

# RESTAURANT WINE

The Full Service Guide to On Sale Beverage Profits



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*USA:* Top 2013 Pinot Noirs & Chardonnays,

Exceptional 2012 Cabernet Sauvignons

*Germany:* 300+ 2013 Rieslings (Troocken to TBA),

Silvaners, Pinot Gris & Pinot Noirs

*Italy:* Excellent values from Soave



# STAR LISTINGS



EVERY ISSUE, YOU CAN DEVELOP AN OUTSTANDING, WELL BALANCED WINE LIST AND WINE BY-THE-GLASS PROGRAM FROM THE WINES RECOMMENDED HERE.

## RESTAURANT WINE®'S EVALUATION SYSTEM

QUALITY ratings are:

- ★★★★★ **EXCEPTIONAL** quality for its type and style; a superstar within its price category. Merits an extra special effort to purchase. Very highly recommended.
- ★★★★ **EXCELLENT** quality for its type, style, and price. Among the very best of its type for its price. Highly recommended.
- ★★★ **VERY GOOD** quality for its type, style, and price. Has distinctive character and positive attributes. Recommended.



Unusually smooth for the wine's type and age, and a good wine by-the-glass choice.

**Alcohol content** – as stated, by volume (i.e., 7.5% to 22%)

**[2014-2015]** Anticipated peak drinkability, not aging potential.

★★★★★★★★★

### USA

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*We taste 2-3 times as many wines for each issue as appear in these pages. The top 1,000 are recommended here.*

## Wines & Wineries to Watch

**USA**—The 2013 vintage yielded stunning wines in California. Several Chardonnays that we especially like for both quality and value include those from **Dutton-Goldfield, Folie a Deux, Jordan, Kendall-Jackson, Kosta Browne, Kuleto Estate, Laetitia, Merry Edwards, Nickel & Nickel, Pellegrini Wine Co., Presqu'ile, Talbott, and Truchard** . . . 2013 Sauvignon Blancs also excelled (**Amici, Grgich Hills, Hess Collection, Merry Edwards, Roth Estate**) . . . Another fine 2013 not to miss is **Lang & Reed's** Chenin Blanc, and late harvest Rieslings from **Chateau Ste. Michelle, Greenwood Ridge, and Michelle-Loosen** . . . 2014 dry Roses to seek out include those from **Blackbird, Sidebar (Ramey), and St. Supery** . . .

Turning to red wines: superb 2013 Pinot Noirs were produced by **Amici, Beresini, Dutton-Goldfield, EnRoute, Hyde and Sons, Kendall-Jackson, Kosta Browne, Laetitia, Merry Edwards, Patz & Hall, Pellegrini Wine Co., Talbott**—and in Oregon, **Gran Moraine** . . . 2012 was a banner year for California Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet family blends, including those from **Amici, Blackbird, Cakebread, Charles Krug, Far Niente, Hess Collection, J. Lohr, Kuleto Estate, Roth Estate, Saint Helena Winery, Sebastiani, Truchard, Vine Cliff, and William Hill** . . . U.S. Syrahs keep getting better and better: **Tenet** in Washington state, and **HdV, Nickel & Nickel, Ramey, and Truchard** are making outstanding versions of the varietal.

**GERMANY**—German had a fine vintage in 2013, even if the style of the wines produced tended to be a bit leaner, lower in alcohol, higher in extract, and higher in acidity than the 2012s, for example. The 2013 whites, in general, are a little reclusive, with very elegant character. Thus, while the wines may not 'wow' like the 2011s or 2012s in their youth, their concentration and firm acidities suggest that the wines will need two or more years in order to display the true depth of their character.

Dry Rieslings that stand out in 2013 include those from **A. Christmann, Battenfeld-Spanier, Bassermann-Jordan, Burg Ravensburg, Domdechant Werner, Donnhoff, Dr. Burklin-Wolf, Dr. Loosen, Grans-Fassian, Hans Wirsching, Karthausenhof, Kloster Eberbach, Kuhling-Gillot, Muller-Catoir, Prinz zu Salm, Robert Weil, Schlossgut Diel, Schloss Johannisberg, Schloss Schonborn, Schloss Vollrads, Schnaitmann, von Kesselstatt, Wagner-Stempel, and Wittmann**, . . . Terrific dry Silvaners were also produced in 2013: look for those from **Dr. Heger, Furstlich Castell, Hans Wirsching, Horst Sauer, and Julisspital** . . .

And while dry/trocken Rieslings tend to receive the lion's share of consumer/trade attention these days, fruity-to-sweet wines from 2013 can be amazing . . . Witness those from **Baron Knyphausen, Battenfeld-Spanier, Donnhoff, Dr. Loosen, Grans-Fassian, Hans Wirsching, Karthausenhof, Kuhling-Gillot, Markus Molitor, Muller-Catoir, Prinz zu Salm, Robert Weil, Schlossgut Diel, Schloss Johannisberg, Schloss Saarstein, Schloss Vollrads, St. Urbans-Hof, von Kesselstatt, and Willi Schaefer**.

**ITALY**—Delicious 2012 and 2013 Soaves to seek out include those from **Cantina del Castello, Corte Adami, Coffele, Guerrieri Rizzardi, Le Battistelle, Le Mondolare, Marcato, and Sandro de Bruno**.

**NEW ZEALAND**—Impressive values in Sauvignon Blanc from the 2014 vintage include those from **Forrest Estate and Lake Chalice**.

Hochheimer Riesling is round, dry, and medium bodied, with very fruity character (peach, lemon, pineapple), and floral, spicy overtones. Long finish. 0.76% R.S. AP #001. 12.5% The Rudesheimer is terrific: round and ripely flavored, it is medium full bodied, has good depth of fruit, and is long and harmonious on the finish, tasting of peach, apple, lime, and honeysuckle. 0.95% R.S. AP #010. 12.5% The Rheingau Riesling is of very fine quality. It is fruity and floral in character (honeysuckle, lime, peach), crisp, and very long on the finish. 0.96% R.S. AP #012. 12% Lastly, the Kirchenstück (single vineyard): it is round, medium bodied, ripely flavored (honeysuckle, pineapple, lime, green apple), and long on the palate and persistent in the finish. 0.94% R.S. AP #007. 12% [2016-2019] Slocum & Sons, North Haven, CT, 203.239.3254

**JOHANNISBERGER-WEINVERTRIEB,**  
**2013 '50 DEGREES', RHEINGAU, \$132 (\$16.50)**

★★★★★

Screw cap. Very good Riesling value. It is a round, distinct wine with medium body, good balance, smooth texture, and a medium length finish. For near-term drinking. AP #001. 12% [2015-2016] MW Imports, Brooklyn, NY 718.596.3339



**REICHSGRAF VON KESSELSTATT,**  
**2013 WILTINGER, \$168 (\$21)**

★★★★★

Screw cap. An elegant, crisp, medium bodied Riesling of excellent quality—and a fine value. It is delicately flavored and distinct, with a long palate evolution and a vibrant finish, tasting of honeydew melon, lime, straw, peach, and pineapple. Can be aged a bit. 0.84% R.S. AP #05. 880 cases. VDP.Ortswein. 12.5% [2016-2019] American BD Co., Glen Rock, NJ, 201.689.1200

**VOLLRADS KG, 2013 'VOLRATZ 1573',**  
**RHEINGAU, \$84/6 (\$21)**

★★★★★

Screw cap. Very good quality, this is a round, medium bodied, distinct Rheingau Riesling that tastes of peach, pineapple, lemon, and honey. 0.86% R.S. AP #017. 12% [2015-2017] Schmitt Soehne, Millersville, MD 410.729.4083

**WEINGUT A. CHRISTMANN, 2013 PFALZ,**  
**\$188 (\$23.50)**

★★★★★

Screw cap. Outstanding dry Riesling. It is medium bodied, crisp and very long on the palate, with intense character (peach, lemon, honeysuckle, grapefruit, lime), good balance, and a very long finish. Exceptional value. Organic. AP #001. 3,750 cases. VDP Gutswein. 11.5% [2016-2018] Domaine Select Merchants, New York, NY 212.279.0799

**WEINGUT BALTHASAR RESS,**  
**2013 VON UNSEREM, RHEINGAU, \$160 (\$20)**

★★★★★

Screw cap. An elegant, balanced dry Riesling of excellent quality; Von Unserem = 'from our (vineyards)'. It is medium bodied and crisp, with subtle but fine character (pineapple, honeysuckle, peach), and a long finish. Great value. AP #012. VDP.Gutswein. 12% [2016-2017] Maverick Wine Company, Bensenville, IL 630.860.4600

**WEINGUT BATTENFELD SPANIER**

- 2013 MOLSHEIM, \$200 (\$25)
- 2013 HOHEN-SULZEN, \$200 (\$25)

★★★★★

★★★★★

Both very fine values. The Molsheim is elegant and crisp in style; a medium full bodied, finely balanced wine with a long finish. It has fine character, and tastes of pear, lime, pineapple, honey, and peach. Organic. AP #20. VDP.Ortswein. 12.5% The Hohen-Sulzen is exceptional: round, medium full bodied, crisp, and intensely flavored (lemon, honey, roasted nut, lime), with a very long, vibrant finish. Organic. AP #19. VDP.Ortswein. 12.5% [2016-2019] Domaine Select Merchants, New York, NY 212.279.0799

**WEINGUT BRUDER DR. BECKER,**  
**2013 RHEINHESSEN, \$144 (\$18)**

★★★★★

Round and medium bodied, this is an excellent wine. It is floral, fruity, and spicy in aroma/finish, balanced, and medium long on



the finish. Excellent value. AP #11. 12% [2016-2017] Savio Soares Selections, Brooklyn, NY 718.797.4114

**WEINGUT BURG RAVENSBURG,**  
**2013 BURG RAVENSBURG, \$160 (\$20)**

★★★★★

Screw cap. A very fine dry Riesling: medium bodied, crisp, and floral and fruity in character. It is long on the palate, and vibrant on the finish, tasting of grapefruit, honeysuckle, lime, and pineapple. Great value. AP #17. VDP.Gutswein. 12% [2015-2017] European Wine Imports, Cleveland, OH 216.426.0979

**WEINGUT DOMDECHANT WERNER**

- 2013 GUTS-RIESLING, HOCHHEIMER, \$160 (\$20)
- 2013 HOCHHEIMER HOLLE KABINETT

★★★★★

**TROCKEN, \$92/6 (\$23)**

Both have screw cap closures. The estate Riesling is round and ripely flavored, with medium body, good balance, and a medium long finish, tasting of pineapple, lemon peel, grapefruit, peach, and honey. AP #003. 12.5% The Holle Riesling is quite floral and fruity in character; a supple, medium+ bodied that is balanced and long on the palate, with an aftertaste reminiscent of white peach, honeysuckle, lime, and pineapple. Fine value. 0.56% R.S. AP #007. 12.5% [2017-2019] Slocum Imports, North Haven, CT, 203.239.3254, and others

**DR. BURKLIN-WOLF**



**WEINGUT DR. BURKLIN-WOLF**

- 2013 BURKLIN ESTATE, PFALZ, \$152 (\$19)
- 2013 WACHENHEIMER, \$200 (\$25)

★★★★★

★★★★★

Both have screw cap closures. These are very fine Rieslings. The Estate is delicious: round, medium full bodied, and intensely flavored (pineapple, peach, honeysuckle), with excellent balance and length. Organic & biodynamic. AP #07. 12.5% The Wachenheimer is exceptional: medium full bodied, intensely fruity (grapefruit, peach, honey, lemon), with floral overtones, and crisp; a wine with excellent balance, and a long, vibrant finish. Organic & biodynamic. AP #36. VDP.Ortswein. 12.5% Both wines will develop with further bottle aging. [2016-2019] Verity Wine Partners, New York, NY 212.683.8763

**WEINGUT DR. LOOSEN, 2013 RED SLATE,**  
**RIESLING DRY, MOSEL, \$144 (\$18)**

★★★★★

Screw cap. Supple and medium bodied, this is a distinct, fruity dry Riesling of excellent quality. It is long on the palate, balanced, and lingering in the finish, tasting of honeysuckle, apple, pear, and lime. Fine value. AP #15. 12.5% [2015-2017] Loosen Bros. USA, Salem, OR 503.984.3041



**WEINGUT DR. VON BASSERMANN-JORDAN,**  
**2013 PFALZ, \$162 (\$20.25)**

★★★★★

Screw cap. A medium bodied, crisp, finely flavored dry Riesling. It is long on the palate, and zesty on the finish, and tastes of passion fruit, grapefruit, honeysuckle, and lime. Excellent. AP #79. 12% [2016-2019] Magellan Wine Imports, Highlands Ranch, CO 720.272.6544



**WEINGUT GRANS-FASSIAN, 2013 MINERALSCHIEFER, MOSEL, \$192 (\$24) ★★★★★+**

Screw cap. Round and medium bodied, this is a fairly intense dry Riesling, with good balance and a medium long finish, tasting of lime, peach, grapefruit, and pear, with delicate floral overtones. Excellent value. 0.98% R.S. AP #1. VDP.Gutswein. 12% [2016-2018] HP Sepicurean, Ramona, CA 760.440.9229

**WEINGUT HEITLINGER, 2013 SHINY RIVER, BADEN, \$160 (\$20) ★★★★★**

Screw cap. Round, medium bodied, and crisp; a fruity, balanced, dry Riesling of excellent quality. It is long on the finish, and tastes of apple, lemon, honeysuckle, and pineapple. Fine value. AP #101. 12% [2015-2017] WineWise, Oakland, CA 510.473.548, and others

**WEINGUT KLOSTER EBERBACH - Crescentia**

- **2013 STEINBERGER, \$200 (\$25) ★★★★★+**
- **2013 RAUENTHALER BAIKEN, \$200 (\$25) ★★★★★+**
- **2013 ERBACHER MARCOBRUNN, \$200 (\$25) ★★★★★**

All have screw cap closures. A group of excellent dry Rieslings, from three of the Rheingau's greatest vineyards. The Steinberger is round, medium bodied, and fairly rich in flavor (peach, apple, honeysuckle), with good balance and a medium long finish. AP #049. 12% The Baiken is refined in character (apple, peach, honeysuckle), medium bodied, well balanced, and long on the finish. AP #050. 12% The Marcobrunn is outstanding: very fragrant and refined in character (honeysuckle, peach, dried fig, honey, lime), beautifully balanced, and very long and persistent on the finish. First rate. AP #064. 12.5% [2016-2020] David Bowler Wine, New York, NY 212.807.1680

**WEINGUT KUHLLING-GILLOT, 2013 QVINTERRA, RHEINHESEN, \$168 (\$21) ★★★★★+**

Screw cap. Excellent: a ripe, round dry Riesling with good depth of flavor (honeysuckle, lime, pineapple) and fine balance. It is long and crisp on the finish. Can be aged a bit. Terrific value. Organic. AP #01. 12.5% [2016-2018] Domaine Select Merchants, New York, NY 212.279.0799

**WEINGUT LIEBFRAUENTSTIFT, 2013 RHEINHESEN, \$144 (\$18) ★★★★★**

Screw cap. Excellent: round, medium bodied, and fruity and spicy/floral in character (peach, pineapple, honeysuckle, lime), this is a balanced Riesling with good depth of flavor and a medium long finish. Fine value. AP #03. 1,000 cases. 12% [2016-2017] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**WEINGUT LOUIS GUNTRUM, 2013 NIERSTEINER, \$176 (\$22) ★★★★★**

Screw cap. Fragrant and distinct in character (tropical fruit, citrus fruit), this is a dry, medium bodied, crisp wine with honeysuckle, grapefruit, pineapple, and lime aromas/flavors, and a medium long finish. Excellent value. 0.79% R.S. AP #11. 12.5% [2016-2018] Broadbent Selections, Richmond, VA 804.353.1818

**WEINGUT MARKUS MOLITOR, 2013 SCHIEFERSTEIL, MOSEL, \$100/6 (\$25) ★★★★★**

An excellent dry Mosel Riesling. It is fleshy in texture, medium bodied, and very long on the palate, with a medium long finish, tasting of lime, pineapple, honey, and honeysuckle. AP #10. 12% [2015-2017] Schmitt Soehne, Millersville, MD 410.729.4083

**WEINGUT MAXIMIN GRUNHAUS, 2013 MAXIMIN GRUNHAUSER, \$176 (\$22) ★★★★★**

Screw cap. Fine quality: a medium bodied, round, finely flavored dry Riesling with firm acidity and a medium long finish. In aroma/flavor, it tastes of apple, lime, pineapple, and honeysuckle. Can be aged a bit. AP #01. 11% [2016-2019] Loosen Bros. USA, Salem, OR 503.984.3041

**WEINGUT PFEFFINGEN, 2013 DRY RIESLING, PFALZ, \$160 (\$19) ★★★★★**

Screw cap. An excellent dry Riesling: medium bodied, crisp, and balanced; a wine with peach, honeysuckle, and grapefruit aromas/flavors, and a medium length finish. Will be even better with modest bottle aging. AP #08. 12.5% [2016-2018] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**WEINGUT PFLUGER**

- **2013 BUNTSANDSTEIN, PFALZ, \$168 (\$21) ★★★★★+**
- **2013 DURKHEIMER, \$200 (\$25) ★★★★★**

Both have screw cap closures and are excellent Pfalz dry Rieslings. The Buntsandstein (colored or Bunter sandstone, from the vineyards' soil type) is a round, medium full bodied wine with good depth of fruit (peach, lime, honeydew melon, honeysuckle), fine balance, and a medium long finish. Organic. AP #41. 1,666 cases. 12.5% The Durkheimer is a generously flavored, medium full bodied dry Riesling with spicy-floral-fruity character, good balance, and a lingering finish, tasting of peach, pineapple, grapefruit, honeysuckle, white pepper, and honey. Organic. Biodynamic. AP #11. 667 cases. 12.5% Both are fine values. [2016-2018] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**WEINGUT SCHLOSS VOLLRADS, 2013 RHEINGAU, \$94/6 (\$23.50) ★★★★★**

Vinolok closure. Excellent: ripely flavored and quite fruity in character (apple, lime, pineapple, with floral overtones), this is a well balanced wine with a long finish. Very fine value. 0.95% R.S. AP #012. 12.5% [2015-2017] Schmitt Soehne, Millersville, MD 410.729.4083

**WEINGUT WAGNER-STEMPEL, 2013 RHEINHESEN, \$172 (\$22) ★★★★★**

Screw cap. An excellent dry Riesling. It is medium full bodied, finely flavored (apple, pineapple, peach, honeysuckle), crisp, and medium long on the finish. Can be aged a bit. Organically grown grapes. AP #05. 12% [2016-2018] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**WEINGUT WITTMANN****WEINGUT WITTMANN, 2013 RHEINHESEN, ★★★★★ \$200 (\$25)**

A crisp, medium bodied dry Riesling of exceptional quality from this outstanding producer. It has intense yet subtle fruit character, firm acidity, a long palate evolution, and a very long finish, tasting of pineapple, lime, peach, white pepper, and apple. Crisp; warrants further aging. Organically grown grapes. Great value. AP #006. 12% [2017-2020] Loosen Bros. USA, Salem, OR 503.984.3041

*Labels and images that appear in all issues are not paid advertisements.*

**WEINGUT BALTHASAR RESS, 2013 'GG'**  
**HATTENHEIM NUSSBRUNNEN, \$260/6 (\$65)**

★★★★★

Screw cap. This is an excellent dry Riesling: supple, full bodied, and medium rich; a wine with complex character (honey, dried fig, honeysuckle, peach), good balance, and a medium long finish. It is on the fuller side in terms of style, and will gain depth and complexity as it ages. AP #028. VDP.Grosse Lage. 12.5% [2016-2021] Maverick Wine Company, Bensenville, IL 630.860.4600

**WEINGUT BARON KNYPHAUSEN,**  
**2012 ERBACHER STEINMORGEN**  
**QUALITÄTSWEIN, \$300/6 (\$75)**

★★★★★

Screw cap. Fine Riesling: round, medium bodied, and floral and fruity in character (peach, pineapple, apple blossom, lime), with firm acidity, good balance, and a very long finish. Still quite young; warrants further aging. 0.85% R.S. AP #020. VDP.Erste Lage. 12% [2017-2021] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424



**WEINGUT BATTENFELD SPANIER**

- 2013 'GG' MOLSHEIM ZELLERWEG, AM SCHWARZEN HERRGOTT QUALITÄTWEIN TROCKEN, \$260/6 (\$65) ★★★★★
- 2013 'GG' FRAUENBERG, NIEDER-FLORSHEIM FRAUENBERG, \$300/6 (\$75) ★★★★★
- 2013 'GG' KIRCHENSTUCK, HOHEN-SULZEN KIRCHENSTUCK, \$320/6 (\$80) ★★★★★

Battenfeld Spanier is a progressive, organic and biodynamic producer of top quality Riesling and Pinot Noir. These three 2013s are remarkable dry Rieslings, each with a distinctive personality, but all sharing attributes of elegance and finesse. Of them, the Molsheim Zellerweg is a luscious but refined wine with intense character (lime, honey, honeysuckle, toast, peach), excellent balance, and a long, harmonious finish. AP #32. VDP.Grosse Lage. 12.5% The Frauenberg is a richer wine. It is fleshy in texture, medium full bodied, and fairly rich, tasting of peach, honey, lime, pineapple, and wood. It is well balanced and very long on the finish. Outstanding quality. AP #31. VDP.Grosse Lage. 12.5% The Kirchenstuck, too, is exceptional: a supple, ripely flavored wine with impressive depth of fruit, firm acidity, a hint of oak, and a very long finish. In aroma/flavor, it tastes of apple, lime, honey, pineapple, and honeysuckle. AP #30. VDP.Grosse Lage. 12.5% All three wines will develop with additional bottle aging. [2017-2022] Domaine Select Merchants, New York, NY 212.279.0799

*Telephone numbers are main office numbers of producers, agents, and importers of wines and other beverages reviewed.*

**WEINGUT BURG RAVENSBURG, 2013 'GG'**  
**HUSARENKAPPE, SULZFELD BURG**  
**RAVENSBURGER HUSARENKAPPE, \$240/6 (\$60)**

★★★★★

Superb dry Riesling from this historic vineyard. It is refined in character, full bodied, supple, and well balanced, with a very long, persistent finish. In aroma/flavor, it tastes of linden blossom, peach, honeysuckle, pineapple, and lime. Warrants several years of aging. Organic. AP #023. VDP.Grosse Lage. 14% [2016-2021] European Wine Imports, Cleveland, OH 216.426.0979

**WEINGUT DOMDECHANT WERNER,**  
**2013 'GG' DOMDECHANAY, HOCHHEIMER**  
**DOMDECHANAY, \$240/6 (\$60)**

★★★★★

Screw cap. Terrific Domdechanay. It is a finely balanced, luscious wine that is full bodied, long on the palate, and crisp and harmonious on the finish. It tastes of white peach, honey, honeysuckle, straw, honeydew melon, and dried fig. Warrants moderate aging. 0.87% R.S. AP #019. 13% [2017-2020] Slocum Imports, North Haven, CT, 203.239.3254

**WEINGUT DR. BURKLIN-WOLF**

- 2013 WACHENHEIMER RECHBACHEL, \$220/6 (\$55) ★★★★★
- 2013 GAISBOHL G.C., MONOPOL RUPPERTSBERGER GAISBOHL, \$320/6 (\$80) ★★★★★+

Burklin-Wolf made excellent Rieslings in 2013. The Rechbachel is of very fine quality: round, medium full bodied, and balanced, it is a crisp wine with intense fruitiness (grapefruit, pineapple, lime, green apple, peach), and a smooth, long finish. Organic & biodynamic. AP #22. VDP.Erste Lage. 12.5% The Gaisbohl is somewhat fuller. It is a concentrated Riesling that is medium full bodied, round, balanced, and intensely flavored (grapefruit, pineapple, lime, honeysuckle), with vibrant acidity and a long finish. Organic & biodynamic. AP #27. VDP.Grosse Lage. 13% Both wines warrant further aging. [2016-2020] Verity Wine Partners, New York, NY 212.683.8763

**WEINGUT DR. VON BASSERMANN-JORDAN**

- 2013 'GG' HOHENMORGEN, DEIDESHEIMER HOHENMORGEN, \$332/6 (\$83) ★★★★★
- 2013 'GG' JESUITENGARTEN, FORSTER JESUITENGARTEN, \$332/6 (\$83) ★★★★★
- 2013 'GG' PECHSTEIN, FORSTER PECHSTEIN, \$332/6 (\$83) ★★★★★

Bassermann-Jordan made very fine 2013 dry Rieslings from its top vineyards. The Hohenmorgen is exceptional: supple, full bodied, crisp, and very long on the palate; a wine with refined, elegant character (pear, honey, apricot skin, peach, pineapple, lime), racy acidity, and a very persistent finish. Very fine quality. VDP.Grosse Lage AP #21. 13% The Jesuitengarten is superb: a rich, supple wine that is full bodied, well balanced, and very long on the palate (with aromas/flavors reminiscent of lime, pineapple, passion fruit, peach, and honeysuckle), and a very long, crisp finish. One of the wines of the vintage. VDP.Grosse Lage AP #10. 13% Lastly, the Pechstein—a wonderful dry Riesling: very fruity and floral in character (peach, honeysuckle, passion fruit, papaya, grapefruit), it is round, full bodied, crisp, and rich and long on the finish. Excellent persistence. VDP.Grosse Lage AP #33. 13% All three wines warrant additional bottle aging. [2017-2022] Magellan Wine Imports, Highlands Ranch, CO 720.272.6544

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**WEINGUT DR. HEGER, 2013 SILVANER, IHRINGER WINKLERBERG, \$200 (\$25)** ★★★★★

Very fine quality. This single vineyard Silvaner is medium bodied, supple, and intensely flavored; a wine with good depth of fruit (ripe grapes, yellow plum, honey, melon, lemon peel), and a long, rich finish. Exceptional value. AP #02. 12% [2016-2018] Schatzi Wines, Milan, NY 845.266.0376

**WEINGUT HANS WIRSCHING, 2013 SILVANER, IPHOFER KALB, KABINETT TROCKEN, \$192 (\$24)** ★★★★★

Screw cap. Delicious Silvaner: supple, medium bodied, and fruity and spicy in flavor (honey, white pepper, candied lemon, pineapple), with good balance and a crisp, long finish. Great value. AP #024. 1,583 cases. 11.8% [2016-2020] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**WEINGUT HEITLINGER, 2013 SPICY STONE, GRAUBURGUNDER/PINOT GRIS, BADEN, \$192 (\$24)** ★★★★★

Screw cap. Delicious Pinot Gris. It is supple in texture, medium full bodied, and long on the palate, with excellent flavor (peach, lemon peel, passion fruit, roasted nut) and a very long, crisp finish. Exceptional. AP #131. 12.5% [2015-2016] WineWise, Oakland, CA 510.473.548, and others

**WEINGUT HORST SAUER**

- 2013 JUST WEISS, FRANKEN, \$128 (\$16) ★★★★★
- 2013 SILVANER, ESCHERNDORFER LUMP KABINETT TROCKEN, \$176 (\$22) ★★★★★+

Both wines have screw cap closures. Just Weiss is extremely aromatic; a round, medium bodied, spicy-floral-fruity wine of excellent quality. It is long on the palate, balanced, and lingering on the finish. Excellent value. Blend of Muller-Thurgau and Riesling. AP #029. VDP.Gutswein. 12% The single vineyard Silvaner is excellent: a supple, medium bodied wine with good depth of fruit (pear, apple, honey, lime), good balance, and a medium long finish. Fine quality. AP #025. 12% [2016-2018] Wine Without Borders, Carrboro, NC 919.260.4438

**WEINGUT MAX FERD. RICHTER, 2013 WEISSBURGUNDER, MOSEL, \$160 (\$20)** ★★★★★

Screw cap. A round, medium+ bodied Pinot Blanc with good depth of fruit (apple, peach, apricot, lemon peel), and a crisp, long finish. Excellent value. AP #06. 400 cases. 12% [2015-2016] Langdon-Shiverick, Los Angeles, CA 213.483.5900

**WEINGUT PFEFFINGEN, 2013 DRY SCHEUREBE, PFALZ, \$160 (\$20)** ★★★★★

Screw cap. An elegant, medium bodied Scheurebe. It has spicy, floral, fruity character, moderate depth, good balance, and a medium length finish. Fine value. AP #11. 11.5% [2016-2017] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**WEINGUT PFLUGER, 2013 QUARZIT, WEISSBURGUNDER, PFALZ, \$184 (\$23)** ★★★★★+

Screw cap. A medium full bodied, supple, lightly oaked Pinot Blanc of excellent quality. It is fruity in character (pear, apple, white peach), crisp, and long on the finish, displaying a mild toastiness. Will develop with modest aging. Organic. AP #13. 833 cases. 12.5% [2016-2017] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**WEINGUT WAGNER-STEMPEL, 2013 WEISSBURGUNDER, RHEINHESSEN, \$172 (\$21.50)** ★★★★★

Screw cap. Exceptional Pinot Blanc. It is intensely flavored, medium full bodied, and crisp, with excellent flavor (apple, pear, lemon peel) and a very long finish. Top quality and value. Warrants modest aging. AP #04. 12.5% [2016-2018] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**OTHER DRY/TROCKEN GERMAN WHITES — High Priced: \$201-\$400/case (\$25.10-\$50/btl. full retail)**

*NOTE: Dry wines are all QUALITÄTSWEIN TROCKEN except where noted otherwise.*

**FRANZ KELLER**

- 2013 PINOT BLANC, BADEN, \$116/6 (\$29) ★★★★★+
- 2013 PINOT GRIS, BADEN, \$116/6 (\$29) ★★★★★

Both wines have screw cap closures. The Pinot Blanc is a medium bodied, supple wine with pear, roasted nut, lime, and banana aromas/flavors. It has moderate intensity, good balance, and a medium long finish. Very good quality. AP #01. 12% The Pinot Gris is medium bodied and crisp in style; an elegant wine with lime, apple, pear, and lemon peel aromas/flavors. Long, crisp finish. A zesty style. Excellent. AP #02. 12% [2015-2016] Schmitt Soehne, Millersville, MD 410.729.4083

**FURSTLICH CASTELL'SCHES DOMANENAMT**

- 2013 SILVANER, CASTELLER KUGELSPIEL, \$272 (\$34) ★★★★★
- 2013 SILVANER, CASTELLER HOHNART, \$272 (\$34) ★★★★★
- 2013 SILVANER, CASTELLER KIRCHBERG, \$304 (\$38) ★★★★★
- 2013 SILVANER, CASTELLER TRAUTBERG, \$304 (\$38) ★★★★★

The Castell family is credited with planting the first Silvaner vines in Franconia—and Germany. Twenty five Silvaner vines were provided by Cistercian monks who cultivated the vines in Austria to the Castell family, who had them planted on April 6th, 1659 at the bottom of the Castell Schlossberg. The vines thrived and produced quality wine—and the variety spread in Franconia from there. These four single vineyard Silvaners, from neighboring vineyards in the village of Castell, are excellent. (All four wines have screw cap closures.) The Kugelspiel is supple, moderately rich in flavor, full bodied, and complex in character (honey, white pepper, lime, lemon grass, apple), and long on the finish. Fine quality. AP #043. 375 cases. VDP.Erste Lage. 13% The Hohnart is exceptional: a rich, supple, ripely flavored wine that is full bodied, long on the palate, and persistent in the finish. In aroma/flavor, it tastes of white peach, lime, honey, green apple, and white pepper. AP #044. 500 cases. VDP.Erste Lage. 13% The Kirchberg is outstanding: full bodied, round, and finely flavored; a wine with subtle richness, and a very long finish, tasting of honey, lime, white pepper, grapefruit, and green apple. Great value. AP #046. 183 cases. VDP.Erste Lage. 13% Lastly, the Trautberg—an elegant Silvaner of outstanding quality. It is fragrant, quite rich, crisp, well balanced, and very long on the finish, tasting of lemon, white pepper, green apple, lime, and honey. AP #047. 183 cases. VDP.Erste Lage. 13% All four wines will develop with additional bottle aging. [2016-2020] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

*Labels and images that appear in all issues are not paid advertisements.*

**JULIUSSPITAL**

**JULIUSSPITAL, ★★★★★**  
**2013 SILVANER,**  
**RODELSEER**  
**KUCHENMEISTER,**  
**\$240 (\$30)**

Screw cap. A rich, full bodied, supple Silvaner that is intensely flavored (honey, peach, pineapple, white pepper, lemon) and crisp and persistent on the finish. Exceptional value. Warrants modest aging. AP #050. 1,250 cases. VDP.Erste Lage. 13.5% [2016-2020] Northwest Wines, San Francisco, CA 415.665.9013

**SCHLOSSKELLEREI C. VON SCHUBERT, ★★★★★**  
**2012 WEISSBURGUNDER, MAXIMIN**  
**GRUNHAUSER, \$256 (\$32)**

Excellent Pinot Blanc. It is supple and ripe in style, with medium full body, evident complexity, and a crisp, long finish tasting of candied lemon, lime, green apple, and honey. Fine quality. AP #4. 12.5% [2015-2018] Loosen Bros. USA, Salem, OR 503.984.3041

**WEINGUT DR. HEGER – Ihringer Winklerberg**

- **2013 WEISSBURGUNDER, \$152/6 (\$38) ★★★★★+**
- **2013 GRAUBURGUNDER, \$312 (\$39) ★★★★★**

The terraced vineyards of Winklerberg, in Ihring, produce some of Baden's best white and red wines. Both of these 2013s are excellent: the Pinot Blanc is first rate: full bodied, medium rich, finely flavored, and crisp; a wine with evident complexity, good balance, and a very persistent finish, tasting of lemon peel, apple, pear, crème brulee, oak, and vanilla. AP #14. 13% the Pinot Gris is exceptional: ripe, full bodied, and complex in style; a wine with full body, good depth of flavor, and a long finish, tasting of lime, pear, vanilla, spicy oak, and passion fruit. Excellent value. AP #16. 13% [2016-2018] Schatzi Wines, Milan, NY 845.266.0376

**WEINGUT HANS WIRSCHING – Iphofer Kronsberg**

- **2013 WEISSBURGUNDER, ALTE REBEN, SPATLESE TROCKEN, \$256 (\$32) ★★★★★**
- **2013 SCHEUREBE, ALTE REBEN, SPATLESE TROCKEN, \$392 (\$49) ★★★★★+**
- **2013 SILVANER, ALTE REBEN, SPATLESE TROCKEN, \$304 (\$38) ★★★★★**

All three wines have screw cap closures, and are from old vine parcels in the Iphofer Kronsberg vineyard, considered one of Franconia's best. The

Pinot Blanc is excellent: elegant in style, full bodied, and quite youthful; a wine with supple texture, firm acidity, and a long finish, tasting of pear, roasted nut, vanilla, lemon peel, and pineapple. 0.52% R.S. AP #031. 750 cases. VDP.Erste Lage. 13.3% The Scheurebe is extremely distinct: very aromatic (grapefruit, honeysuckle, apple, lemon grass), round and full bodied on the palate, with excellent depth of fruit, and a very long, spicy-floral aftertaste. 0.68% R.S. AP #030. 416 cases. VDP.Erste Lage. 13.7% The Silvaner is exceptional: supple, rich, and full bodied; a wine with complex character (pineapple, white pepper, honey, lemon grass), excellent balance, and a very long finish. Very fine quality. AP #044. 583 cases. VDP.Erste Lage. 13.5% All three wines warrant additional bottle aging. [2017-2021] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**WEINGUT HEITLINGER, ★★★★★+**  
**2013 GRAUBURGUNDER, 'GG' SPIEGELBERG,**  
**TIEFENBACHER SPIEGELBERG, \$180/6 (\$45)**

Screw cap. Full bodied and intensely flavored, this is a crisp, complex Pinot Gris with good balance and a very long finish, tasting of pear, apple, almond, apricot, vanilla, toast, and lemon peel. Warrants further aging. Organically grown grapes. VDP Grosse Lage. AP #132. 13% [2015-2017] WineWise, Oakland, CA 510.473.548, and others

**WEINGUT HORST SAUER**

- **2012 WEISSER BURGUNDER S., ★★★★★+**  
**ESCHERNDORFER FURSTENBER, TROCKEN,**  
**\$280 (\$35)**
- **2013 SILVANER S., ESCHERNDORFER LUMP, ★★★★★**  
**\$240 (\$30)**

Both wines have screw cap closures and are Spatlese Trockens. The Pinot Blanc is very good quality: ripely flavored, supple, full bodied, and long on the palate, with aromas/flavors of peach, lemon peel, and honey. Aged 18 months in oak barrels, partially new. AP #053. 13.5% The single vineyard Silvaner is exceptional: full bodied, fleshy in texture, intensely flavored, well balanced, and long on the finish, tasting of pear, honey, apple, candied lemon, and lime. Great value. AP #037. VDP.Erste Lage. 13% Both wines warrant additional bottle aging. [2016-2020] Wine Without Borders, Carrboro, NC 919.260.4438

**WEINGUT PFEFFINGEN, ★★★★★**  
**2013 GEWURZTRAMINER, UNGSTEIN, \$250 (\$30)**

Screw cap. Superb dry Gewurz. Very distinct in character (litchi nut, lime, green apple, honeysuckle), full bodied, and quite rich; a wine with excellent depth and balance, and a very long finish. First rate. Warrants further aging. VDP.Ortswein. AP #13. 13% [2016-2018] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**WEINGUT SCHNAITMANN**

- **2012 SAUVIGNON BLANC, IFLINGER, ★★★★★**  
**'3 STERN' WURTTEMBERG, \$168/6 (\$42)**
- **2013 SILVANER, SCHNAIT, '3 STERN' ★★★★★+**  
**WURTTEMBERG, \$336 (\$42)**

Both wines have screw cap closures. The Sauvignon is supple and full bodied; an oak-influenced style of Sauvignon. It has intense character (lemon grass, apple, papaya, grapefruit), with overtones of honey, toast, and oak. Very long finish. AP #60. 13.5% The Silvaner is also quite full and complex in style. It is supple, full bodied, intensely flavored (yellow plum, apple, pineapple, candied lemon, toast, light oakiness), well balanced, and very long on the finish. Very fine quality. AP #14. 13% Both wines can be aged a bit. [2016-2018] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

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**OTHER RICH/SWEET GERMAN WHITES — Expensive:  
\$401-\$800/case (\$50.10-\$100/btl. full retail)**

**WEINGUT HANS WIRSCHING, 2013 SILVANER, ★★★★★+  
IPHOFFER KALB AUSLESE, \$360/12 375 m.l. (\$30/375 m.l.)**  
Excellent Silvaner Auslese. It is light bodied, rich, well balanced, and very long and persistent on the finish, tasting of honey, spearmint, peach, candied lemon, and pineapple. Needs aging. 9.35% R.S. AP #055. 416 cases. 9.4% [2017-2021] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**GERMAN ROSE — Medium Priced:  
\$65-\$144/case (\$8.10-\$18/btl. full retail)**

**WEINGUT PAUL ANHEUSER, 2013 BLANC DE NOIR, PINOT NOIR NAHE QUALITÄTSWEIN, \$136 (\$17) ★★★★★+**  
Screw cap. Very pale pinkish yellow. Delicately flavored, medium bodied, and balanced, this is an excellent Blanc de Noir, tasting of cherry, grapes, and pear. Excellent value. 1.56% R.S. AP #039. 11.5% [2015-2016] Winesellers, Ltd., Niles, IL 847.647.1100

**GERMAN ROSE — High Priced:  
\$145-\$280/case (\$18.10-\$35/btl. full retail)**

**SCHLOSSGUT DIEL, 2013 ROSE DE DIEL, SPATBURGUNDER, NAHE, \$256 (\$32) ★★★★★**  
Light salmon pink color. Very fragrant in character (strawberry, pineapple, watermelon, plum), this is a rich, medium full bodied, well balanced rose of exceptional quality. Has a hint of tannin, and will continue to evolve over the next year or two. Remarkable quality. AP #06. 12.5% [2016-2017] Skurnik Wines & Spirits, Syoset, NY 516.677.9300

**WEINGUT SCHNAITMANN, 2013 EVOE! ROSE, WURTTEMBERG, \$164 (\$20.50) ★★★★★**  
Screw cap. Light orangish pink color. Delicious dry rose. It is medium bodied, intensely flavored (pineapple, raspberry, plum, toast), crisp, and very long and persistent on the finish. Great value. Blend of Pinot Noir and Trollinger. AP #018. 11% [2015-2016] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**GERMAN PINOT NOIR (SPATBURGUNDER) — Low Priced:  
Up to \$100/case (Up to \$12.50/btl. full retail)**

**P.J. VALCKENBERG, 2013 UNDONE, RHEINHESSEN QUALITÄTSWEIN, \$96 (\$12) ★★★★★+**  
Screw cap. Excellent value! It is distinct and fruity in character, medium bodied, smoothly textured, and medium long on the finish, tasting of plum, red currant, and cherry. Hard to beat at the price. Unwooded. AP #038/14. 1,500 cases. 12% [2015-2016] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**GERMAN PINOT NOIR (SPATBURGUNDER) — Medium Priced:  
\$101-\$240/case (\$12.60-\$30/btl. full retail)**

*Note: All wines are QUALITÄTSWEIN TROCKEN.*

**WEINGUT BURG RAVENSBURG, 2012 BADEN, KRAICHGAU, \$176 (\$22) ★★★★★**  
Screw cap. A vibrant, full bodied wine that is crisp and long on the palate, and extremely persistent in the finish. It is a medium rich style, with fine balanced, and delicious fine character (plum, rosehips, raspberry, red currant), with toasty, spicy oak AP #30/13. 13% [2015-2017] European Wine Imports, Cleveland, OH 216.426.0979

**WEINGUT DR. HEGER, 2012 PINOT NOIR, BADEN, \$184/12 liters (\$23/liter) ★★★★★**  
Very fine quality: a round, full bodied, medium rich Pinot Noir with good flavor and balance, and a long, lightly tannic finish, tasting of black cherry, toast, nutmeg, and plum. Great value! Warrants modest aging. AP #13/14. 13.5% [2016-2018] Schatzi Wines, Milan, NY 845.266.0376

**WEINGUT HEITLINGER, 2012 MELLOW SILK, BADEN, KRAICHGAU, \$200 (\$25) ★★★★★+**  
Screw cap. An excellent wine: round, fairly rich, and complex in flavor; a wine with intense fruitiness (red currant, plum, cherry) and light oakiness (toast, spicy oak), with overtones of nutmeg and kola nut. It is well balanced and long on the finish. AP #01/13. 13% [2015-2017] WineWise, Oakland, CA 510.473.548, and others

**WEINGUT DES GRAFEN NEIPPERG, 2012 WURTTEMBERG, \$208 (\$26) ★★★★★**  
Screw cap. Excellent Pinot Noir, in an elegant, balanced style. It is supple in texture, full bodied, and finely flavored (plum, cherry, rose petal), with good balance and a medium long finish. AP #030/13. 13% [2015-2017] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**JOACHIM HEGER, 2012 PINOT NOIR, BADEN, \$216/12 1 liter (\$27/liter) ★★★★★**  
Screw cap. Great Pinot Noir value. It is full bodied, fruity and spicy in flavor (red currant, cherry, raspberry, pepper, clove, oak), with moderate depth, and a very long finish. AP #62/14. 13.5% [2015-2017] Schatzi Wines, Milan, NY 845.266.0376

**WEINGUT FRANZ KELLER, 2012 BADEN, \$112/6 (\$28) ★★★★★**  
An excellent Pinot Noir in a ripe, full bodied style. It is balanced, moderately rich (cherry, red currant, plum, toast, oak), and long on the finish, with light tannin. Will develop further over the next 1-2 years. AP #06/14. 13% [2016-2017] Schmitt Soehne, Millersville, MD 410.729.4083

**WEINGUT PFLUGER, 2012 DURKHEIMER, \$224 (\$28) ★★★★★**  
An excellent Pinot Noir, quite similar to those from Oregon in structure. It is floral, fruity, and spicy/herbal in character, crisp, and long on the finish, with modest tannin. Will develop over the next few years. Organic. AP #08. 416 cases. 13% [2016-2018] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**WEINGUT A. CHRISTMANN, 2012 PFALZ, \$240 (\$30) ★★★★★**  
Outstanding Pinot Noir, and a great value. It is velvety in texture, very ripe in flavor (plum, cherry, raspberry), well balanced, and smooth and long on the finish. Can be aged a bit. Organic. AP #600/13. 750 cases. 13% [2015-2017] Domaine Select Merchants, New York, NY 212.279.0799

**WEINGUT BARON KNYPHAUSEN, 2013 RHEINGAU, \$240 (\$30) ★★★★★**  
Exceptional. It is supple in texture, full bodied, and intensely fruity, with very distinctive character (cherry, red currant, plum, white pepper), good balance, and a long finish. Will develop with further aging. Delicious. 11.5% [2015-2017] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**GERMAN PINOT NOIR (SPATBURGUNDER) — High Priced:  
\$231-\$600/case (\$30.10-\$75/btl. full retail)**

**JOACHIM HEGER, 2012 VITUS, BADEN, \$264 (\$33) ★★★★★**  
Round, full bodied, and fruity and lightly toasty in style, it is moderately intense, balanced, and mildly tannic on the finish, tasting of strawberry, herbs, toast, and plum. Very good value. AP #45/14. 13.5% [2015-2017] Schatzi Wines, Milan, NY 845.266.0376



**WEINGUT DES GRAFEN NEIPPERG, 2012 NEIPPERGER, WURTTENBERG, \$304 (\$38)** ★★★★★  
 Supple in texture, full bodied, and moderately rich in flavor, this is a balanced wine with plum, cherry, black pepper, and rosehips aromas/flavors, and a persistent finish. Can be aged a bit. AP #1/12. 224 cases. 13% [2015-2017] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**WEINGUT SCHNAITMANN, 2013 JUNGE REBEN, 3 STERN, WURTTENBERG, \$336 (\$42)** ★★★★★+  
 Screw cap. A youthful, supple, full bodied Pinot Noir with medium richness, intense fruitiness (plum, cherry, black pepper, pomegranate), and spicy oak overtones (toast, cedar). It is long on the palate, and very persistent. From young vines. Fine value. Can be aged a bit AP #029. 13.5% [2016-2017] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**WEINGUT BURG RAVENSBURG, 2012 'GG' LOCHLE, SULZFELD BURG RAVENSBURGER LOCHLE, \$180/6 (\$45)** ★★★★★  
 Fleishy and rich, this is an outstanding single vineyard Pinot Noir. It is full bodied, complex and intense in flavor (cherry, raspberry, red currant, toast, spicy oak), and very long on the finish. Warrants further aging. VDP Grosse Lage. AP #103/14. 13.5% [2015-2018] European Wine Imports, Cleveland, OH 216.426.0979

**WEINGUT HEITLINGER, 2012 'GG' KONIGSBECHER, ODENHEIMER KONIGSBECHER, \$180/6 (\$45)** ★★★★★  
 Screw cap. A fragrant, full bodied Pinot Noir that is intensely flavored (raspberry, plum, cassis, kola nut, toast, oak), crisp, and very long on the finish. Warrants modest aging. Excellent. VDP.Grosse Lage. AP#202/14. 13.5% [2016-2018] WineWise,Oakland, CA 510.473.548, and others

**WEINGUT FRANZ KELLER, 2012 FRANZ ANTON, BADEN, \$184/6 (\$46)** ★★★★★  
 Supple and complex, this is a medium full wine with good character. It is full bodied, balanced, lightly oaked, and long on the finish, tasting of cherry, rosehips, plum, nutmeg, and tobacco. AP #15/14. 13% [2016-2017] Schmitt Soehne, Millersville, MD 410.729.4083

**WEINGUT DR. HEGER, 2012 MIMUS, IHRINGER WINKLERBERG, \$ (50)** ★★★★★  
 Fleishy and full bodied, this is a luscious, fairly rich, complex Pinot Noir of excellent quality. It has ripe fruit character (plum, cherry, red currant), with spicy oak overtones, and a very long finish. Delicious! AP #49/14. 13% [2016-2020] Schatzi Wines, Milan, NY 845.266.0376

**WEINGUT JULIUSSPITAL, 2012 WURZBURGER PFAFFENBERG, \$440 (\$55)** ★★★★★+  
 Screw cap. Delicious Pinot Noir, in a full bodied, supple, complex style. It has ripe fruit, herb, spice, and oak aromas/flavors, and a lightly tannic finish. Similar in style to many Oregon Pinot Noirs. Excellent. AP #073/14. 333 cases. 14% [2016-2018] Northwest Wines, San Francisco, CA

**WEINGUT SCHNAITMANN, 2012 SIMONROTH S., WURTTENBERG, \$260/6 (\$65)** ★★★★★  
 Outstanding Pinot Noir: fleshy, rich, and complex; a full bodied, fairly powerful wine with layers of flavor, excellent balance, and a very long, lightly tannic finish, tasting of raspberry, plum, boysenberry, toast, spicy oak, and black pepper. Warrants modest aging. AP #33. 13.5% [2016-2018] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**WEINGUT BARON KNYPHAUSEN, 2013 BREBORN, RHEINGAU, \$300/6 (\$75)** ★★★★★  
 Opaque color. Very full and ripe in style; a fleshy, rich wine with berry jam, red currant, nutmeg, and spicy oak aromas/flavors, and a full, long finish. Warrants further aging. 15% [2016-2019] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**WEINGUT BERNHARD HUBER**  
 • **2012 BADEN, \$152/6 (\$38)** ★★★★★+  
 • **2011 ALTE REBEN, BADEN, \$300/6 (\$75)** ★★★★★  
 • **2012 ALTE REBEN, BADEN, \$300/6 (\$75)** ★★★★★  
 Huber is the leading German Pinot Noir producer (Bernhard passed away last year). The 'entry level' Pinot Noir is from 6 to 12 year old vines. The 2012 is excellent: intensely flavored and full bodied; a vibrant, balanced wine with excellent flavor (plum, red currant, clove, rosehips, nutmeg, raspberry) and length. One of the best versions of this wine that I have tasted. 13.5% The Alte Reben Pinot Noir is produced from 20 to 40 year old vines in Malterdingen. The 2011 is outstanding: a beautifully fragrant wine (rose petal, plum, clove, red currant, cocoa, cherry, toast) that is full bodied but crisp and long on the palate, with a vibrant, persistent finish. Exceptional! Aged 18 months in oak barrels. AP #20. 1,667 cases. 13% The 2012 Alte Reben is fuller in style: a fleshy, full bodied, rich wine in the style of a top Nuits St. Georges or Gevrey-Chambertin. It is complex in flavor (plum, cassis, toast, spicy oak, tobacco, red currant, black pepper), long on the palate, and very persistent. 13.5% The Alte Reben bottlings warrant several more years of aging.[2016-2020] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**GERMAN PINOT NOIR (SPATBURGUNDER) — Expensive: \$600-\$1200/case (\$75.10-\$150/btl. full retail)**

*Note: All wines are QUALITÄTSWEIN TROCKEN.*

**SCHLOSSGUT DIEL, 2012 CAROLINE, NAHE, \$400/6 (\$100)** ★★★★★+  
 Very fine quality. This is a supple, full bodied, and unusually complex wine. It is medium rich, very complex in flavor (toast, tobacco, red currant, sour cherry, dark chocolate, vanilla), and long and harmonious on the finish. Warrants further aging. 13.5% [2017-2020] Skurnik Wines & Spirits, Syosset, NY 516.677.9300

**WEINGUT BATTENFELD SPANIER, 2012 'GG' KIRCHENSTUCK, HOHEN-SULZEN KIRCHENSTUCK, \$320/6 (\$80)** ★★★★★  
 A complex, refined Pinot Noir of outstanding quality. It is supple in texture, medium full bodied, beautifully balanced, and refined in character (rose petal, cherry, plum, red currant), with spicy oak overtones. Very long finish. First rate. Organic. Aged in large oak casks. AP #39. VDP. Grosse Lage. 13% [2015-2018] Domaine Select Merchants, New York, NY 212.279.0799

**BERNHARD HUBER**  
 • **2011 R, 'GG' SOMMERHALDE, BOMBACHER SOMMERHALDE, \$444/6 (\$111)** ★★★★★  
 • **2012 R, 'GG' SOMMERHALDE, BOMBACHER SOMMERHALDE, \$444/6 (\$111)** ★★★★★+  
 • **2011 R, 'GG' BIENENBERG, MALTERDINGER BIENENBERG, \$444/6 (\$111)** ★★★★★  
 • **2012 R, 'GG' BIENENBERG, MALTERDINGER BIENENBERG, \$444/6 (\$111)** ★★★★★  
 • **2011 R, 'GG' SCHLOSSBERG, HECKLINGER ) SCHLOSSBERG, \$500/6 (\$125)** ★★★★★  
 • **2012 R, 'GG' SCHLOSSBERG, HECKLINGER SCHLOSSBERG, \$500/6 (\$125)** ★★★★★

Huber's top single vineyard bottlings are remarkable Pinot Noirs. The styles of the two vintages vary considerably: 2011 yielded more elegant Pinot Noirs (crisper, more perfumed—closer to Burgundy), while 2012 produced richer, fuller Pinot Noirs (more body, more depth—closer to California). Somerhalde is a 5.19 acre vineyard (2.1 hectares). The 2011 is fragrant and ripe in character (blueberry, cherry, toast, rosehips); a supple, full bodied, medium rich wine with firm acidity, fine balance, and a very long, harmonious finish. Superb. AP #22. 417 cases. 13% The 2012 Somerhalde is outstanding in its own right: fuller bodied and

somewhat richer, but with fine balance, complex and elegant flavors (cherry, rosehips, raspberry, toast, tobacco, oak), with a very long, lightly tannic finish. Aged in new oak barrels through the end of malolactic fermentation, then for 12 months in 2nd fill French oak barrels. 13.5% The Bienenberg vineyard (5.19 acres, 2.1 hectares) yields Pinot Noirs with a bit more power than those from Somerhalde. The 2011 Bienenberg is a major success; a stunning wine: very finely flavored (cranberry, cherry, blueberry, violet, toast, cocoa, spicy oak), supple, quite rich, and balanced; a Pinot Noir with a long palate evolution, and a very persistent finish. AP #21. 500 cases. 13% The 2012 Bienenberg is a fleshier and somewhat more concentrated wine. It, too, is exceptional: a supple, full bodied, rich, well balanced wine that is long on the palate, mildly tannic, and very persistent on the finish, tasting of cassis, sour cherry, rosehips, tobacco, and spicy oak. Aged 18 months in new French oak barrels. 13.5% The Schlossberg is a somewhat fuller wine yet, with a bit more breadth and depth than the others. The 2011 Schlossberg is full bodied and intensely flavored (plum, blueberry, cherry, cranberry, toast, oak), with evident richness, and a full, long, crisp finish, and very long flavor persistence. Superb. AP #23. 625 cases. 13% The 2012 Schlossberg is a show-stopper: velvety in texture and both concentrated and complex in flavor, it is ripe, quite rich, and well balanced, with a very long, mildly tannic finish, tasting of cassis, plum, red currant, toast, spicy oak, and tobacco. Aged 18 months in new French oak barrels. 13.5% All six wines warrant additional bottle aging. [2016-2020] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**WEINGUT DR. HEGER, 2012 'GG' WINKLERBERG ★★★★★  
IHRINGER WINKLERBERG, \$340/6 (\$85)**

Superb Pinot Noir, in a concentrated, complex style. It is rich, fleshy, full bodied, and fairly powerful, with a long palate evolution, and a firm, long finish. In aroma/flavor, it tastes of plum, blueberry jam, cassis, toast, cedar, tobacco, and spicy oak. AP #20/14. 13.5% [2017-2021] Schatz Wines, Milan, NY 845.266.0376

**WEINGUT SCHNAITMANN, 2012 'GG' ★★★★★  
LAMMLER BERGMANDEL, FELLBACHER  
LAMMLER BERGMANDEL, \$400/6 (\$100)**

Velvety in texture and full bodied, this is a rich, complex Pinot Noir with fine balance, firm acidity, and a long, lightly tannic finish. Concentrated, and youthful; a wine with spicy oak, plum, creme brulee, raspberry, toast, vanilla, and cherry aromas/flavors. AP #025/14. 13.5% [2017-2022] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**GERMAN PINOT NOIR (SPATBURGUNDER) — Very Expensive:  
\$1201/case & Up (\$150.10/btl. & Up full retail)**

*Note: Both wines are QUALITATSWEIN TROCKEN.*

**WEINGUT BERNHARD HUBER — Baden**

- **2011 R, 'GG' WILDENSTEIN, MALTERDINGER ★★★★★  
WILDENSTEIN, \$1,020/6 (\$255)**
- **2012 R, 'GG' WILDENSTEIN, ★★★★★  
MALTERDINGER WILDENSTEIN, \$1,020/6 (\$255)**

Wildenstein comes from a parcel of old vines in the Bienenberg vineyard, which is said to be where Cistercian monks first cultivated Pinot Noir in the area, around the year 1285. In style, the Wildenstein combines the elegance of the Sommerhalde and the fruit of the Bienenberg. The 2011 is a superb wine: extremely complex in character, supple in texture, crisp and very long on the palate, with very long persistence, reminiscent of cranberry, dark chocolate, toast, cherry, and rose petal. AP #24. 208 cases. 13% The 2012 Wildenstein is exceptional: rich, supple, and very complex in flavor (cherry, blueberry, rosehips, spicy oak, tobacco, cedar); a wine with full body, excellent depth and length, and a crisp, lightly tannic, persistent finish. Remarkable wine. 13.5% Both wines warrant additional bottle aging. [2017-2021] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**OTHER GERMAN RED WINE — Medium Priced:  
\$97-\$200/case (\$12.10-\$25/btl. full retail)**

*Note: Both wines are QUALITATSWEIN TROCKEN.*

**WEINGUT BURG RAVENSBURG, 2010 DICKER ★★★★★  
FRANZ, BLAUFRANKISCH, \$192 (\$24)**

A rich, oak-influenced Blaufrankisch that displays some bottle bouquet. It is round, full bodied, and balanced, with a medium long finish, tasting of black tea, herbs, toast, pepper, tobacco, and oak. AP #36/13 13.5% [2015-2016] European Wine Imports, Cleveland, OH 216.426.0979

**WEINGUT DES GRAFEN NEIPPERG, ★★★★★+  
2012 LEMBERGER, WURTTEMBERG, \$200 (\$25)**

Delicious Lemberger in a medium full, fruity style. It is supple in texture, well balanced, and fruity and spicy in flavor (cranberry, pepper, violet, plum), with a crisp, long finish. AP #03/12. 13% [2015-2016] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**OTHER GERMAN RED WINE — High Priced:  
\$201-\$400/case (\$25.10-\$50/btl. full retail)**

*Note: All three wines are QUALITATSWEIN TROCKEN.*

**WEINGUT PFLUGER, 2013 ST. LAURENT, ★★★★★  
FRIEDELSHEIMBER, \$224 (\$28)**

Delicious St. Laurent (a varietal cross between Pinot Noir and another variety, possibly Savagnin): supple in texture, full bodied, and intensely fruity (cranberry, cherry, blueberry), with overtones of white pepper, toast, and rose petal. It is quite and very long and balanced on the palate, with a lingering finish. Great value! Organic. AP #42. 416 cases. 14% [2015-2017] Valckenberg International, Tulsa, OK 918.622.0424

**WEINGUT SCHNAITMANN**

- **2013 LEMBERGER '2 STERN', ★★★★★+  
WURTTEMBERG, \$240 (\$30)**
- **2012 LEMBERGER SIMONROTH S., ★★★★★  
WURTTEMBERG, \$384 (\$48)**

Schnaitmann's Lembergers are not only among the best in Germany, but also the world. The 2013 (screw cap closure) is excellent: an aromatic, lightly toasty wine with distinctive character (red currant, raspberry, black pepper) and cedary, oaky overtones. It is crisp and long on the finish, with modest tannin. Great value. Warrants modest aging. AP #024. 13% The Simonroth bottling is outstanding: fleshy, full bodied, and richly flavored; a Lemberger with excellent depth, fine balance, and a smooth, long finish, tasting of cherry, cassis, black pepper, cedar, and pomegranate. Can be aged further. AP #028. 13.5% [2016-2020] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**OTHER GERMAN RED WINE — Expensive:  
\$401-\$800/case (\$50.10-\$100/btl. full retail)**

**WEINGUT SCHNAITMANN, ★★★★★  
2012 LEMBERGER, 'GG' BERGMANDEL,  
FELLBACHER LAMMLER BERGMANDEL  
QUALITATSWEIN TROCKEN, \$336/6 (\$84)**

Superb single vineyard Lemberger. It is concentrated, supple, complex, and well balanced wine with layers complexity, and a firm, long, lightly tannic finish. In aroma/flavor, it tastes of raspberry, rosehips, cherry, toast, cedar, spicy oak, and pepper. Pinot Noir-like, in the best sense. Aged 18 months in new oak barrels. Warrants moderate aging. AP #027. 13% [2017-2020] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499