkable wine with just a hint of funk and lots of stunningly complex and fresh flavors. What a success! Now-2025+

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2020 Dry German Riesling

2020 Dry German Riesling – Preview

Pushing back the Auctions to November gave us the time to include a preview of our annual dry German Riesling Report with a selection of wines from leading Estates throughout Germany. When tasted, we also include some recent releases from past vintages.

This report has no ambition of completeness: Its sole objective is to provide our readers with a first feeling of what dry German Riesling has to offer this year: The full report will be published in Issue No 59.

Acham-Magin
A.J. Adam
Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan
Battenfeld-Spanier
von Buhl
Dr. Bürklin-Wolf
Cantzheim
A. Christmann
Diel
Dönnhoff
Emrich-Schönleber
Falkenstein
Fritz Haag
Julian Haart
Dr. Hermann
Hermannsberg
Keller
Knebel
Koehler-Ruprecht
Kruger-Rumpf
Kühling-Gillot
Peter Jakob Kühn
Künstler
Peter Lauer
Leitz
Schloss Lieser
Loersch
Carl Loewen
Hermann Ludes
Materne & Schmitt
Maximin Grünhaus
Maximin Staat
Georg Mosbacher
Rebholz
Max Ferd. Richter
Schäfer-Fröhlich
Selbach-Oster
Günther Steinmetz
Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch (Müller-Burggraef)
Stefan Vetter
Vollenweider
Wegeler
Robert Weil
Weiser-Künstler
Wittmann

Forst (Pfalz)
Neumagen-Dhron (Mosel)
Deidesheim (Pfalz)
Hohen-Sülzen (Rheinhessen)
Deidesheim (Pfalz)
Wachenheim (Pfalz)
Kanzem (Mosel)
Gimmeldingen (Pfalz)
Burg Layen (Nahe)
Oberhausen (Nahe)
Monzingen (Nahe)
Konz (Mosel)
Brauneberg (Mosel)
Piesport (Mosel)
Erden (Mosel)
Niederhausen (Nahe)
Flörsheim-Dalsheim (Rheinhessen)
Winningen (Mosel)
Kallstadt (Pfalz)
Münster-Sarmsheim (Nahe)
Bodenheim (Rheinhessen)
Oestrich-Winkel (Rheingau)
Hochheim (Rheingau)
Ayl (Mosel)
Geisenheim (Rheingau)
Lieser (Mosel)
Leiwen (Mosel)
Leiwen (Mosel)
Thörnich (Mosel)
Winningen (Mosel)
Mertesdorf (Mosel)
Kastel-Staad (Mosel)
Forst (Pfalz)
Sieboldingen (Pfalz)
Mülheim (Mosel)
Bockenau (Nahe)
Zeltingen (Mosel)
Brauneberg (Mosel)
Bernkastel-Kues (Mosel)
Karlstadt (Franken)
Traben-Trarbach (Mosel)
Oestrich-Winkel (Rheingau)
Kiedrich (Rheingau)
Traben-Trarbach (Mosel)
Westhofen (Rheinhessen)



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Acham-Magin

Weingut Acham-Magin

(Forst – Pfalz)

NB: The Estate is certified organic along Ökoland guidelines.

2020er	Acham-Magin	Forster Pechstein Riesling Trocken GG	19 21	92
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The 2020er Pechstein GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a delicately aromatic and refined nose of cardamom, white pepper, balsam, white flowers, rosemary, and pear. The wine develops great presence and intensity on the palate. Some acidity takes over the lead in the very long, spicy (hot), and salty but also forceful finish. There are also quite some zest and herbal elements at play in the aftertaste. This dry Riesling will best be enjoyed in its youth with food. 2023-2027

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A.J. Adam

Weingut A.J. Adam

(Neumagen-Dhron – Middle Mosel)

2019er	A.J. Adam	Dhroner Hofberg Riesling Trocken Réserve	09 21	94
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The 2019er Hofberg Réserve, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was fermented in Fuder with fruit picked in the front part of the main hill of the vineyard and matured for an additional year than usually for dry wines (hence the late AP). It offers a hugely engaging nose made of pear, herbs, spices, and cardamom. The wine proves rather backward yet a most gorgeously spicy sense comes through on the palate. Tart elements of minerals and herbs all packed into dark fruits make for a hugely impressive but quite powerful sensation in the finish. This wine really starts to shine after 3-4 days at the moment, which underlines its backwardness and the need to wait a few more years. 2025-2034 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

2020er	A.J. Adam	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken GG	08 21	94
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen, as it is referred on the consumer label (the reference to GG is provided in small print on the side of the label), was fermented in Fuder with fruit picked on partially un-grafted vines planted in 1909 and partially vines planted in the 1940s, both in the sector situated above the village of Ferres. It offers a superb nose made of passion fruit, pear, freshly cut apple, white flowers, and fine spices. The wine is beautifully playful and packed with intense yet juicy flavors on the dry palate and leaves a gorgeously tart and subtly racy feel in the fresh and animating finish. This is a gorgeous dry Riesling in the making! 2025-2035

2020er	A.J. Adam	Dhroner Hofberg Riesling Trocken GG	07 21	93
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The 2020er Hofberg, as it is referred on the consumer label (the reference to GG is provided in small print on the side of the label), was fermented in Fuder with fruit picked on up 55 to 60-year-old vines situated in classical parts on the main hill of the vineyard. It offers a gorgeous nose made of melon, citrusy fruits, wet stone, herbs, and spices. The wine proves well balanced and yet packed with gorgeous flavors of fruits, minerals, and herbs on the dry rather than bone-dry palate and leaves a juicy and gorgeously tart feel in the long and intense finish. The aftertaste of this beautiful dry wine is still on the smoky side and will require a few years of patience to develop more fruitiness. 2025-2035

2020er	A.J. Adam	Dhroner Häs'chen Riesling Trocken GG	06 21	91+
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The 2020er Häs'chen, as it is referred on the consumer label (the reference to GG is provided in small print on the side of the label), is a dry wine fermented in oak cask with fruit picked on un-grafted vines planted in 1933. It offers a gorgeous even if still slightly reduced nose made of mirabelle, greengage, smoke, citrusy fruits, and fine herbal elements. The wine develops quite some presence despite a low 12% of alcohol on the palate. Juicy fruits and smoke lead to a nicely playful and subtly racy feel in the finish. A hint of cardamom underlines the aromatic ripeness in the otherwise beautifully playful and animating finish. This wine is still quite primary so there could be some upside development down the road, especially as the flavors mellow away. 2025-2035

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Dr. Bassermann-Jordan

Weingut Geheimer Rat Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan (Deidesheim – Pfalz)

NB: The Estate is certified organic along general EU guidelines.

2020er	Dr. von Bassermann-Jordan	Forster Kirchenstück Riesling Trocken GG	49 1 21	90+
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The 2020er Kirchenstück Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, proves quite restrained and only hints at the underlying complexity more than delivers it at the moment. Notes of anise, herbs, earthy spices, rose water, and licorice come through with airing. The wine is driven by citrusy fruits and bracing acidity and leaves a quite razor-sharp feel in the very long finish. There is some upside here if the wine manages to integrate its powerful acidity with time. 2025-2030+

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Battenfeld-Spanier

Weingut Battenfeld-Spanier (Hohen-Sülzen – Rheinhessen)

NB: The Estate is certified organic (along general EU guidelines).

2020er	Battenfeld-Spanier	Mölsheimer Zellerweg Am Schwarzen Herrgott Riesling Trocken GG	52 21	91
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The 2020er Am Schwarzen Herrgott GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a quite aromatic even if still reductive nose of herbs, orange zest, apricot, pineapple, curry, sesame oil, star fruit, and a hint of banana. The wine proves juicy and fruity on the smooth rather than fully dry-tasting palate. Tartness and lively acidity then kick in and lift up the riper and smoother side. The wine leaves a clean and focused feel of citrusy fruits, herbs, and toasty elements in the finish. This wine will particularly appeal to lovers of Riesling upon Burgundy *élevage*. 2023-2030

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von Buhl

Weingut Reichsrat von Buhl (Deidesheim – Pfalz)

NB: The Estate is certified organic along general EU guidelines.

2019er	von Buhl	Forster Pechstein Riesling Trocken GG	24 20	91
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The 2019er Pechstein Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, shows a superbly expressive and aromatic nose of ripe yellow fruits, some buttery elements, a hint of toffee, apricot, and coconut cream. The wine coats the palate with intense and ripe flavors of honeyed yellow fruits and leaves a straight and nicely focused feel in the very long and fully dry-tasting finish. There is still some tartness at play in the aftertaste. This ripe expression of dry Riesling is therefore still best left alone for another few years. 2023-2027

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Dr. Bürklin-Wolf

Weingut Dr. Bürklin-Wolf (Wachenheim – Pfalz)

NB: The Estate is certified organic along general EU guidelines.

2020er	Dr. Bürklin-Wolf	Forster Pechstein Riesling Trocken GG	41 21	90
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The 2020er Pechstein G.C., as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a quite rich and ample nose of anise, pear, herbs (thyme and rosemary), lime, and grapefruit. The wine is well structured and even slightly creamy on the palate, before some racy and herbal acidity kicks in and brings quite some liveliness to the experience. The finish feels bone-dry and salty. This dry Riesling will best be enjoyed in a few years' time. 2024-2030

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Cantzheim

Weingut Cantzheim (Kanzem – Saar)

2020er	Cantzheim	Saar Riesling Trocken Der Wiltinger "Le Grand"	018 21	93
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Der Wiltinger 'Le Grand', as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes a selection of the best grapes harvested on old vines in the Wiltinger Klosterberg, Braunfels, Schlossberg, and Schlangengraben. It offers a beautifully reduced nose made of residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation, wet stone, citrusy elements, fine gingery spices, a dash of whipped cream, cassis, and smoke. The wine is gorgeously playful on the smooth (rather than bone-dry) yet firm palate and leaves a remarkably pure feel of fruits in the long finish. This is a great dry Riesling in the making! 2025-2035

2020er	Cantzheim	Ayler Kupp Riesling Trocken Die Kupp	020 21	90+
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The 2020er Saar Riesling Die Kupp, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a legally dry wine made from Estate holdings in the east-facing part of the historic hill of the Ayler Kupp. It offers a nice and engaging feel of grapefruit, ginger, whipped cream, cassis, pear, quite some cardamom, and fine spices. The wine is subtly creamy on the fruity-driven palate but leaves a much firmer and more structured feel in the long and nicely tart finish. More herbal elements underline the seriousness of the wine in the aftertaste. This wine could exceed our expectations as it reveals more charm and freshness with age. 2025-2035

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A. Christmann

Weingut A. Christmann (Gimmeldingen – Pfalz)

NB: The Estate is certified organic along general EU guidelines and biodynamic along RESPEKT guidelines.

2020er	A. Christmann	Königsbacher Ölberg-Hart Riesling Trocken GG	34 21	92
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The 2020er Ölberg-Hart GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, captures one's attention with some beautifully refined and aromatic notes of almond cream, herbs, spices, candied grapefruit, anise, and Conference pear. The wine develops great juicy presence which gives it depth and complexity, while the finish is more restrained but also zesty and spicy. It proves still compact but the overall complexity at play is superb. There is a little bit more presence and intensity in the very long finish, so that we would opt to enjoy it rather in its youth. 2024-2028

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Diel

Schlossgut Diel

(Burg Layen – Nahe)

2020er	Diel	Dorsheimer Pittermännchen Riesling Trocken GG	25 21	92+
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The 2020er GG Riesling Pittermännchen, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from approx. 40-year-old vines in the parcels with deeper soils and was fermented and aged half in Stückfass (1,200-liter oak barrel) and half in stainless-steel tanks. It offers a most beautifully reductive and refined nose of smoke and residues from its spontaneous fermentation as some bakery scents come out of the glass, quickly joined by flowery elements, iron type of smoke, anise, and cardamom. The wine proves straight and very focused on the linear and medium-weighted palate. The acidity is even more clear, spicy, and almost racy in the very long and still slightly rough and herbal finish. This dry Riesling really needs a couple of years to integrate its acidity and fully shine, and we would even not be surprised if it will then even exceed our already high expectations. 2025-2035

2020er	Diel	Dorsheimer Goldloch Riesling Trocken GG	23 21	90+
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The 2020er GG Riesling Goldloch, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from 40 to 70-year-old vines in partially terraced part of this full south-facing vineyard and was fermented and aged in Stückfass (1,200-liter oak barrel). It is finely reductive yet quickly shows a very subtle and still restrained nose of pear, almond cream, herbs, grapefruit, and cardamom. The wine proves racy and quite herbal on the linear and focused palate. The finish is still very primary and driven by lime and yuzu, which still need to integrate. Yet the finish is structured and quite intense and almost powerful. This racy expression of dry Riesling will need a couple of years to fully shine. 2025-2030+

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Dönnhoff

Weingut Hermann Dönnhoff

(Oberhausen – Nahe)

2020er	Dönnhoff	Niederhäuser Hermannshöhle Riesling Trocken GG	31 21	93
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The 2020er Hermannshöhle Riesling -GG-, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was made from the oldest vines in the full south-facing part of the vineyard. It proves quite herbal and finely reductive as scents of anise, cardamom, mint, sage, and rosemary emerge from the glass. With airing sweeter and riper elements of pear, greenapple, orange, and apricot join the party. The wine is very delicate and finely fruity on the not fully bone-dry tasting palate. Yet the finish is very intense and has more depth and freshness as plenty of citrusy fruits kick in. Some tartness still needs to integrate in the hugely long, intense, and even slightly powerful aftertaste. 2025-2035

2020er	Dönnhoff	Norheimer Dellchen Riesling Trocken GG	30 21	92+
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The 2020er Dellchen Riesling -GG-, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is the only wine produced from this vineyard. It offers a captivating and complex nose of refined star anise, cardamom, herbs, mint, whipped almond cream, orange blossom, and lime tree. It proves well-structured and focused thanks to lime-driven acidity running through the palate. This acidity makes it come over as bone-dry and quite herbal in the long and assertive finish. This wine is still very primary and rough, and needs to integrate its bracing acidity before becoming truly great. There is clearly some upside potential here as the wine develops its finesse with age. 2024-2030+

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Emrich-Schönleber

Weingut Emrich-Schönleber

(Monzingen – Nahe)

2020er	Emrich-Schönleber	Monzinger Halenberg Riesling Trocken GG	45 21	93
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The 2020er Halenberg Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, saw an up-to-5-hour pre-fermentation maceration and was fermented with ambient yeasts and aged in Stückfass (1,200-liter oak barrel) and Doppelstückfass (2,400-liter oak barrel). It offers a quite imposing and intense nose of spices, minty herbs, yellow peach, anise, fresh pineapple, mustard seed, and grapefruit, all wrapped into a hint of ginger and camphor. The wine proves intensely compact and almost full-bodied on the palate, where still quite some tartness and green elements are in need of integration. The finish is slightly broad at this stage yet also remarkably deep, intense, and persistent. This impressive dry Riesling will only start to shine in a couple of years. 2025-2035

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Falkenstein

Hofgut Falkenstein

(Konz – Saar)

2020er	Falkenstein	Krettnacher Ober Schäfershaus Riesling Spätlese Trocken	18 21	93
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The 2020er Krettnacher Ober Schäfershaus Riesling Spätlese Trocken (known internally as "Fuder Lorenz Manni") comes 60-year-old vines planted in the similarly name Lieu-Dit in the Altenberg vineyard underpinned by Diabas elements. It offers a captivating, hugely complex, and animating nose of tangerine, orange blossom, lead pencil, thyme, lavender, candied grapefruit, yellow flowers, mint, cassis, lemon, and grilled and fresh pineapple. The wine coats the palate with plenty of ripe zesty citrusy fruits and spices, and leaves a very long and focused feel in the finish. There is great balance and beautiful flowery flavors in the zesty and focused aftertaste. The lightness makes it almost come over as an easy wine but make no mistake: There is a great and superbly complex dry Riesling in the making which only needs a few years of bottle aging in order blossom. 2026-2040+ (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

2020er	Falkenstein	Krettnacher Altenberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken	07 21	92
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The 2020er Krettnacher Altenberg Riesling Spätlese Trocken comes from 50-60-year-old vines in the Enkers part of the vineyard. It displays a beautifully flowery, spicy, and herbal nose of white peach, cassis, thyme, citronella, verbena, white pepper, and smoke. The wine develops finely zesty and flowery flavors on the superbly light and almost airy palate leaves a great sense of fruity smoothness in the nicely precise and zesty finish. The aftertaste has great focus and is packed with multi-layered and superbly playful flavors. This is a great dry Riesling. 2024-2035 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

2020er	Falkenstein	Krettnacher Auf dem Hölzchen Riesling Kabinett Trocken	21 21	91
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The 2020er Krettnacher Auf dem Hölzchen Riesling Kabinett Trocken comes from 50-60-year-old vines above the Ober Schäfershaus. It is quite reductive and smoky (flint stone) at first and needs a few minutes in the glass to reveal a very fresh, minty, and herbal nose of gooseberry, cassis, lime, greengage, and a hint of camphor. The wine proves beautifully zesty and light-weighted on the palate and leaves a quite herbal, racy, and tart finish. The aftertaste is all about blue-berried fruits, acidity, and smoke. This wine is a gorgeous ambassador of dry Kabinett wines characterized by light-footed intensity and cut. 2023-2030 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

2020er	Falkenstein	Niedermenniger Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett Trocken Egon	19 21	91
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The 2020er Niedermenniger Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett Trocken Egon (the reference to this internal cask name is provided in small print on the label after the AP number) comes from over 50-year-old vines in the south-facing part of the vineyard situated just below the Estate's cellar. It offers a gorgeously reductive, herbal, and zesty nose of grapefruit, lemon, green herbs, smoke, ginger-driven spices, rosemary, mint, and cassis. The wine develops great presence and intensity wrapped into some ripe yet zesty and animating acidity on the palate. It leaves a great compact feel of focus and even a touch of sharpness in the very long finish. The aftertaste is salivating yet also still quite primary and backward. This wine will need a few years to reveal its inner beauty. 2024-2033 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)



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2020er	Falkenstein	Niedermenniger Sonnenberg Riesling Kabinett Trocken Munny	09 21	90
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The 2020er Niedermenniger Sonnenberg Riesling Kabinett Trocken Munny (the reference to this internal cask name is provided in small print on the label after the AP number) comes from 60-70-year-old vines in the Lieux-Dits Unter den Röderchen and Beim Hasenbirnbaum. It offers a refreshing and very herbal nose of greengage, green apple, thyme, almond, cassis, lozenges, lime, white flowers, and quite some smoky elements. The wine develops good presence and even a touch of power on the palate driven by yellow peach is wrapped in grapefruit zest and lime. The acidity drives a quite racy and hugely smoky and spicy feel to the very long, herbal, bone-dry, and intensely tart finish. This wine, with a big acidic cut and quite some tartness, is best left alone for a few years in order to develop more roundness and elegance. 2024-2033 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

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Fritz Haag

Weingut Fritz Haag

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	08 21	93
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The 2020er Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a complex and multi-layered nose of cassis, greengage, candied grapefruit, orange blossom, and vineyard peach. The wine proves beautifully creamy but also superbly spicy and minty on the palate and leaves a nice sense of lightness and energy in the focused finish. The aftertaste is all about fine spices and smoke. This very subtle and filigreed expression of dry Riesling is a huge success. 2024-2040

2020er	Fritz Haag	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Trocken GG	24 21	(91-93)
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The 2020er Juffer Riesling Trocken GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was fermented and aged in a mix of stainless-steel tank, Fuder, and large oak barrel. This cask sample offers a beautiful nose of anise, bergamot, grapefruit, herbs, and mint. The wine proves delicately juicy and fruity on the palate and leaves a smooth yet intense feel in the fully dry-tasting finish. It will however need a few years to fully integrate all its elements on the palate and reveal its potential 2025-2035

2020er	Fritz Haag	Kestener Paulinshofer Riesling Trocken GG	27 21	(90-92)
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The 2020er Paulinshofer Riesling Trocken GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a bone-dry wine made in Fuder and stainless-steel tanks from vines located just under the Monzeler Kätzchen and at the right-hand side of the rocky part of the vineyard. This cask sample offers a beautifully refined and aromatic nose of lemon, grapefruit, bergamot, anise, herbs, some black fruits, and smoke. The wine still has quite some CO2 on the palate, which only gradually gives way to a delicate sense of smoothness and fruitiness. The wine proves slightly broader and quite intense in the finish and leaves a smoky feel of aniseed herbs and spices wrapped into some tartness in the aftertaste. This dry wine will probably prove rather reduced at first and will only develop its full finesse over time. 2024-2033+

2020er	Fritz Haag	Monzeler Kätzchen Riesling Trocken GG	29 21	(89-91)
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The 2020er Kätzchen Riesling Trocken GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is the first vintage of GG made from parcels situated in the steep and full-south-facing part of this vineyard situated just above the Kestener Paulinshofer. This cask sample hints at a refined nose of white flowers, raspberry, cassis, grapefruit, smoke, licorice, and mint. The wine delivers juicy and smooth flavors of fruits on the light and refreshing palate and leaves one with a nicely intense feel in the persistent finish. This lighter version of dry Riesling is delicious to enjoy but will prove even finer in a few years. 2024-2035

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Julian Haart

Weingut Julian Haart

(Piesport – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Julian Haart	Wintricher Ohligsberg Riesling	20 21	96
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The 2020er Ohligsberg, as it is referred to on the red and silver consumer label, is a bone-dry wine made from fruit picked on almost century-old vines. It offers a most beautiful and complex nose with plenty of elegance and finesse. Scents of white flowers, cardamom, white pepper, lavender, cassis, pear, herbs, and mint come out of the glass. The wine is elegant and very delicate on the palate and leaves one with a fantastic sense of cut, energy, and salty elements in the finish. The aftertaste is beautifully focused, bone-dry, salty, and spicy. This wine is without doubt a strong candidate for dry Riesling of the vintage. 2024-2040

2020er	Julian Haart	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling	19 21	95
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen, as it is referred to on the red and silver consumer label, is a bone-dry wine fermented in stainless steel. It still proves hugely reductive and marked by quite some residual scents from its spontaneous fermentation at first. It takes a while to reveal its smoky, very spicy, and herbal nose with nuances of dried flowers, vineyard peach, almond, and candied grapefruit. The wine develops great energy and presence without any undue weight on the palate. The mid-palate still has some baby fat presence, but the finish is hugely long and persistent, with plenty of spicy and floral elements. This is a magnificent dry Riesling in the making. 2026-2040

2020er	Julian Haart	Nieder-Flörsheimer Frauenberg	18 21	92
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The 2020er Frauenberg, as it is referred to on the red and silver consumer label, comes from the Nieder-Flörsheimer Frauenberg, a well-known "Grand Cru" vineyard on limestone soil in Rheinhessen, where the Estate took over a parcel in 2018. The grapes were brought to and fermented at the facilities in Piesport down to bone-dry levels of residual sugar. It offers a very fine and aromatic nose of yellow peach, apricot, herbs, mint, and almond cream. The wine develops good presence and juicy fruits on the palate and leaves a rather opulent yet fine taste in the very long and intense finish. There is still a touch of tartness in need of integration, so that this wine will really only shine in a few years. 2024-2035

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Dr. Hermann

Weingut Dr. Hermann

(Erden – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Dr. Hermann	Erdener Treppchen Riesling Trocken GG	24 21	93+
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The 2020er Erdener Treppchen Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a legally dry wine made from fruit picked in the prime Kriebslay part of the vineyard which was fermented and aged on its lees for 11 months. It offers a gorgeous and slightly ample nose made of greengage, elderflower, cassis, citrusy fruits, herbal elements, a dash of whipped cream, and smoke. The wine is gorgeously playful and intense on the palate but delivers its rich flavors of fresh fruits without excessive power and pressure. The wine delivers a comparatively powerful but hugely elegant feel of fresh fruits, a hint of smoke, and spices in the very long finish. This superb dry wine combines presence, freshness, and depth. A hint of harshness still needs to mellow away in the aftertaste. So, we would rather opt to wait a year or two before opening our bottles. We would not be surprised if it then even exceeds our high expectations, especially as it integrates its flavors. 2024-2035

2020er	Dr. Hermann	Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling Trocken GG	25 21	92
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The 2020er Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a legally dry wine made from fruit picked on 80-100-year-old vines in the Urglück part of the vineyard and was fermented and aged on its lees for 11 months. This bright-colored wine offers a huge nose of strawberry, cassis, whipped cream, floral elements, and also some wet stone, cardamom, and smoke. It proves smooth rather than bone-dry on the palate where creamy fresh citrusy fruits, a hint of cardamom, and red-berried fruits are wrapped into tart and zesty elements. The finish is juicy and fruity. This flavorsome Riesling will offer much pleasure over the coming years. 2025-2040

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Hermannsberg

Gut Hermannsberg

(Niederhausen – Nahe)

2020er	Hermannsberg	Niederhäuser Steinberg Riesling Trocken GG	20 21	92
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The 2020er Steinberg GG Niederhausen, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a beautifully refined and smoky nose of almond, herbs, white mint, lozenge, stone fruits, and anise. The wine proves pure and very clean on the herbal and lemon-driven palate. It proves well-structured, intense, and energetic in the long and layered finish. This is a superbly focused expression of dry Riesling. 2025-2035

2020er	Hermannsberg	Altenbamberger Rotenberg Riesling Trocken GG	15 21	90
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The 2020er Rotenberg GG Altenbamberg, as it is referred to on the consumer label, presents a quite aromatic and rich nose of anise, pear, greenapple, green apple, herbs, and spices, all wrapped into minty smoke. The wine is nicely playful and light on the fruity and zesty palate. It leaves a clean and herbal feel in the long and smoky finish. This is a superb dry Riesling for lovers of lighter and zestier expressions of the genre. 2023-2028

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Keller

Weingut Keller

(Flörsheim-Dalsheim – Rheinhessen)

2020er	Keller	Westhofener Kirchspiel Riesling Trocken GG	24 21	95
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The 2020er Kirchspiel Riesling, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a bone-dry wine made from vines planted in 1964 in the upper part of the vineyard. It offers a most engaging and deeply compelling and fresh nose of magnificent fresh and pure herbal and spicy elements, lime, grapefruit zest, and mint. The wine proves very pure, intensely energetic, and razor sharp (without being aggressive) on the palate. It then develops more density and presence, yet this density is well wrapped into a core of vibrating acidity and salty elements. The finish is extremely long, finely aromatic, and fully bone-dry. This is one of the most beautiful renditions of Kirchspiel we have ever tasted. This great filigreed and refined expression so typical of the vineyard is a huge success in 2020. 2028-2045

2020er	Keller	Dalsheimer Hubacker Riesling Trocken GG	25 21	93
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The 2020er Hubacker Riesling, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a bone-dry wine made only from the upper and steeper part of the vineyard. It proves initially rather restrained and needs a few minutes in the glass to reveals a quite aromatic and attractive nose of grapefruit, pineapple, tangerine, white mint, and yellow flowers, all wrapped into a sea of spices. The aromatic side of the wine is also noticeable on the palate, which has great presence and even a light juicy and broad side. The finish proves hugely long and also superbly fresh thanks to an exquisite lemon-driven acidity cutting through the more aromatic side. This hugely impressive GG needs a couple of years to show all its finesse. 2027-2040

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Knebel

Weingut Reinhard & Beate Knebel

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

2020er	Knebel	Winninger Uhlen Riesling GG	13 21	94+
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The 2020er Riesling Uhlen GG, as it is referred on the main part of the label, is a legally dry wine which comes from old vines in the grey-slated Laubach part of the vineyard and which was fermented and aged on its fine lees in stainless steel (75%) and used small oak barrel (25%) for 9 months. It offers a beautiful and subtle ripe nose made of grapefruit zest, minerals, melon, pear puree, earthy spices, and fresh minty elements. The wine proves beautifully pure and smoothly dry (rather than bone-dry) on the palate and leaves a great complex feel of fruits, herbs, and fine spices in the long finish. This great dry wine combines depth and presence with elegance and finesse. What a great success! We would not be surprised if it eventually turns out to be a classic, especially as the wine reveals its depth. 2025-2040



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2020er	Knebel	Winninger Röttgen Riesling GG	12 21	93
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The 2019er Riesling Röttgen GG, as it is referred on the main part of the label, is a legally dry wine which comes from old vines in the terraced part of the vineyard and which was fermented and aged on its fine lees in stainless steel (75%) and used small oak barrel (25%) for 9 months. This bright-yellow-colored wine offers a beautiful nose made of pear, vineyard peach, mirabelle, subtle earthy spices, and creamy elements. The wine is smoothly dry (rather than bone-dry) on the palate. More fruity elements are beautifully packed into tart and delicately racy notes. The finish is hugely deep, layered, and persistent. This is a superb dry Riesling in the making which combines presence, delicately, elegance, and finesse! 2025-2040

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Koehler-Ruprecht

Weingut Koehler-Ruprecht (Kallstadt – Pfalz)

2019er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken	13 20	94
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The 2019er Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken, which was released in May 2021, has a most appealing, refined, and beautifully complex nose of vineyard peach, chamomile, a touch of whipped almond cream, fine spices, and minty herbs. The wine delivers great focus and presence on the still slightly compact but already deep and intense palate. The finish is subtly light-feathered, very long and precise, even if not bone-dry. This is a beautiful wine in the making. 2025-2039

2019er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken	14 20	93
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The 2019er Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Auslese Trocken, which was released in September 2021, offers a quite ripe and very aromatic nose of pear puree, candied grapefruit, minty and aniseed herbs, rosemary, thyme, and licorice. The wine is driven by ripe and zesty acidity which brings focus to the otherwise more opulent and baroque palate. The fruit slowly gives way to a spicier side in the very long and intense finish. The aftertaste has plenty of smoke and primary elements of herbs and tartness. This is very impressive in a more forceful yet very engaging style. 2025-2034+

2020er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken	13 21	92
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The 2020er Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Spätlese Trocken, which will be released in May 2022, offers an attractive nose of ripe yellow peach, apricot, strawberry, prune, herbs, spices, and mint. Some flowery elements join in as the wine breathes. It develops good presence on the palate, where the subtly fruity elements are wrapped into superbly herbal elements. Zesty and spicy elements round off the experience in the finish. This dry Riesling will need a couple of years to fully develop its complexity and truly shine. 2027-2040

2019er	Koehler-Ruprecht	Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Kabinett Trocken	12 20	92
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The 2019er Kallstadter Saumagen Riesling Kabinett Trocken, which was released in December 2020, offers a superbly aromatic and refined nose of herbs, pear, yellow peach, yellow flowers, anise, and a hint of tangerine. The wine shows superb concentration (especially for a dry Kabinett) but also finesse on the palate, where some creamy and delicately ripe yellow fruits make for a light smooth feel. The finish has focus and a beautifully ripe and juicy acidity, which leaves a very clean feel of spices, grapefruit, and lime. This is really impressive. 2023-2034

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Kruger-Rumpf

Weingut Kruger-Rumpf (Münster-Sarmsheim – Nahe)

NB: The Estate is certified organic along general EU guidelines.

2020er	Kruger-Rumpf	Münsterer Im Pitterberg Riesling Trocken GG	49 21	93
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The 2020er Im Pitterberg Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from old vines planted in the 1940s and 1960s and was fermented and aged in old Stückfass (1,200-liter oak barrel) on its gross lees until July. It offers a very complex and beautifully attractive nose of almond cream, candied grapefruit, anise, cherry, violet, minty herbs, and honeysuckle. The wine is superbly balanced and delivers great presence on the anise-driven palate. It is imposing and even a touch powerful, but not over the top. The finish is hugely long, structured, and quite compelling. This is a very impressive dry Riesling. 2024-2035



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2020er	Kruger-Rumpf	Münsterer Dautenpflänzer Riesling Trocken GG	52 21	91
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The 2020er Dautenpflänzer Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a bone-dry Riesling (with less than 1 g/l of residual sugar) comes from old vines planted in the 1950s and was fermented and aged in old Stückfass (1,200-liter oak barrel) on its gross lees until July. It offers a superbly aromatic nose driven by anise, almond cream, candied grapefruit, cardamom, herbs, and a touch of riper elements including mirabelle and greengage, all wrapped into a hint of camphor and volatile. The wine proves juicy and very creamy on the well-structured and almond driven palate. There are plenty of spices and still a touch of initial tartness and tannins in need of integration, while the finish reveals already great presence and length. 2024-2032

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Kühling-Gillot

Weingut Kühling-Gillot (Bodenheim – Rheinhessen)

NB: The Estate is certified organic (along general EU guidelines).

2020er	Kühling-Gillot	Niersteiner Ölberg Riesling Trocken GG	58 21	92
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The 2020er Ölberg, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers quite some spicy and reduced notes of smoke, nut, herbs, and mustard seed. After some extensive airing, it proves more floral and refined as some yellow and riper fruits emerge from the glass. The wine comes over as focused and layered on the tart and slightly tannic palate. A nice sense of extraction and presence packed into plenty of energetic ripe and zesty acidity cleanses the palate. The wine leaves one with a straight, focused, and animating feel in the razor-sharp finish. This dry Riesling will not please everybody, but lovers of "Riesling upon Burgundy" styled wines will find much to like here in a few years' time. 2025-2033

2020er	Kühling-Gillot	Niersteiner Hipping Riesling Trocken GG	57 21	90+
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The 2020er Hipping, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a quite smoky and ripe nose with hints of toffee, pear puree, yellow peach, star fruit, and juicy pineapple. The wine develops great grip and presence on the palate which is still under the impact of tartness and tannins. The finish, while still on the tart side, already hints at the freshness to come, even though the whole balance remains one of power at this stage. This imposing and impressive wine will need a couple of years to tame its vigor. It will then prove a great dry Riesling with some Burgundian elements and has even some upside potential if it gains finesse. 2025-2032

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Peter Jakob Kühn

Weingut Peter Jakob Kühn (Oestrich-Winkel– Rheingau)

NB: The Estate is certified organic along general EU guidelines and certified biodynamic along DEMETER guidelines. The Estate does not refer explicitly to the GG status of its dry wines from Grosse Lage classified by the VDP on its labels, but only via the GG symbol embossed in the bottle.

2019er	Peter Jakob Kühn	Oestricher Doosberg Riesling Trocken GG	08 21	94
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The 2019er Doosberg Riesling trocken, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a captivating even if still slightly restrained nose of earthy spices, almond, nut oil, fresh herbs, cinnamon, black berry, pineapple, and a hint of toffee in the background. The wine comes over as superbly layered on the palate where juicy and ripe yellow fruits and even a touch of honey cream are wrapped into ripe zesty acidity. Minty herbs, nut cream, and plenty of citrusy fruits make for a lively and complex feel in the hugely long finish. There is still quite some tartness and phenolic presence at play, so that this little beauty of ripe yet playful expression of dry Riesling needs another couple of years to reveal its full grandness. 2024-2034

2019er	Peter Jakob Kühn	Mittelheimer Sankt Nikolaus Riesling Trocken GG	07 21	92
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The 2019er Sankt Nikolaus Riesling trocken, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is quite restrained and only delivers ripe and rich notes of toffee, nut cream, dried apricot, and honey. After extensive airing, it reveals subtler notes of herbs, licorice, and mirabelle. The wine proves quite compact but also marked by ripe flavors of toffee and buttery elements on the palate. This riper expression of Sankt Nikolaus GG will please lovers of mature wines: It will be best enjoyed in its youth before the oxidative side takes over. 2022-2027

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Künstler

Weingut Künstler

(Hochheim – Rheingau)

2020er	Künstler	Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg Riesling Trocken GG	18 21	90
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The 2020er GG Rüdesheim Berg Schlossberg, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a quite herbal and smoky nose of anise, dried herbs, smoke, greengage, lime, and green apple, wrapped into a touch of toffee. The wine proves quite intense and even powerful on the palate and leaves a spicy and herbal feel in the very long and assertive finish. It will please lovers of more ostentatious and very herbal expressions of dry Riesling. 2024-2028

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Peter Lauer

Weingut Peter Lauer

(Ayl – Saar)

2020er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Schonfels Riesling Trocken N°11 GG	11 21	96
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The 2020er Schonfels N°11 GG, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, comes from this steep south-east facing hill overseeing the Saar (legally part of the Ayler Kupp vineyard). It offers a magnificently fresh and elegant nose of white flowers, bergamot, minty herbs, grapefruit zest, lime, rosemary, and white peach. The wine delivers plenty of fresh flavors of mint and spices on the superbly focused palate. The finish has some crisp and chiseled citrusy fruits, and, above all, plenty of salty elements. The wine proves incredibly persistent and gorgeously intense, without any disturbing feel of power. It proves a stunningly complex dry Riesling in the making! 2026-2040

2020er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Kupp Riesling Unterstenberg N°12	12 21	94
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The 2020er Unterstenberg N°12, as it is referred to in the central part of the label, comes from this prime Lieu-Dit forming the south-southwest facing, front part of the original Kupp hill (at the foot of the hill), and was fermented down to dry levels of residual sugar (8 g/l). It offers a captivating and most refreshing nose of minty herbs, smoke, lime, spices (including ginger), white peach, and greengage. The wine develops more fruity elements on the palate, yet leaves a spicy and herbal feel in the superbly long, airy, and fully dry finish. The aftertaste is hugely minty, salty, and smoky, with some bitter-sweet tartness still in need of integration. This is a great dry Riesling in the making! 2025-2040 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

2020er	Peter Lauer	Ayler Kupp Riesling Trocken N°18 GG	18 21	94
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The 2020er Kupp N°18 GG, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, comes from the central part of the original Kupp hill. It proves rather reserved at first and only reveals some faint scents of smoke, roasted spices, cardamom, anise, fresh water, grapefruit, and greengage. The wine already shows some great finesse, presence, and intensity (from dry extract) on the palate and leaves a beautifully sharp, precise, and energetic fell of salt and spices in the very long and bone-dry finish. The aftertaste is all about smoke, herbs, and lime. This will need a couple of years to reveal all its complexity. 2025-2040

2020er	Peter Lauer	Biebelhausener Feils Riesling Trocken N°13 GG	13 21	93+
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The 2020er Feils N°13 GG, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, comes from this south-south-east facing Lieu-dit overseeing the Saar (legally part of the Ayler Kupp vineyard). It offers a beautifully refreshing and smoky nose of minty herbs, cassis leaf, pear, stone fruits, black pepper, grapefruit, raspberry, bergamot, and a hint of beeswax. The wine proves full of presence and intensity on the palate. Some fruity flavors of pear and peach add a sense of smoothness to the experience. The finish has more lightness, yet the whole thing remains on the riper side. It may however develop finesse and warrant an even higher score with time. 2026-2035

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Leitz

Weingut Leitz

(Geisenheim – Rheingau)

2019er	Leitz	Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg Riesling Trocken GG	83 21	91
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The 2019er Berg Schlossberg Rüdesheim GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, possesses a quite herbal and smoky nose of spearmint, freshly cut herbs, canned pineapple, and hot spices. The wine is driven at this stage by quite some tartness and phenolic presence on the powerful and quite broad palate which underline the riper side of this vineyard. It leaves one with a sense of quite some juicy fruits in the long, very spicy, and salty finish. Lovers of ostentatious and bigger expressions of dry Riesling will find much to enjoy here. 2025-2033

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Schloss Lieser

Weingut Schloss Lieser

(Lieser – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Schloss Lieser	Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Trocken GG	33 21	95
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The 2020er Goldtröpfchen Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a breathtaking nose driven at first by a very refined touch coming from its spontaneous fermentation and then by very subtle spicy and smoky elements as well as white flowers, vineyard peach, minty herbs, and greengage. The wine proves straight and focused on the palate, where a just a hint of fruity elements quickly give way to almond cream and smoother elements. Yet the finish has (again) citrusy elements in spades and above all lime and yuzu. The wine proves airy and very delicate. This filigreed and very focused version of dry Riesling is gorgeous. 2025-2040

2020er	Schloss Lieser	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	31 21	94
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The 2020er Juffer Sonnenuhr Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, proves very slightly reductive at first but quickly reveals a very attractive and aromatic nose of lime, spices, vineyard peach, orange blossom, licorice, a hint of earthy herbs and camphor. The wine proves superbly balanced and focused on the palate where some fine and juicy fruits are wrapped into smoky and citrusy fruits. The finish is fully dry, spicy, and beautifully long. There is a hint of power in the aftertaste which would make us opt to enjoy this beauty in its early stage of life. 2024-2032

2020er	Schloss Lieser	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Trocken GG	29 21	93
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The 2020er Himmelreich Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a hugely primary and finely reductive nose with still quite some presence from its spontaneous fermentation as bakery elements kick in, as well as plenty of spices, smoke, herbs, mint, almond, and blueberry. The wine proves precise, focused, and very spicy on the linear and herbal palate. The bracing acidity makes for a fully dry and focused feel in the long finish. The aftertaste is razor sharp and all about lime and ginger-driven spices. This smoky and racy dry Riesling needs a couple of years to fully integrate its acidity. 2025-2035

2020er	Schloss Lieser	Lieserer Niederberg Helden Riesling Trocken GG	30 21	93
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The 2020er Niederberg Helden Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is beautifully reductive and only gradually reveals a refined and captivating herbal and smoky notes of minty herbs, lime, white flowers, cassis, gooseberry, and almond. The wine is superbly balanced and proves both slightly creamy and fruit driven but also fresh and focused on the palate. The long finish is fully dry, deep, and complex. This is a great dry Riesling in the making. 2025-2040

2020er	Schloss Lieser	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	32 21	92+
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The 2020er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, proves still very primary, smoky, and musky at first. However, it quickly shows more ripeness and fruity presence of vineyard peach, orange blossom, and lime. The wine is driven by quite some racy acidity, which makes it come over as linear and strict feel on the palate at the moment. The long finish is very spicy and driven by herbs and lime. This bone-dry Riesling is quite rough at this early time and needs a couple of years to integrate its acidity. It could well turn even better than anticipated if it gains finesse and elegance. 2025-2035

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Loersch

Weingut Loersch

(Leiwen – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Jungheld Holzfass GG	N.A.	93+
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The 2020er Trittenheimer Apotheke Jungheld Holzfass, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, is a bone-dry wine (with 3 g/l of residual sugar) made from 80-120-year-old un-grafted vines in this prime south-west-facing sector of the Apotheke and which was fermented and aged in an acacia cask. This bright yellow-white colored wine proves still rather backward but already more than hints at greatness to come as gorgeously subtle flavors of zesty fruits, peach, earthy herbs, mint, and juicy pear emerge from the glass. The wine is hugely complex and impactful on the palate and leaves an almost powerful feel of herbs and spices in the long and beautifully dry finish. This gorgeous dry Riesling is still in its infancy but the potential is huge! 2025-2035

2020er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Trocken Vogelsang	16 21	93
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The 2020er Trittenheimer Apotheke Vogelsang, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, comes from the similarly-named sector high up the central part of vineyard. This bright white-yellow-colored wine offers a beautiful nose made of pear, vineyard peach, subtle grapefruit, and hints of floral elements wrapped into delicately earthy spices. The wine is superbly light-feathered on the palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of fresh fruits and spices in the long and playful finish. A kick of zest adds precision and finesse to overall intense but stunningly light-footed after-taste. This wine is a stunning success and a must-buy for any lover of elegant dry Mosel wine. 2023-2032

2020er	Loersch	Dhroner Hofberg Sängerei Riesling Trocken GG	20 21	92
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The 2020er Dhroner Hofberger Sängerei, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, is made from fruit picked on 50-year-old vines in this prime Lieu-Dit in the central part of the original Hofberg hill and was fermented and aged in a mix of cask and stainless-steel tank. It offers a gorgeous nose made of citrusy fruits, fine herbs, elegant spices, and floral elements. The wine is beautifully intense yet superbly delineated on the palate and leaves a stunning feel of herbs and spices in the long and juicy finish. The finesse and playfulness are really remarkable given the presence and aromatic intensity. 2025-2035

2019er	Loersch	Trittenheimer Apotheke Riesling Jungheld Holzfass GG	22 20	92
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The 2019er Trittenheimer Apotheke Jungheld Holzfass, as it is referred to on the central part of the label, is a bone-dry wine (with 3 g/l of residual sugar) made from 80-120-year-old un-grafted vines in this prime south-west-facing sector of the Apotheke and which was fermented and aged in an acacia cask. This lightly yellow-colored wine offers a slightly ample and creamy nose made of pear, grapefruit, cardamom, earthy spices, and floral notes. The wine proves subtly creamy and ample on the palate (without however being overpowering) and leaves a slate-infused touch in the hugely creamy, spicy, and mineral finish. 2024-2034

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Carl Loewen

Weingut Carl Loewen

(Leiwen – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Carl Loewen	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Trocken GG	11 21	93
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The 2020er Ritsch GG, as it is referred to on the front label, comes from old and partially still un-grafted vines and was fermented spontaneously and aged on its gross lees in traditional Fuder cask for 6 months. It immediately catches one's attention with its intensive and smoky notes of herbs, ginger, pear, candied grapefruit, almond, and pineapple. The wine is superbly delicate and smooth on the palate and delivers plenty of finesse and freshness in the hugely long, smoky, and intense finish. The aftertaste is intense, focused, and hugely multi-layered. This is a stunning dry Riesling in the making! 2024-2030 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)



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2020er	Carl Loewen	Longuicher Maximiner Herrenberg Riesling Trocken GG	12 21	92
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The 2020er Maximin Herrenberg GG, as it is referred to on the front label, comes from un-grafted vines planted in 1902 and was fermented spontaneously and aged on its gross lees in traditional Fuder cask for 6 months. It offers an aromatic and attractive nose of anise, pear, grapefruit, yellow peach, blackberry, apricot blossom, and plenty of herbs and a touch of camphor. The wine comes over as ample, supple, and almost smooth at first on the palate, before quite zesty and herbal flavors of lime, ginger, and pear kick in. It leaves one with some earthy and salty elements in the in the fully dry finish. This rather aromatic and ripe expression of dry Mosel Riesling will need a few years in order to integrate its tartness and reveal its full complexity. 2024-2028+ (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

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Hermann Ludes

Weingut Hermann Ludes

(Thörnich – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Hermann Ludes	Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Spätlese Trocken	04 21	92
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The 2020er Thörnicher Ritsch Riesling Spätlese Trocken was made from fruit picked at 88° Oechsle in a prime vineyard situated in the central part of the vineyard. It offers a gorgeous nose made of reductive elements (nut, wet stone, spices) which gradually give way to beautifully refreshing scents of herbs and spices. The wine is beautifully playful on the palate and leaves a stunningly fragrant and feather-light feel in the long and refined finish. This dry wine will prove irresistible to lovers of feather-light and fragrant expressions of the genre! Packing so many flavors into 11.5% of alcohol strength remains one of the great features of dry Mosel Riesling! 2022-2028

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Materne & Schmitt

Weingut Materne & Schmitt

(Winningen – Terrassenmosel)

2019er	Materne & Schmitt	Lehmener Lay Riesling	07 20	94
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The 2019er Lehmener Lay Riesling is a bone-dry wine (with less than 1 g/l of residual sugar) picked in the finest terraced parts of the vineyard planted with over 40-year-old vines. It offers a beautifully backward nose made of candied lemon, bergamot, white flowers, subtle spices, and fresh herbal elements. The wine proves superbly focused on the palate and packed with spicy flavors and other great herbal elements. The wine leaves a hugely long, animating, and multi-layered feel in the finish. This is a superb dry Riesling in the making! 2024-2034 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

2019er	Materne & Schmitt	Lehmener Ausoniusstein Riesling	06 20	92
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The 2019er Lehmener Ausoniusstein Riesling is a bone-dry wine (with less than 2 g/l of residual sugar) which comes from over 40-year-old vines in this underrated steep-sloped east-south-east-facing vineyard. It offers a beautiful nose made of ripe pear, fine herbal elements, and spices. The wine is long, dark, and beautifully multi-layered on the palate and leaves a ripe and spicy feel in the long finish. This slightly riper expression of dry Riesling proves however gorgeously complex and persistent. 2024-2034 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

2019er	Materne & Schmitt	Winninger Hamm Riesling	05 20	90+
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The 2019er Winninger Hamm Riesling is fully dry wine (with 4 g/l of residual sugar) made from over 50-year-old vines in the terraced parts of the vineyard. It offers a rather subtly ample nose driven by mirabelle, poached pear, saffron, star fruit, candied lime, herbs, and cardamom. The wine proves packed with spicy and herbal flavors on the palate and leaves a feel of minerals and poached fruits in the long finish. This wine is really still quite reduced and hence better left alone for a few years. It could then easily prove a positive surprise. 2024-2034 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

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Maximin Grünhaus

Maximin Grünhaus – Weingut der Familie von Schubert (Mertesdorf – Trier-Ruwer)

2020er	Maximin Grünhaus	Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Trocken GG	26 21	93
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The 2020er Maximin Grünhaus Abtsberg Riesling Trocken GG was fermented spontaneously and matured in traditional old Fuder casks. It offers a beautifully restrained yet complex nose of smoke, herbs, lavender, lime, grapefruit, cassis, lead pencil, white flowers, and fine spices, packed into primary scents of residues from its spontaneous fermentation. The wine proves very precise and refined on the zesty and focused palate and leaves a superb feel of cut and intensity in the finish. While it is still on the primary side, the wine already shines with its very spicy, very salty, and smoky side. It will take a few years for it to reach its maturity. 2026-2040

2020er	Maximin Grünhaus	Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Trocken GG	25 21	91+
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The 2020er Maximin Grünhaus Herrenberg Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was fermented spontaneously and aged in traditional Fuder cask. It offers a superbly attractive and finely aromatic nose of citrusy fruits (lemon, grapefruit, tangerine), some floral nuances, anise, herbs, lavender, a hint of blueberry, and mint. The wine is fine and delicately juicy on the palate, which shows focus and intensity thanks to a most lively and refreshing ripe acidity. The finish is smoky, fully dry, and very spicy and the aftertaste proves slightly broader and hotter. There is quite some tartness at play, which needs to integrate before true greatness. This very promising GG may even turn out better than anticipated as it develops more finesse. 2024-2033

2020er	Maximin Grünhaus	Maximin Grünhäuser Bruderberg Riesling Trocken GG	24 21	90
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The 2020er Maximin Grünhaus Bruderberg Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, was fermented spontaneously and aged in traditional Fuder cask. It offers a quite smoky and herbal nose with also fruity presence (peach, apricot, pineapple, banana), earthy spices, caraway, and a hint of camphor. The wine proves delicately juicy and initially not fully dry in taste, yet it develops more presence and a broader side in the intense, herbal, and smoky long finish. There is some aniseed tartness in the background which still needs to integrate. We would opt to enjoy this dry Riesling in its youth on its flamboyant side and before the powerful side may take over. 2022-2028

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Maximin Staat

Weingut Maximin Staat (Kastel-Stadt – Saar)

2018er	Maximin Staat	Kastel-Stadter Maximiner Prälat Spätlese Trocken GG Alte Reben Carlito	03 20	92
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The Saar Riesling Spätlese Trocken Carlito, as it is referred on the consumer label (the reference to vineyard and vintage is left for the back label), is a bone-dry wine made from revived 50-year-old vines in this up to recently nearly abandoned vineyard. It saw extensive pre-fermentation cold soak (48 hours) and was fermented and aged on its gross lees for 14 months before being bottle with little sulfur added. It offers a beautiful nose of dried fruits, fading white flowers, some camphor, and citrusy zest. The wine proves subtly creamy and deliciously spicy on the palate and leaves a gorgeously harmonious feel in the long and beautifully dry finish. Now-2028 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

2018er	Maximin Staat	Serriger Antoniusberg Riesling Trocken Antonius	06 20	91
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The Saar Riesling Trocken Antonius, as it is referred on the consumer label (the reference to vineyard and vintage is left for the back label), was fermented and aged in oak for 10 months before 50% underwent its malolactic fermentation for 14 days. It offers a subtly ample nose made of whipped cream, fine spices, herbal elements, candied grapefruit zest, a hint of cardamom, and white flowers. The wine is nicely smooth yet balanced on the palate and leaves a beautifully creamy yet subtly zesty feel in the finish. The freshness comes through in the aftertaste. Now-2028 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

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Georg Mosbacher

Weingut Georg Mosbacher (Forst - Pfalz)

2020er	Georg Mosbacher	Forster Pechstein Riesling Trocken GG	43 21	90
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The 2020er Pechstein GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a quite seductive and ripe nose of greengage, canned yellow peach, mirabelle, prune, nutmeg, and buttery elements. The wine is delicately smooth and fruity on the palate and leaves a more assertive and focused finish as nice ripe zesty acidity joins the party. This juicy but ripe expression of dry Riesling is very well made. 2024-2030

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Rebholz

Weingut Ökonomierat Rebholz (Siebeldingen – Pfalz)

2020er	Rebholz	Siebeldinger Im Sonnenschein Riesling GG	26 21	90+
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The 2020er Im Sonnenschein GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a quite restrained and smoky nose and needs a few minutes in the glass to reveal attractive notes of pear, star fruit, canned yellow peach, lozenge, strawberry, a touch of anise, and herbs. The wine proves straight and driven by zesty acidity on the palate and leaves a very spicy and bone-dry feel in the very long finish. This dry Riesling is still pretty much work in progress and could well exceed our high expectations if it gains finesse over time. 2025-2035

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Max Ferd. Richter

Weingut Max Ferd. Richter (Mülheim – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken Uralte Reben GG	42 21	95
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The 2020er Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken Uralte Reben GG is a bone-dry wine (with 3 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked on un-grafted vines planted in 1890. It proves rather backward at first and really needs a few moments to reveal some subtle but still faint scents of white peach, herbs, fine spices, and floral elements. The wine is hugely focused but beautifully deep on the palate. A touch of zest frames the flavors at the moment and enhances the tart side in the nicely firm and focused finish. The aftertaste is simply a thing of beauty as layer upon layer of fine fruity flavors are enhanced by minerals, spices, and herbs. This hugely impressive dry Riesling now only needs a few years of bottle aging to reveal its splendor. What a great success! 2025-2040

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	43 21	93
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The 2020er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG was made with fruit picked in the Falkenberg part of the vineyard. It offers a subtly creamy and *beautifully* aromatic nose driven by pear, melon, apricot blossom, whipped cream, smoke, and spices. The wine feels smooth and delicately creamy *but remains stunningly* light-footed on the palate. Flavors of ripe fruits add to this *great* sensation of *subtle* smooth and delicate presence right into the finish. The aftertaste reveals some *fresh fruit*, a *hint of smoke*, more creamy elements, and a touch of presence. This is a beautiful even if slightly ampler expression of dry Riesling in the making! 2025-2035

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Kabinett Trocken	20 21	92
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The 2020er Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Kabinett Trocken is a fully dry wine (with 4 g/l of residual sugar) made from grapes harvested at 82° Oechsle from 40-year-old un-grafted vines in the Hasenläufer sector. It offers a stunning nose made of vineyard peach, herbs, spices, and fresh juicy orangey elements. The wine is gorgeously perfumed and playful on the palate and leaves a structured feel of herbs, orchard fruits, and zesty minerals in the finish. This is an absolutely stunning dry Riesling in the making and a must-buy if ethereal lightness is your thing. 2022-2030 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)



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2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Trocken Alte Reben	36 21	92
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The 2020er Brauneberger Juffer Riesling Trocken Alte Reben was made with fruit picked on 80-90-year-old vines in the central part of the vineyard just below the Kammer. It offers a rather subtle and nicely enticing nose made of elderflower, apricot blossom, gooseberry, peach, mint, chalky minerals, and subtle smoky elements. The wine is nicely fresh and spicy on the nose and proves beautifully focused and packed with complex flavors on the palate. The lightness is that of a Kabinett and the depth and subtle ripeness of flavors that of a Spätlese. The finish is beautifully animating and refreshing. What a gorgeous light-footed wine in the making! 2025-2040

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Alte Reben	41 21	92
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The 2020er Graacher Domprobst Riesling Alte Reben is a dry wine (with 7 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit on 80-90-year-old vines in the original Domprobstbann part of the vineyard. It proves still rather backward and only gradually reveals some faint scents of wet stone, minerals, citrusy fruits, melon, fine spices, and smoke. The wine develops a subtly creamy side on the overall very light-feathered and delineated palate and delivers a superb feel of citrusy fruits, mirabelle, and earthy spices in the long and delicately creamy finish. This combination of refined creaminess and elegant light-footedness is really enticing. 2025-2040

2020er	Max Ferd. Richter	Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett Trocken	21 21	92
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The 2020er Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett Trocken is a dry wine (with 5 g/l of residual sugar) made from grapes harvested at 82° Oechsle from 80-year-old un-grafted vines. It offers a beautifully restrained nose made of pear, fine spices, a hint of apricot blossom, and smoke. The wine is beautifully airy and finely chiseled on the palate and leaves a superb fresh, intense, and spicy feel in the dry finish. This is a gorgeous dry Riesling made in a beautifully light-footed style. 2022-2030 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

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Schäfer-Fröhlich

Weingut Schäfer-Fröhlich

(Bockenau – Nahe)

2020er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Bockenauer Felseneck Riesling Trocken GG	21 21	95
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The 2020er Felseneck Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a quite appealing and superbly complex reduction mixing some bakery and pastry elements to orange blossom and lime tree. After some airing, it reveals its sensational nose of citrusy fruits, herbs, mint, cassis, citrus, and plenty of spices. The wine proves razor-sharp on the smoky and straight palate. It has gorgeous energy and intensity in the hugely long and layered finish. The aftertaste brings lemon, yuzu, and salty elements. The purity and vibration of the wine are simply breathtaking. This bone-dry and racy dry Riesling is a must-buy for lovers of the genre. 2025-2033

2020er	Schäfer-Fröhlich	Monzinger Halenberg Riesling Trocken GG	19 21	92
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The 2020er Halenberg Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, proves quite reductive at first and only hints at smoky notes of nut oil and herbs. After some airing, it reveals riper elements including yellow peach, pear, candy floss, spices, and citrusy fruits. The wine is superbly compact and restrained on the palate, where tartness still dominates the whole experience. The finish is very long, focused, and bone-dry. This is pretty much work in progress and will need quite some time to fully integrate its elements. 2025-2032

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Selbach-Oster

Weingut Selbach-Oster

(Zeltingen – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Riesling Trocken GG	34 21	(94-96)
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2020 Sonnenuhr Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from the lower third and rocky part of the slope (but not directly near the river). This cask sample offers a stunning nose of white peach, elderflower, cassis, and a subtle hint of oak impact (the wine was partially aged in 3–4-year-old casks). The wine proves stunningly creamy yet packed with flavors delivered with great presence and multi-layered finesse. The finish is rich, subtle, and elegant. This is a truly remarkable dry Riesling in the making! 2025-2040



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2019er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Trocken Bömer	25 21	93
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The 2019er Bömer, as it is simply referred to on the consumer label, is made from fruit picked in this prime sector of the vineyard and was fermented and aged in cask until Spring 2021 (hence the late AP number). It offers a gorgeous nose made of elderflower, melon, ripe fruits, and fine spices. The wine proves beautifully playful on the not bone-dry tasting palate and leaves a gorgeous feel of herbs and spices. The wine is beautifully long and multi-layered. A touch of tartness still needs to integrate in the aftertaste. 2027-2034

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Zeltinger Schlossberg Riesling Trocken GG	33 21	(92-94)
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This cask sample of the 2020er Schlossberg Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a beautifully fresh nose made of white peach, white flowers, herbs, and spices. The wine is hugely deep and playful on the palate. The wine develops great presence with a touch of power in the long and juicy finish. 2025-2035

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Graacher Domprobst Riesling Trocken GG	17 21	92
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The 2020er Domprobst Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from a parcel located just under the Domprobst lettering. It offers a rather animating nose made of white peach, mint, fine herbs, and smoke. The wine develops great presence and proves slightly assertive on the palate. It leaves a gorgeous feel of herbs and spices in the focused finish, which is superbly packed with flavors. 2025-2035

2020er	Selbach-Oster	Bernkasteler Graben Riesling Trocken GG	31 21	(91-94)
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The 2020er Graben Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, comes from un-grafted vines in the prime Graacher Tor sector of the vineyard. This cask sample offers a nice and elegant nose made of cassis, pear, cardamom, and fine herbs. The wine is gorgeously playful and elegant on the palate, where a feel of grip is nicely wrapped into minerals and fine herbs. The wine offers great potential and finesse. 2025-2035

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Günther Steinmetz

Weingut Günther Steinmetz

(Brauneberg – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr Riesling "GB"	26 21	94
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The 2020er Brauneberger Juffer-Sonnenuhr "GB" (a wordplay on Grosser Brauneberger) is a legally dry wine with an engaging nose made of ripe pear, citrusy elements, cardamom, herbs, and spices. The wine proves beautifully filigreed on the palate. Here, a touch of zest adds to the sense of rich focus. This leads to a great and nicely tart feel of minerals and fresher fruits than on the nose, and, above all, beautifully smoky elements in the finish. The aftertaste is long, multi-layered, and almost forcing one to go for more. This is a stunning dry Riesling in the making. 2025-2035

2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Piesporter Treppchen Riesling "von den Terrassen"	24 21	94
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The 2020er Piesporter Treppchen Riesling "von den Terrassen" is a legally dry wine (with 7 g/l of residual sugar) picked on 90-year-old vines in the steep-hill "vor dem Berg" sector of the vineyard situated just next to the Wintricher hill. It offers a beautifully aromatic yet also quite subtle nose made of mint, vineyard peach, pear, aniseed herbs, a dash of whipped cream, and smoke. The wine proves smooth rather than bone-dry on the palate and leaves a superbly fruity feel in the long and airy finish. The aftertaste is all about floral elements, vineyard peach, herbs, and fine spices. We would opt to wait a little bit before cracking open any bottle in order to give the wine the chance to firm up. It will then truly shine. 2030-2040

2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Dhroner Hofberg Riesling "GD"	22 21	93
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The 2020er Dhroner Hofberg "GD" (a wordplay on Grosser Dhroner) is a legally dry wine made from fruit picked in the classical part of the vineyard. It still proves massively reduced and only gradually reveals some scents of cassis, herbs, spices, a hint of apricot blossom, and minty elements, all wrapped into chalky minerals and residual elements of oak (the wine did see some fully used barrique). The wine is firm and structured yet also gorgeously light-footed and playful on the nicely dry-tasting rather than bone-dry palate and leaves a superb feel of fruits, minerals, and herbs in the long finish. This is a gorgeous Riesling with quite some cut, great delineation, and lots of presence in the making. 2025-2035



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2020er	Günther Steinmetz	Kestener Paulinshofberg Riesling "GK"	28 21	93
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The 2020er Kestener Paulinshofberg "GK" (a wordplay on Grosser Kestener) is a bone-dry wine (with less than 2 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked on 50-year-old vines. It proves still slightly reduced at first and only gradually reveals its beautiful nose of gooseberry, pear, melon, mint, cassis, smoke, and wet stone. The wine is beautifully playful and subtly juicy on the nicely dry and filigreed palate. It leaves a gorgeous feel of fruits, flowers, mint, and minerals in the long finish. The aftertaste is airy, herbal, and quite frankly hugely alluring. This is a gorgeous dry wine with huge presence, delicacy, and freshness: What a great success. 2025-2035

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Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Müller-Burggraef

Weingut Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef

(Bernkastel-Kues – Middle Mosel)

2019er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef	Bernkasteler Graben Riesling GG	03 21	92
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The Bernkasteler Graben Riesling GG is a dry wine made from old vines next to the Bernkasteler Doktor and was fermented and aged in Doppelstückfass (2,400-liter oak barrel) for 17 months (hence the late AP number). It offers a rather backward nose made of herbs, lime, elderflower, spices, and minerals. The wine is subtly creamy but also rather firm on the palate, where a touch of cardamom adds a touch of power to the experience. The finish is nicely intense but also assertive. 2022-2031

2019er	Wwe Dr. H. Thanisch – Erben Müller-Burggraef	Bernkasteler Lay Riesling GG	04 21	91
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The Bernkasteler Lay Riesling GG is a dry wine made from fruit picked in the Olk part of the vineyard still trained on single pole and was fermented and aged in Doppelstückfass (2,400-liter oak barrel) for 17 months (hence the late AP number). It offers a subtly creamy nose made of pear, mirabelle, apricot blossom, fine herbal elements, and spices. The wine is nicely intense yet precise on the palate and leaves an assertive feel in the long finish. Some power underlined by cardamom comes through in the aftertaste. 2022-2031

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Stefan Vetter

Weingut Stefan Vetter

(Karlstadt – Franken)

2020er	Stefan Vetter	Riesling Trocken Donner Vetter	(No AP)	92
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The 2020er Donner Vetter, as it is referred to on the commercial label, comes from 45-year-old vines tended by the related A.J. Adam Estate in the Dhroner Hofberg. It underwent a light pre-fermentation cold soak (due to the travel of the grapes from the Mosel to the Franken region) before being pressed, fermented spontaneously, aged in wooden casks without any sulfur added for 9 months, and bottled unfiltered with a small 15-18 mg/l of sulfur added. This bright colored wine offers a show-stopping nose made of fresh fruits, a hint of chalkiness, floral elements, and just a fleeting sense of funk. The wine is precise, focused, and gorgeously elegant on the palate. It leaves a sensationally playful finish with a great feel of fresh fruits, deepness, and elegance. This is a truly remarkable wine with just a hint of funk and lots of stunningly complex and fresh flavors. What a success! Now-2025+

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Vollenweider

Weingut Vollenweider

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2018er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling Auum	15 20	94
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The 2018er Goldgrube Auum, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a legally dry wine (with 5 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked on the oldest, over 100-year-old un-grafted vines in the vineyard and which was fermented for 18 months in cask before being bottled (hence the late AP number). It offers a stunningly vibrant, yet subtle nose made of gooseberry, pear, melon, bitter lemon, slate, whipped cream, and some earthy spices. The wine is packed with flavors lifted up by a beautifully ripe sense of acidity on the palate and leaves a truly mouthwatering even if not bone-dry feel in the finish. The wine is still quite primary at the moment, but all elements are there to make a cracking dry Riesling at maturity. What a great success! 2028-2038 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

2019er	Vollenweider	Wolfer Goldgrube Riesling	09 20	93
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The 2019er Goldgrube Riesling, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a legally wine (with 5 g/l of residual sugar) made from fruit picked on up to 100-year-old un-grafted vines. It offers a truly engaging nose made of cassis, elderflower, bitter lemon, melon, pear, a hint of apricot blossom, smoke, and a dash of whipped cream. The wine is quite racy and focused on the palate. Mouthwateringly juicy fruits give way to a dry tasting feel in the long finish. A hint of tartness in the aftertaste rounds off the pleasure of drinking this wine. This is a gorgeous dry-tasting Riesling in the making! 2024-2034 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

2019er	Vollenweider	Schimbock	10 20	93
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The 2019er Schimbock, as it is referred to on the consumer label, is a dry wine (with 4 g/l of residual sugar) made from Riesling grapes harvested in a similarly-named sector of the Traber Würzgarten situated in the continuation of the Wolfer Goldgrube and which were fermented and aged in traditional oak for 13 months. It offers an intense nose made of pear, quince, bitter grapefruit, cardamom, whipped cream, elderflower, and fine herbal elements. The wine is nicely racy and engaging on the palate and leaves a juicy and long feel in the slightly powerful finish. The intensity and finesse in the aftertaste of this dry Riesling are remarkable. 2024-2034 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

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Wegeler

Weingüter Geheimrat J. Wegeler

(Oestrich-Winkel – Rheingau)

2020er	Geheimrat J. Wegeler	Rüdesheimer Berg Schlossberg Riesling Trocken GG	11 21	93
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The 2020er Berg Schlossberg GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a beautifully elegant and complex nose of aniseed herbs, bergamot, white flowers, smoke, almond, orange blossom, and pear. The wine proves full of grip and presence framed by a playful ripe and zesty acidity on the palate. The finish is layered, herbal, and hugely long. This racy yet superbly complex expression of dry Riesling is a winner. 2024-2030

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Robert Weil

Weingut Robert Weil

(Kiedrich – Rheingau)

2020er	Robert Weil	Kiedricher Gräfenberg Riesling Trocken GG	42 21	92
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The 2020er Kiedricher Gräfenberg Riesling Trocken GG offers a very delicate yet nicely aromatic and complex nose of aniseed herbs, canned pineapple, apricot cream, greenapple, yellow peach, and almond cream. The wine delivers hugely aromatic flavors including orange, tangerine, apricot, yellow peach, and Conference pear on the palate. It leaves a nicely intense and ripe zesty feel in the long and spicy finish. The aftertaste is still marked by a touch of tartness and some phenolic presence which still need to integrate. This full-on aromatic expression of dry Riesling proves delicious. 2024-2030

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Weiser-Künstler

Weingut Weiser-Künstler

(Traben-Trarbach – Middle Mosel)

2020er	Weiser-Künstler	Enkircher Steffensberg Im Löwenbaum Riesling Trocken	07 21	92+
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This 2020er Enkircher Steffensberg Im Löwenbaum Riesling Trocken is a bone-dry wine (with 3 g/l of residual sugar) made fruit harvested in the prime Löwenbaum sector of the vineyard (classified "dark red" on the old Prussian taxation map). It offers a subtly ample but still nicely precise nose made of white peach, a hint of melon, a dash of blood orange, smoke, cardamom, and whipped cream. The wine proves packed with juicy and slightly ripe flavors on the palate and leaves a feel of melon, citrusy fruits, and smoke wrapped into ripe acidity in the long finish. The aftertaste is incredibly persistent despite the wine only showing 12% of alcohol. We would not be surprised if it eventually even exceeds our high rating. 2023-2035 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

2020er	Weiser-Künstler	Trabener Gaispfad Riesling Kabinett Trocken	11 21	92
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The 2020er Trabener Gaispfad Riesling Kabinett Trocken is a fully dry wine made from fruit picked at 85° Oechsle on 80-year-old un-grafted vines. It offers a beautifully subtle and engaging nose made of herbs, spices, smoke, and only a hint of lemon at this early stage. The wine is light-footed yet packed with lemony and zesty flavors on the palate and leaves a stunningly focused and mouthwatering feel in the long and animating finish. This combination of lightness, raciness, and intensity is simply stunning! 2023-2035 (Reprint from Mosel Fine Issue No 57 – July 2021)

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Wittmann

Weingut Wittmann

(Westhofen – Rheinhessen)

NB: The Estate is certified organic along general EU guidelines and certified biodynamic along RESPEKT guidelines.

2020er	Wittmann	Westhofener Brunnenhäuschen Riesling Trocken GG	18 21	91+
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The 2020er Brunnenhäuschen Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers a quite herbal and still restrained nose of rosemary, thyme, black berry, licorice, and prune. The wine starts off on the smoother and juicier side on the palate, yet quickly reveals quite some tartness and herbal elements which add structure and a sense of power. The finish is very herbal and quite sharp. Despite some hints of underlying complexity, the wine is very primary and rough at this stage and will need more than a couple of years to integrate all its elements and shine. It is not without upside, especially if it manages to slightly gain finesse over time. 2025-2030+

2020er	Wittmann	Westhofener Aulerde Riesling Trocken GG	16 21	90
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The 2020er Aulerde Riesling GG, as it is referred to on the consumer label, offers an attractive creamy nose of almond, coconut, earthy spices, rosemary, and pineapple. The wine is nicely structured on the palate, where zesty and herbal elements are wrapped into dry extract and a touch of power. The finish is very long, herbal, and zesty, with tartness and tannins in need of integration. This broad and aromatic expression of dry Riesling will please lovers of more ostentatious expressions of the genre. 2024-2028

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Upcoming Issues

Upcoming Mosel Fine Wines Issues: Topics to be Covered

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

**Oct-Nov
2021**

2020 Vintage Report Part III

- Detailed Estate Reviews
- Other Noteworthy Wines
- Tasting Notes of Auction Wines ([ahead of the November Auctions](#))
- Dry German Riesling Part II

**January
2022**

Winter Stories

- 2020 Vintage Look-Back & Highlights
- 2021 Auction Look-Back
- Background Articles

**April
2022**

Mature Riesling

- 2012 Retrospective
- Other mature wines reviewed
- Background Articles

In Parallel

Regular Postings on our Website and **Social Media**, including:

- News
- Issue Highlights
- Vintage Highlights
- 2021 Growing Conditions
- Updates of our Tasting Notes Database (via CellarTracker)
- Interesting Articles from other Sources

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