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Paula Sidore

1 Nov 2022

Austria's top Rieslings in 2021



Paula's second report from this year's Traditionsweingüter tasting in Austria. Last week was Grüner Veltliner. Now we dive into Riesling, with the odd Weissburgunder and Carnuntum Blaufränkisch for good measure. Above, Sandra and Johannes Hirsch of Weingut Hirsch in Kamptal.

With Germany as your neighbour, growing a reputation for your Riesling isn't easy. The white-wine superstar makes up 24% of all Germany's vine plantings and is found in each of that nation's 13 winegrowing regions. That kind of dominance can suck all the air out of an international comparison. After all, Riesling doesn't even quite hit 5% of Austria's land under vine and is found primarily in a lean cluster of four regions along the Danube.

But what Austria lacks in numbers, it more than makes up in focus.

For starters, most Austrian Rieslings are dry. In a bow to climate and geography, Riesling feels quite at home in the exposed, stony terraces of the Wachau, Kremstal, Kamptal and Traisental. These outcrops provide the exposure needed for the fruit to reach full ripeness and, by extension, full fermentation to a dry wine. Add in large diurnal temperature shifts and plentiful wind, and you have conditions that eliminate the risk of complacency in the vines. They are challenged and thrive all the more for it.

But focus refers to Riesling style as well. The Austrian expression is not, by and large, what I would call playful. No nimble woodland sprites straight out of Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream* here. Austrian Rieslings are deliberate, driven, stony, sometimes steely, highly structured and often herbal. They tend to be fuller-bodied, more sinewy and less fruit-defined than their German counterparts. Yet, there is no skimping on the hallmark acidity and aromas. Vintage 2021 showcased this perhaps more than ever.

The downside of focus is that it doesn't leave a lot of cushion or hedge. Like a singer approaching a big solo, there's no room to slide into the right note. You have to commit and either hit it full-on the first time, or not at all. 'Acidity was the great challenge with Riesling in 2021', said Lorenz Haas-Allram of Weingut Allram in Kamptal in a recent email exchange. 'You had to accept and embrace it as a producer instead of worrying about the rather high levels or, worse, try to cover it with too much residual sugar or adjustment.'

Lorenz Haas-Allram with Ried Gaisberg in the background (image © Allram)

But those who did hit it, with focus no less, saw it resonate far and wide. '2021 was a very homogeneous vintage in terms of quality of appellation', continued Allram. 'Our younger Riesling vines from Gaisberg, which are the basis of our Riesling Strass, showed great ripeness and concentration. We actually had a hard time downgrading it to our village wine and not just adding it to our Gaisberg Riesling.'

Directions to the 'Gaisberg hiking trail' and below it the 'Erste Lagen tour'

Gaisberg, together perhaps with Heiligenstein, is always a favourite site to taste at this event. It is like an Austrian Mount Olympus: a terraced peak where the Hera and Zeus of the nation's winemaking, Grüner Veltliner and Riesling, reside in equal standing, bringing forth entirely singular expressions. 'The 2021 Rieslings are showing terroir already', said Johannes Hirsch of the eponymous **Kamptal** estate which produced admirable

expressions of both varieties, 'Even though these GVs are some of the best we've ever produced, the varietal aromas are still - at the moment - dominating the site character. It's a bit like discussing which is better: Bach or Beethoven, Haarland or Mbappé.'

After tasting both, I can affirm the only possible answer is 'yes, please'.

In the regions of **Traisental** and **Kremstal**, the Rieslings softened a bit, replacing that stony and powerful Kamptal edge with a more mouth-watering and loess-laced juiciness. The rains throughout spring and summer left a good reservoir and encouraged even flowering. Labour in the vineyard was intense, especially in the organically farmed estates - which constitute 15.3% of all Austrian winegrowing at the last count - but those who stayed the course were richly rewarded. After nine months of rain, a dry autumn with chilly nights was made to order for an excellent Riesling harvest. 'The grapes hung, picture-perfect, right up through early to mid November when we harvested them, botrytis-free and in peak form. One thing that stood out was the very low pH value even though the fruit was fully ripe. We needed only the smallest amount of sulphur, a significant indicator of very fresh and ageworthy wines', Patrick Proidl of Weingut Proidl in Kremstal confirmed to me. 'With the acceleration of climate change, Riesling is for me more exciting and holds an advantage [over Grüner Veltliner] because the acidity helps maintain good tension. But we rarely have problems with acidity in Senftenberg - often quite the opposite!'

Patrick Proidl of Weingut Proidl, Kremstal

(While Wachau is arguably one of Riesling's Austrian strongholds, those wines were tasted in a separate event hosted by the Vinea Wachau and will be the subject of a separate article.)

And then there is the Riesling coda, in this case a handful of beautiful Blaufränkisch from one of Austria's youngest DACs, **Carnuntum**. The best revealed a fruit purity and freshness that made them quite simply a joy to taste. There was not a trace of anything tired or stewed. The region has made incredible strides towards finding its signature style, and this vintage was infused with continued restraint, refinement and understanding of site. In fact, even the more ethereal, evergreen tension I was expecting from last year's wines was relaxed with a delightful and surprising juiciness. And yet there was more than enough structure to suggest that the youthful approachability would in no way compromise longevity. These wines will continue to develop for many years to come.

Among the 70 wines reviewed below, the many Rieslings are grouped by region, followed by a Weissburgunder group and finally the reds. Within each group the wines are presented in alphabetical order by producer, but you can reorder them to suit.

Select sorting option ▼

Riesling

Kamptal

Allram, Gaisberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Schist and gneiss.

Smoky, wet stone, apricot and orange, lemon balm. Vibrant concentration and racy verve. Yet, the charming juiciness belies a deep complexity and focused minerality. Cool acidity pulls a smoky, stony cloud in and out with the aromatic tides. Austere, drying salinity on the long finish. (PS)

13%

Drink

2022

-

2032

17

Brandl, Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Permian sandstone. Screwcap.

Savoury notes of lemon balm and an airy earthiness, summer fruit and rustic spice. Concentrated and dry, lemon-laced palate with textured grip and tangy charms. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2022

-
2030
16.5

Brandl, Kogelberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Crystalline rocks. Screwcap.

Lime sherbet, vineyard peach and orange blossom. Citrus tension on the still-quite-closed, chiselled palate; dark spice and an elegant grip. A bit demanding of attention initially, but the austere beauty makes it worth the effort. Surprisingly refined and balanced despite the higher alcohol levels. (PS)

13.5%
Drink
2024
-
2032
17 +

Bründlmayer, Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Permian sandstone.

Crystalline and shy, aromas of drying herbs, apricot stone. Near-perfect mix of juice, stone and salt on the palate, radiating with an inner energy and light. Captures the craggy texture and rocky soul of the vineyard without compromising the enchanting drinkability. Refined elegance and delight without ever resorting to compromise, charm or sugar. (PS)

13%
Drink
2023
-
2034
17.5

Bründlmayer, Steinmassl 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Kamptal

Crystalline rocks.

Lemon smoke and crushed stone. On the palate, ripe grapefruit and a delicate green and savoury character. Some lemon zest and white flowers. Unyielding acidic backbone straighter than a soldier standing at attention. Long, grippy finish. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2024

-

2034

17

Dolle, Gaisberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Crystalline rocks, schist, gneiss. Screwcap.

Crisp yellow fruits of peach and pear. A bit of stone, soft acidity, zippy and grippy with a grapefruit finish. Somewhat solid and robust for a Riesling. (PS)

13%

Drink

2022

-

2026

16

Ludwig Ehn, Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Kamptal

Permian sandstone. Screwcap.

Ripe orchard fruit with citrus concentration. Finely textured with an elegant and spicy finish. Delightfully juicy and nuanced. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2023

-

2030

17

Birgit Eichinger, Gaisberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Kamptal

Schist and gneiss.

Ripe citrus, peach and apricot, apple peel and wet stone. Juicy concentration, tending towards the citrus side of things. Not a lot of momentum but plenty of elegant spice and balanced weight. Thrilling acidity and a long, fruity finish. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2022

-

2030

16.5

Birgit Eichinger, Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Kamptal

Permian sandstone.

A dizzying and wild aromatic ride of honeysuckle, summer apple, wet wood, fine earth and lemon meringue pie. The juicy palate moves in citrus waves, each one crested with a shimmering minerality. Quiet tension soars within the stunning, generous beauty. (PS)

13%
Drink
2023
-
2033
17.5

Hiedler, Gaisberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Crystalline rocks.

Pure spice and stone, baked lemons, tropical fruit with an ethereal lift. Textured minerality and a searing acidity on the palate, cool fruit and flowers. More monolithic than refreshing in its current, youthful state; there really is a lot going on here. Looking forward to a bit more equilibrium in a few years' time. (PS)

13%
Drink
2024
-
2029
16.5 +

Hiedler, Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Permian sandstone.

A basket of pure summer bounty: lily, apricot, mandarin, forest honey and mashed apples. Fine grip on the generous and spicy palate. Beautiful concentration and a lounge-chair-like appeal, sink into the ease of it all and let the Riesling waves come as and when they will. (PS)

13%
Drink
2022
-
2026
16.5 +

Hiedler, Steinhaus 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Crystalline rocks. Screwcap.

Creamy yellow fruit, gentle spice, and a flinty, wet-stone, spontaneous-fermentation aroma. Animating lemon acidity, even if a bit straightforward on the taut, sweet-sour exchange. Long, zesty finish. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2022

-

2026

16

Hirsch, Gaisberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Mica schist. Screwcap.

Nuanced fruit aromas marked with a soft, herbal spice and a nearly invisible smoke. The taut palate moves in alternating waves of fruit, spring flowers and stone. Captivating citrus elevation and textured grip. Expressive, elegant and far from finished. (PS)

13%

Drink

2023

-

2032

17 +

Hirsch, Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Permian sandstone. Screwcap.

Rich white-stone-fruit aromas in a refreshing blend of juice and zest. Somewhat more opulent than the graceful Gaisberg, with a stony backbone and finely textured, chiffon-

thin layers of juice on the palate. Exceptionally lingering, spicy and long. (PS)

13%

Drink

2023

-

2032

17.5

Hirsch, Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Rotfels Riesling 2021

Kamptal

Permian sandstone. Screwcap.

Everything of the Heiligenstein, just squared. More lift, more refinement, more restraint. Complex fruit aromas skewing toward apricot and grapefruit, mandarin, meadow flowers and a persistent, delicate, smoky spice. Lithe and lean; complete. Tension and elegance, juice and stone. It transcends the variety in the pursuit of place. Sublime balance and infinitely approachable despite its youth. (PS)

13%

Drink

2022

-

2035

17.5 +

Jurtschitsch, Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Kamptal

Permian sandstone. Screwcap.

Alluring aromas of pomelo, preserved lemons and meadow flowers. It moves across the palate on wings of juice and flowers, weightless, and only the acidic string binds it to the earth, keeps it from floating away. Elegant tension and texture, exceptional balance. A mouthful of electric sunshine. (PS)

13%
Drink
2024
-
2035
18

Jurtschitsch, Loiserberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Loess, crystalline rocks. Screwcap.

Pure citrus delight. It's easy to overlook the complexity and nuance when under the spell of these juicy, magical charms. But fear not, this is far from a straightforward wine. Elegant and refreshing, with a supple spice and stony finesse. Bright, lively and linear, irrepressible drinkability. (PS)

13%
Drink
2023
-
2032
17.5 +

Loimer, Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Kamptal

Permian sandstone.

Candied fruit aromas, chamomile, and fresh herb notes. Dry and lithe, zesty citrus sophistication; more energy and light than fruit and spice. A layered beauty to truly express the stony, nuanced heart of the Heiligenstein. (PS)

12.5%
Drink
2023
-
2033
17.5

Loimer, Loiserberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Mica slate.

Cool red-apple aromas kissed with walnut skins, a touch of moss and alpine-spring water. Beautiful precision and focus atop taut acidity and linear, filigreed fruitiness. Balance and beauty. Elegant spice and a supple, zesty finish. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2023

-

2030

17.5

Loimer, Steinmassl 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Kamptal

Crystalline rocks.

Savoury, spicy, smoky. Ripe yellow plum and pear on a silken palate, transcending variety in favour of place. Juicy, gentle acidity and an elegant, spicy grip. Zesty finish. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2023

-

2031

16.5

Schloss Gobelsburg, Gaisberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Kamptal

Crystalline rocks.

Orange zest, bright tropical aromas (pineapple and star fruit) and deep herbal

undertones. Complex and clarion with a lithe structure and smoky minerality. Tropical finish lets in the sea breeze, even as the beach calls from the horizon. (PS)

13%
Drink
2023
-
2030
17.5

Schloss Gobelsburg, Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Kamptal

Permian sandstone.

Charming orange and grapefruit aromas mingle into a beautiful palate pulsating with acidity and light. Pepper spice and insane minerality, stony-craggy rather than smoky-sultry. Radiant with an elegant, lingering texture and grip. (PS)

13%
Drink
2022
-
2030
17

Steininger, Kogelberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Kamptal

Crystalline rocks. Screwcap.

Delightful aromas of orange and lime, apple blossom and apple peel. Delicate citrus on the juicy palate; lively acidity with a linear and honest charm. (PS)

13%
Drink
2022
-
2028

Steininger, Seeberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Crystalline rocks. Screwcap.

Aromas of ripe peach and mirabelle plums. Juicy with focused acidity. Lacking momentum and dimension right now. (PS)

13%

Drink

2024

-

2028

15.5

Steininger, Steinhaus 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kamptal

Crystalline rocks. Screwcap.

Yeasty, smoky, some lemon curd and meadow flowers. On the palate, lively acidity, tense concentration and a grippy citrus finish. (PS)

13%

Drink

2023

-

2029

16.5

Weszeli Terrafactum, Heiligenstein 1ÖTW Riesling 2017 Kamptal

Permian sandstone.

Rich aromas of poppy-seed cake, campfire, lemon curd and wet stone. Creamy, generous, apricot-laced palate with energy and momentum. Orange marmalade and white flowers.

Well balanced, showing a bit of maturity. Elegant and nuanced. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2022

-

2028

17

Weseli Terrafactum, Loiserberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 **Kamptal**

Crystalline rocks, clay marl. Screwcap.

Apple and plum aromas, some white flowers and suggestions of honey. On the compact palate, a racy citrus character emerges marked with earthy spice and a biting grip. Right now, it lacks the nuance and crystalline beauty of the others from the site - but give it time yet. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2023

-

2030

16.5 +

Weseli Terrafactum, Seeberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2017 **Kamptal**

Crystalline rocks.

Significant spice and a bit of smoke and maturity on the nose. Peach, yellow plum and orange blossom. Juicy spice on the complex palate with beautiful balance and elegant grip. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2022

-

2030

17

Weszeli Terrafactum, Steinmassl 1ÖTW Riesling 2017

Kamptal

Crystalline rocks.

Ripe citrus-fruit aromas linger into a supple, structured palate marked with spice and orange-zest grip. Juicy kumquats and sweet steamed milk. Balanced and remarkably fresh; enduring. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2022

-

2030

17.5

Kremstal

Geyerhof, Goldberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Kremstal

Calcareous conglomerate with loess.

Ripe stone-fruit and citrus aromas. Generous, leesy palate interwoven with the elegant lift of candied orange and meadow herbs. Beautiful concentration and balance even as the roundness tapers to a refreshing – even edgy – zesty finish. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2022

-

2030

16.5

Geyerhof, Kirchensteig 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Kremstal

Crystalline rocks.

Cool, delicate aromas of apple and lemon balm, meadow flowers. Elegant and expressive with crisp citrus layers atop a taut acid core. Fine-boned with a detailed mouthfeel and a shy spice edge. Thrilling, saline finish. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2022

-

2032

17

Malat, Pfaffenberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Kremstal

Crystalline rocks.

Generous notes of orange and pineapple. Bright citrus and apple underscored with fresh herbal nuances. An open, leesy beauty on the unctuous palate. Complex poise with an elegant energy and length. Saline kiss on the extremely long finish. (PS)

13%

Drink

2024

-

2034

17.5 +

Malat, Silberbichl 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Kremstal

Mica schist.

Crisp citrus complexity marked with delicate herbal notes. Dry and refreshingly juicy

palate harnessed within a stony, mineral net. Nimble and sprightly with fantastic energy and concentration. (PS)

13%

Drink

2024

-

2032

17.5

Malat, Steinbühel 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Kremstal

Crystalline rocks, granulite.

Smoky, exotic floral perfume, notes of ripe tropical and citrus fruit; expectations of opulence. Yet the palate is stony, piercing and stupendously tense. Initially closed then opens up, sleek, textured and orange; a fleeting window - little more than a glance - into the nascent wine's stony and complex soul. (PS)

13%

Drink

2025

-

2033

17 ++

Hermann Moser, Gebling 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kremstal

Loess. Screwcap.

Lemon curd and orange peel, fine spice. Aromas dance hand in hand across an easy-going palate. Creamy texture, good concentration and lifting acidity, a delight to drink. Although it works within the context of the wine, sugar is somewhat evident, lending weight and ease. Lingering lemon and honey finish. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2022

-

2027

16.5

Sepp Moser, Gebling 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kremstal

Conglomerate.

Citrus-spice aromas marked with a bit of dewy grass and flowers. On the crisp palate the key changes to an undulating accordion of spice and zest. Unexpectedly soft finish. (PS)

13%

Drink

2022

-

2027

16.5

Nigl, Goldberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kremstal

Amphibolite.

Shy notes of lemon curd and orange sherbet. The sleek purity of the palate reflects the same restraint without losing an ounce of fruit concentration. Pears and apricot, a touch of candied grapefruit and honey. Balanced acidity and a nuanced bitterness. Delicate grip adds depth and dimension. Beautiful energy and verve, and a long, lingering finish. (PS)

14%

Drink

2023

-

2031

17.5

Nigl, Hochäcker 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kremstal

Crystalline rock, loess. Screwcap.

Rich aromas of baked lemons, ripe oranges, vineyard peach. Juicy palate outlined in stone and salt. Bright spice and a long, nearly spicy finish. A bright and long future ahead for this one. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2022

-

2029

17 +

Proidl, Ehrenfels 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kremstal

Crystalline rocks, mica slate, gneiss, marble. Screwcap.

Piquant aromas of apricot and stone fruit. Lime and orange peel, lemon balm and wild mint. Creamy texture and a cooling herbaceousness that moves hand in hand with the concentrated fruit. Beautiful balance of weight and finesse, of intensity and elegance. (PS)

13%

Drink

2023

-

2035

17

Proidl, Hochäcker 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kremstal

Crystalline rocks, gneiss. Screwcap.

Shy notes of citrus and stone. Relatively closed, although an elegant texture emerges given time, as if unable to keep from peeking out from behind the curtain. Playful exchange of fruitiness and acidity, with a lingering citrus finish. (PS)

13%

Drink
2024
-
2030
16.5

Proidl, Pfeningberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kremstal

Crystalline rocks, mica slate. Screwcap.

Crisp notes of Granny Smith and citrus spice. Carpaccio-thin layers of ripe stone fruit are coiled tightly around a taut and stony core. Beautiful, unrelenting momentum all the way to the radiant and saline-laced finish line. (PS)

13.5%
Drink
2023
-
2030
17

Salomon Undhof, Kögl 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kremstal

Crystalline rocks. Screwcap.

Orchestral yellow-fruit aromas, grassy and herbal. The palate turns the volume down to reveal precise citrus arias, savoury harmonies and an unyieldingly elegant texture. Just the right amount of acidity to carry the tune. Vivacious, dynamic and delightful. (PS)

13.5%
Drink
2024
-
2034
17.5 +

Salomon Undhof, Pfaffenberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Kremstal

Crystalline rocks.

Stony, smoky, appealing citrus aromas. Crisp and racy on the nimble palate. Deep and stony with just enough to cover the sharpest of the corners while still exposing the shape within. Extreme concentration and extract. Tense and drying finish. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2025

-

2035

17

Stadt Krems, Grillenparz 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Kremstal

Crystalline rocks, loess.

Deep aromas of fresh herbs and ripe yellow fruit, quince. A delightful, radiant mouthful of wine - bright, juicy and beautifully balanced. Jubilant energy and citrus momentum checked with a structuring spice. Mouth-watering, saline finish. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2024

-

2028

17

Stift Göttweig, Pfaffenberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Kremstal

Crystalline rocks.

Tropical and citrus aromas of pineapple and lime. Savoury, with a nearly medicinal precision and taut, racy acidity. Stony and stormy youth could use a bit of time to unwind. (PS)

14%
Drink
2024
-
2030
16 +

Petra Unger, Gaisberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kremstal

Crystalline rocks, loess. Screwcap.

Savoury and citrus aromas on a crisp palate marked with spice and minerality. Linear and focused with a long zesty finish. (PS)

13.5%
Drink
2023
-
2028
16.5

Vorspannhof Mayr, Marthal 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Kremstal

Loess. Screwcap.

Smoky citrus aromas. Taut and textured, but extremely closed right now. (PS)

13%
Drink
2025
-

2028

15.5

Rainer Wess, Kögl 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Kremstal

Crystalline rocks.

Fragrant citrus aromas. Creamy, fruit-driven palate with soft acidity and showy spice on the finish. (PS)

13%

Drink

2022

-

2027

16

Wieninger, Rosengartel 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Kremstal

Calcareous sandstone with quartz content.

Ripe lemon and orange with a creamy palate and zesty finish. Quiet sophistication and an elegant, rigid texture that plays like a bass line in the back, adding colour and character without drawing attention. (PS)

Drink

2023

-

2028

16.5

Traisental

Markus Huber, Berg 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Traisental

Calcareous conglomerate.

Peach and ripe apricot aromas marked with a lift of lemon balm. On the palate, juicy and generous, shaped by the crisp acidity, beautiful balance. Ever so slightly warm on the finish, but I'm guessing that will dissipate with time. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2023

-

2033

16.5

Markus Huber, Rothenbart 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Traisental

Calcareous conglomerate. Screwcap.

Fresh lemons, grapefruit, crisp Granny Smith aromas underscored with a range of spring-herb notes. Taut, racy, pure wet river stone and sleek, salty Riesling acidity. More rigid than a German Riesling with a thousand-yard stony stare, and enchanting finishing spice. Equal parts thrill and beauty. (PS)

13%

Drink

2024

-

2034

17 +

Neumayer, Rothenbart 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Traisental

Calcareous conglomerate. Screwcap.

Pink pepper, herbal spice with a fun, sweet smokiness. Alternating between deep and

stony and svelte as it dances across the palate. Complex layers linger into a zesty, citrus finish. (PS)

13%

Drink

2022

-

2028

16.5

Wagram

Diwald, Eisenhut 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Wagram

Ferruginous loess.

Herbal, ethereal aromas of rosemary and sage. Lithe palate delivers natural stylings of orange peel and walnut skin, some red fruit (strawberry) and juicy citrus. Twiggy texture with fantastic energy and momentum. Less minerality, although there are hints of red stone or spice (from the iron?). Singular and unmistakable, and still incredibly young. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2024

-

2033

17 ++

Diwald, Goldberg 1ÖTW Riesling 2020 Wagram

Loess.

Citrus fruit, perfumed spice and the smoky wet-stone notes of spontaneous fermentation. Initially closed, as those old vines need time to fully open up. Given time, however, the racy acidity and leesy, filigreed fruit make for a thrilling push-and-pull on the palate. Mildly fruity finish. The rounded edges reveal a charming and supple appeal. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2022

-

2032

16.5

Fritsch, Mordthal 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Wagram

Loess, crystalline rocks.

Peach and honey aromas are outlined in crisp lemon zest, while the gentle acidity and delicate texture shape a lithe and firm, fruity core. Spicy, juicy, playful and long. (PS)

12.5%

Drink

2023

-

2027

16.5

Leth, Brunnthäl 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Wagram

Loess. Screwcap.

Captivating floral character, ripe apple, pear and lemon. A deep, silken palate marked with pinpoint stars of spice. A kinder, gentler Riesling right up to the surprisingly zesty finish. (PS)

13%

Drink

2022

-

2027

16.5 +

Wien

Fuhrgassl-Huber, Preussen 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Wien

Calcareous clay soil. Screwcap.

Yellow fruit and flowers, fine citrus and green, savoury aromas. Austere, crisp palate with balanced acidity and alcohol. (PS)

13%

Drink

2023

-

2028

16

Mayer am Pfarrplatz, Preussen 1ÖTW Riesling 2021

Wien

Lime rock. Screwcap.

Flights of fancy, lemon candy and pineapple dreams. Juicy, focused and ripe fruit palate. Filigreed finish. Still quite closed. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2024

-

2029

16.5

Wieninger, Preussen 1ÖTW Riesling 2021 Wien

Calcareous clay.

Deep summer fruits and rich aromas. On the palate, however, it's another story. Austere and structured, zesty lemon with a long, stony finish. Quite firm and rigid. Needs time to relax. (PS)

Drink
2024
-
2032
17 +

Weissburgunder

Christ, Falkenberg 1ÖTW Weissburgunder 2020 Wien

Fossil limestone.

Deep herbal aromas, white flowers, ripe autumn apple. Crisp and balanced. Lithe on the palate with racy acidity and a delicate texture. Lingering, filigreed fruit finish. (PS)

13%
Drink
2022
-
2026
16.5

Fuhrgassl-Huber, Schenkenberg 1ÖTW Weissburgunder 2021 Wien

Stony lime soil. Screwcap.

Cool floral aromas. Ripe citrus flavours - more lemon drops than juice - mark the bright palate before trailing off into a quiet finish. (PS)

13%
Drink
2023
-
2026

15.5

Hajszan Neumann, Gollin 1ÖTW Weissburgunder 2021 Wien

Lime rock.

Savoury, herbal aromas mingle with white fruit and a touch of vanilla. Juicy, generous palate and a long, creamy finish. (PS)

Drink

2023

-

2027

16

Carnuntum reds

Artner, Kirchweingarten 1ÖTW 2020 Carnuntum

Loess, clay in deeper layers.

Black fruit with a red twang, nearly hibiscus-like in its zippy tang. On the cool, deep palate a coiled tension between fruit and spice. The twiggy texture suggests a bit of stem work. The most refined of tannins with a deep, stony soul. Walking the line between the easy-going body of loess and the rigid density and structure of clay. Juicy finish. Still an absolute baby but the pedigree is clear. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2024

-

2030

17.5

Michael Auer, Aubühl 1ÖTW 2020 Carnuntum

Sandy, partly clay sediments. Blaufränkisch and St Laurent.

Dark berry aromas marked with plenty of wild cherry and nuanced St Laurent floral character. Pure and juicy on the palate, with chalky finesse and refined tannins. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2023

-

2028

16.5

Dorli Muhr, Kirchweingarten 1ÖTW Blaufränkisch 2019 Carnuntum

Loess, clay in deeper layers.

Red-fruit sass with currant and wild cherry, underscored with black tea leaves and a suggestion of cedar. Cool, supple and straightforward fruit. Animated acidity sits atop a firm and stony core. Elegant tannins. Plenty of mineral momentum, but above all else: pure poise. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2023

-

2030

17 +

Dorli Muhr, Spitzerberg 1ÖTW Kobeln Liebkind 2019 Carnuntum

Limestone.

Vibrant red fruits, wild cherry, strawberry with class and character, delicate floral and citrus undertones and more than a bit of stemmy, evergreen elegance. Silken tannins and fine-boned acidity. Sleek and refined palate, slightly austere, with a lingering, mineral finish. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2023

-

2034

18

Dorli Muhr, Spitzerberg 1ÖTW Obere Spitzer 2019 **Carnuntum**

Limestone.

Graceful aromas of elderberry and mulberry, juniper and spruce. Nuanced spice, complex concentration; elegant and svelte on the palate with chalky finesse. A dynamic dance of ethereal herbs, wild fruit and fine-boned minerality that one hopes will never end. (PS)

13%

Drink

2023

-

2034

18

Payr, Bärnreiser 1ÖTW Blaufränkisch 2020 **Carnuntum**

Quartz gravel on loam and silt sediments.

Dark, ripe fruit of elderberry and damson plum, elevated with the suggestion of violets. The spicy palate is firm with fine-grained tannins and juicy, refreshing berry flavours.

Nuanced and sleek on the long and lingering finish. (PS)

Drink

2023

-

2027

16.5 +

Payr, Spitzerberg 1ÖTW Obere Roterd Blaufränkisch 2020 Carnuntum

Limestone.

A darker, more brooding expression than that of Dorli Muhr. Here we find deep black fruit together with ethereal rosemary and evergreen pine. Mildly heady on the supple palate, vibrant elderberry and cherry with verve and confidence. Refined and stony core. Will benefit from a bit of time to soften that melancholy element. (PS)

Drink

2024

-

2030

17 +

Pelzmann, Spitzerberg 1ÖTW 2020 Carnuntum

Limestone.

Dark opening aromas of mashed blackberry, a touch of saddle and leather, serious stem work. On the palate the cooling freshness of Blaufränkisch soars high and free. Fine-boned structure with chalky, elegant tannins; a lovely momentum and energy throughout with brooding hints of spice. Still a baby with much to say. (PS)

13.5%

Drink

2023

-

2030

17.5 +

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