

RESTAURANT WINE

The Full Service Guide to On Sale Beverage Profits



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Bordeaux value . . . Wonderful Chablis are now in the market—and we are especially keen on those from **Guillaume Vrgnaud** and **William Fevre** . . . The 2015 Meursault bottlings from **Bouchard Pere et Fils** are very special wines . . . **Bouchard's** 2015 reds are also splendid: seek out the Santenay, Gevrey-Chambertin, Nuits-Saint-Georges, and Le Corton for proof.

2015 was an excellent vintage in Bordeaux, too. We awarded 21 wines (out of 80 tasted) 5 stars—i.e., exemplary wines in their price categories—one wine each from **Listrac-Medoc**, **Moullisen-Medoc**, and **Pomerol**; two wines each from **St. Estephe** and **St. Julien**; three wines each from **Margaux** and **Pessac-Leognan**; and eight from **St. Emilion**. (Top rated wines include **Figeac**, **La Conseillante**, **Pape-Clement**, **Leoville-Barton**, and **Canon-La Gaffeliere**. No First Growths were tasted.)

GERMANY—The Rheingau is producing very fine Riesling-based classic method sparkling wines, including those from **Robert Weil**, **Schloss Vollrads**, and **Wegeler** . . . The 2016 vintage yielded very good-to-excellent Rieslings overall, especially dry/trocken versions, since the year did not experience much botrytis, and only a small quantity of late harvest wines was made. Producers who made outstanding dry/trocken Rieslings include the following—(+) indicates more than one 5-star wine is reviewed from this producer: **Baron Knyphausen**, **Bassermann-Jordan** (+), **Burg Ravensburg** (+), **Burklin-Wolf** (+), **Castell**, **Domdechant Werner** (+), **Donnhoff** (+), **Grans-Fassian** (+), **Hans Wirsching** (+), **Karl Haidle** (+), **Karthauserhof**, **Kloster Eberbach**, **Kuhling-Gillot**, **Juliusspital** (+), **Louis Guntrum**, **Muller-Catoir** (+), **Prinz von Hessen**, **Robert Weil**, **S.A. Prum**, **Schloss Johannisberg**, **Schloss Vollrads**, **von Kesselstatt**, **Wagner-Stempel** (+), **Wegeler**, **Wittmann** (+), and **Zilliken**.

From the 2016 vintage, fruity and sweet Rieslings from these producers are rated exceptional—(+) indicates more than one 5-star wine is reviewed from this winery: **Bassermann-Jordan**, **Battenfeld Spanier**, **Domdechant Werner**, **Donnhoff** (+), **Grans-Fassian** (+), **Karthauserhof** (+), **Louis Guntrum**, **Muller-Catoir**, **Prinz zu Salm**, **Robert Weil** (+), **S.A. Prum** (+), **Schloss Saarstein**, **Schloss Vollrads** (+), **Schmitt-Soehne**, **von Kesselstatt** (+), **Wegeler** (+), **Willi Schaefer** (+), and **Zilliken** (+).

We also strongly recommend a wide range of varietals other than Riesling, in the dry/trocken style—from the 2015, 2016, and 2017 vintages—including Silvaners from **Castell** (+), **Hans Wirsching** (+), and **Juliusspital** (+); Muskateller from **Muller-Catoir**; and Sauvignon from **Pfluger**—all of them well worth seeking out.

Among German red wines, the Spatburgunders/Pinot Noirs from **Benedikt Baltes** (+) (**Schlossberg**, **Bischofsberg**), **Dr. Heger** (Vorderer Winklerberg GG), and **Julie Bertram** (Dernauer) are outstanding wines . . . Meanwhile, the Lembergers of **Karl Haidle** (+) from Wurttemberg are among the best from Germany—and beyond.

ITALY—Discoveries and treats: Arneis and Barbera d'Alba from **Filippo Gallino**; **Nittardi's** 'Ben' Vermentino; **Le Fonti's** 'Fontissimo' Cabernet Merlot blend; **Lamole di Lamole's** Blue

Label Chianti Classico; **Raina's** Montefalco Sagrantio; and **Tenuta dell'Ornellaia's** Le Serre Nuove and Ornellaia, both from the outstanding 2015 vintage.

Other top value wines—from South Africa: **DeMorgenzon** Rose and **Indaba** Mosaic (red blend); from Spain: **Locations** E4, a Spanish red blend.



USA
(SPARKLING WHITE, ROSE & RED WINES)
(from California, unless noted otherwise)

CLASSIC METHOD SPARKLING WINES - Medium Priced:
\$97-\$200/btl. (\$12.10-\$25/btl. full retail)

14 HANDS WINERY BRUT COLUMBIA VALLEY, WA, \$120 (\$15) ★★★★★

A round, medium bodied sparkling wine that is lightly sweet, crisp, and medium in length, with aromas/flavors reminiscent of apple, lemon peel, honeysuckle, and grapefruit. Blend of Chardonnay, Riesling, Chenin Blanc, Pinot Blanc, Pinot Gris, Pinot Meunier, Pinot Noir. 2.15% R.S. 12% [2018-2019] 425.488.1133

CLASSIC METHOD SPARKLING WINES - High Priced:
\$201-\$400/case (\$25.10-\$50/btl. full retail)

BENOVIA WINERY, 2012 BLANC DE BLANCS, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY, \$200/6 (\$50) ★★★★★

FIRST RELEASE. Excellent quality, this is a crisp, medium bodied, finely flavored wine with complex aromas/flavors (pineapple, lemon peel, white peach, roasted nut, honey), excellent balance, and a very long finish. From the Martaella Estate Vineyard. 240 cases. Disgorged May 2017. 12% [2018-2020] 707.921.1040

CHARDONNAY - Medium Priced:
\$73-\$160/case (\$9.10-\$20/btl. full retail)

BLACK STALLION ESTATE WINERY, 2016 NAPA VALLEY, \$160 (\$20) ★★★★★

A full bodied, complex Chardonnay that is luscious in texture, balanced, and very long on the finish. It has intense spicy oak, pineapple, peach, crème caramel, and vanilla aromas/flavors. Great value. Aged 7 months in 85% French and 15% American oak barrels, 30% new. 14.5% [2018-2020] 707.227.3250

CANNONBALL, 2016 SONOMA COUNTY, \$136 (\$17) ★★★★★

Very good Chardonnay, in an easy to appreciate style (fruity, full bodied, lightly oaked). It is balanced, medium long on the finish, and tastes of pear, lemon peel, grapefruit, vanilla, and toast. Fermented and aged: 50% in French oak, 50% in stainless steel. 13.7% [2018-2019] 650.575.1605



HESS SELECT, 2016 MONTEREY COUNTY, \$136 (\$17) ★★★★★

A round, ripely flavored Chardonnay with moderate depth, light oakiness, and good balance, with a finish tasting of apple pear, and citrus fruit. Very good value. Aged 25% in new French oak and 75% in stainless steel tanks. 215,000 cases. 13.5% [2018-2019] 707.255.1144





2016 Mosel Riesling harvest at Willi Schaefer

FOCUS ON 2016 GERMAN WHITE WINES

The 2016 season was a difficult one for grape growers. Heavy rains in spring and early summer fostered high humidity and the onset of downy mildew. The weather brightened in July, August and September, but noble rot was scarce and relatively few late harvest wines were made.

The 2016s white German wines, especially Rieslings, tend to be slightly leaner, crisper, and lighter bodied than their opulent 2015 counterparts, yet with classic varietal character. They also are somewhat more subdued than in other vintages, and will require additional aging for the wines to fully reveal themselves (unlike the 2015s, which were generously endowed and transparent nearly from birth).

All in all, 2016 was a very good to excellent vintage, yielding many excellent, top value wines—from Riesling to Silvaner to Scheurebe to Weissburgunder—and a small but important percentage of exceptional wines (like Bassermann Jordan's, Wittmann's, and Donnhoff's GG Rieslings; or Willi Schaefer's 'fruchtig' Graachers, and, especially, Robert Weil's noble sweet Rieslings) that wine lovers will be enjoying and talking about for years, even decades.

WEINGUT LOUIS GUNTRUM, ★★★★★
2016 NIERSTEINER, \$176 (\$22)

Screw cap. Fine Niersteiner Riesling and an excellent value. It is a round, medium full bodied wine with pineapple, white peach, honeysuckle, and straw aromas/flavors, good balance, and a long finish. Can be aged a bit. 0.71% R.S. AP #08. 12.5% [2019-2021] Broadbent Selections, Richmond, VA 804.353.1818

WEINGUT PFEFFINGEN, 2016 EY mal 1, ★★★★★
PFALZ, \$160 (\$20)

Screw cap. Very floral in character, this is a supple, medium bodied Riesling with honeysuckle, lime, pineapple, and honey aromas/flavors, good balance, and a medium long finish. Very good value. AP #32. VDP.Gutswein. 12% [2019-2020] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

WEINGUT PRINZ VON HESSEN

- **2016 HESSENSTEIN, RIESLING EDITION, ★★★★★**
RHEINGAU QUALITATSWEIN, \$160 (\$20)
- **2016 ROYAL, RHEINGAU KABINETT, ★★★★★**
\$100/6 (\$25)

Both wines have screw cap closures. And both are excellent. The Hessenstein is a medium bodied, ripe, dry Riesling, with excellent balance and flavor (peach, honeysuckle, lime), and a very long, persistent finish. 0.8% R.S. AP #077. 12% ♦ The Royal Kabinett is exceptional: an elegant dry Riesling that is supple in texture, medium bodied, and very finely flavored (peach, pineapple, honeysuckle, lime), with excellent balance and a very long finish. Terrific value. 0.73% R.S. AP #026. 12% [2020-2023] Small Lot Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 612.466.0096

WEINGUT ROBERT WEIL, ★★★★★
2016 RIESLING DRY, RHEINGAU, \$168 (\$21)

An excellent value, this is a fragrant, dry Riesling that is medium bodied, crisp, balanced, and lingering on the finish, tasting of white peach, lime, honeysuckle, and grapefruit. AP #025. VDP.Gutswein. 12% [2019-2021] Loosen Bros. USA, Salem, OR 503.984.3041

WEINGUT SCHLOSS VOLLRADS, ★★★★★
2016 RHEINGAU DRY, \$100/6 (\$25)

Vinolok closure. An excellent 2016 Qualitatswein: very fruity in character (peach, apple, lime, honeysuckle), round, balanced, and moderately intense in flavor, with a medium length finish. Excellent value. 0.72% R.S. AP #009. 12.5% [2019-2021] Schmitt Soehne, Millersville, MD 410.729.4083

WEINGUT WAGNER-STEMPEL, ★★★★★
2016 RHEINHESSEN, \$194 (\$24)

Screw cap. Very fine dry Riesling: supple, medium bodied, crisp and well balanced, with excellent depth and flavor (pineapple, honeysuckle, lime, white peach, toast), and a vibrant, persistent finish. Exceptional value. Aged in stainless steel tank and German oak barrels. Organically grown grapes. AP #01. VDP.Gutswein. 12% [2020-2022] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

WEINGUT WILLI SCHAEFER, ★★★★★+
2016 GRAACHER, \$200 (\$25)

Screw cap. Excellent Graach Riesling. It is light medium bodied, dry, balanced, and finely flavored (apple, pear, lime, melon, honey), with a lingering finish. Fine value. AP #06. 216 cases. 11.5% [2019-2021] Skurnik Wines & Spirits, Syosset, NY 516.677.9300

WEINGUT WINTER, 2016 RHEINHESSEN, ★★★★★+
\$144 (\$18)

Screw cap. Fine dry Riesling, and an excellent value. It is round, crisp, and medium bodied, with intense fruitiness (lime, pineapple, apple, white peach), good balance, and a very long finish. Can be aged further. AP #13. 12% [2019-2021] Vision Wine Brands, Port Chester, NY 914.481.5170

WEINGUT WITTMANN, ★★★★★+
2016 RHEINHESSEN, \$164 (\$20.50)

Terrific dry Riesling: youthful, fragrant, medium bodied, and balanced, with a long, vibrant finish, tasting of lime, white peach, pineapple, and honeysuckle. Great value. Can be aged a bit. Organically grown grapes. AP #006. VDP.Gutswein. 12% [2020-2023] Loosen Bros. USA, Salem, OR 503.984.3041

WITTMANN WEIN, 2016 100 HILLS, ★★★★★+
RIESLING DRY, RHEINHESSEN, \$136 (\$17)

Screw cap. Excellent quality and a terrific value, the 2016 100 Hills is dry, medium bodied, intensely flavored, and crisp, with a long finish, tasting of peach, honeysuckle, lemon peel, and pear. Organically grown grapes. AP #003. 12% [2019-2020] Loosen Bros. USA, Salem, OR 503.984.3041

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

NOTE: All dry/trocken Rieslings are QUALITATSWEIN
TROCKEN, unless indicated otherwise.

DOMDECHANT WERNER'SCHES WEINGUT

- **2016 HOCHHEIMER KIRCHENSTUCK, ★★★★★+**
\$120/6 (\$30)
- **2016 HOCHHEIMER DOMDECHANAY, ★★★★★**
\$140/6 (\$35)
- **2016 'GG' KIRCHENSTUCK, ★★★★★+**
HOCHHEIMER KIRCHENSTUCK, \$200/6 (\$50)

All three wines have screw cap closures. They are ripe, intensely flavored dry Rieslings. The Kirchenstuck is full bodied, fleshy in texture, and quite rich, with white peach, pineapple, lime, and honeysuckle aromas/flavors, and a long finish. AP #016. VDP. Erste Lage. 14% ♦ The Domdechaney is a wine with impressive depth and complexity. It is supple, full bodied, and concentrated; a wine with grapefruit, pineapple, dried fig, spearmint, tobacco, and apple aromas/flavors. Long finish. Needs further aging. AP #018. VDP. Erste Lage. 14% ♦ The GG Kirchenstuck is delicious: round, full bodied, and complex (pineapple, white peach, grapefruit, honeysuckle), with firm acidity, good balance, and a very persistent

Only recommended wines are included here; most with comments.

WEINGUT SCHLOSS VOLLRADS

- 2016 RHEINGAU QUALITATSWEIN, ★★★★★
\$100/6 (\$25)
- 2016 RHEINGAU QUALITATSWEIN ★★★★★
FEINHERB, \$100/6 (\$25)

Both wines have Vinolok closures. Both wines are very good value. The QbA is a round, fruity Riesling that is light medium bodied, mildly sweet, and balanced, with pineapple, peach, apple, and pineapple aromas/flavors. Medium long finish. 4.51% R.S. AP #013. 10% ♦ The QbA Feinherb is excellent: medium bodied, round, nearly dry, and well balanced, with lime, apple, grapefruit, and white peach aromas/flavors, and a long, vibrant finish. 1.62% R.S. AP #014. 12% [2020-2022] Schmitt Soehne, Millersville, MD 410.729.4083

WEINGUTER GEHEIMRAT J. WEGELER, ★★★★★ 2016 GRAACHER QUALITATSWEIN FEINHERB, \$200 (\$25)

Screw cap. A fresh, crisp, off dry Riesling of excellent quality. It is light medium bodied, finely flavored (lime, green apple, pineapple, peach), and balanced, with a medium long finish. Still quite young; warrants modest aging. Excellent value. AP #005. VDP.Ortswein. 10.5% [2019-2022] Truly Fine Wine, San Diego, CA 858.270.9463

WEINGUT WILLI SCHAEFER, ★★★★★ 2016 GRAACHER QUALITATSWEIN FEINHERB, \$200 (\$25)

Screw cap. An elegant, off dry Riesling of fine quality. It is distinctly flavored (lime, apple, peach, pineapple, honey), crisp, and well balanced, with a very long finish. Terrific value. Can be aged a bit. AP #07. 246 cases. 11% [2019-2022] Skurnik Wines & Spirits, Syosset, NY 516.677.9300

ZILLIKEN, 2016 BUTTERFLY, MOSEL ★★★★★ QUALITATSWEIN, \$184 (\$23)

Screw cap. An excellent wine: off dry, light medium bodied, delicately flavored (pear, lime, pineapple, roasted nut), and balanced, with a medium long finish. Fine value. 1.95% R.S. AP #08. 11% [2019-2021] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

**FRUITY/FRUCHTIG RIESLING — High Priced:
\$201-\$400/case (\$25.10-\$50/btl. full retail)**

BISCHOFSLICHE WEINGUTER

- 2016 AYLER KABINETT FEINHERB, ★★★★★
\$112/6 (\$28)
- 2016 BERNKASTELER KABINETT ★★★★★
FEINHERB, \$112/6 (\$28)

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- 2016 SCHARZHOFBERGER KABINETT, ★★★★★
\$115/6 (\$30)
- 2016 KANZEMER ALTENBERG KABINETT, ★★★★★
\$112/6 (\$28)
- 2016 PIESPORTER GOLDTROPFCHEN ★★★★★
KABINETT, \$112/6 (\$28)

A quintet of very good 2016 Kabinetts. The Ayler is round, medium bodied, and fairly intense in flavor (apple, honey, lime, peach), and a medium length finish. Fine value. 1.84% R.S. AP #130. 11% ♦ The Bernkasteler is delicately flavored, light bodied, and balanced, with firm acidity, and a medium length finish, tasting of apple, lime, and honeysuckle. Very good value. 1.82% R.S. AP #119. 10.5% ♦ The Scharzhofberger is equally good: fragrant, finely flavored, crisp, and well balanced with a long finish, tasting of lime, pear, apple, pineapple, and white peach. 5.2% R.S. AP #133. 8% ♦ The Kanzemer Kabinett is excellent: round, light bodied, and structured, with complex aromas/flavors (pear, peach, pineapple, oak), good balance, and a long aftertaste. 5.04% R.S. AP #128. 8.5% ♦ The Piesporter is a very fine Kabinett: intensely flavored, light bodied, and crisp; a wine with good depth of fruit (apple, pineapple, white peach, honeysuckle), and a very long finish. Excellent value. 5.98% R.S. AP #131. 8% [2019-2021] Schmitt Soehne, Millersville, MD 410.729.4083

DOMANE SCHLOSS JOHANNISBERG – Schloss Johannisberger

- 2016 ROTLACK, KABINETT FEINHERB, ★★★★★
\$156/6 (\$39)
- 2016 GELBLACK, QUALITATSWEIN ★★★★★
FEINHERB, \$144/6 (\$36)

Two very impressive off dry Rieslings from this top estate. The Kabinett has elegant character (pineapple, peach, lime, honey), light medium body, supple texture, crisp acidity, and a medium long finish. Excellent value; can be aged further. Fermented and aged: 2/3 in stainless steel, 1/3 in oak casks. 1.95% R.S. AP #005. VDP. Grosse Lage. 10.8% ♦ The Gelblack is delicious: round, medium full bodied, and ripely flavored, with firm acidity and good balance. It tastes of peach, lime, pineapple, and honeysuckle. Can be aged further. Excellent value. 1.37% R.S. Fermented and aged 85% in stainless steel tanks, 15% in oak casks. AP #010. 12.4% [2020-2023] MW Imports, Brooklyn, NY 718.596.3339

DOMDECHANT WERNER'SCHES ★★★★★ WEINGUT, 2016 HOCHHEIMER HOLLE SPATLESE, \$120/6 (\$30)

Screw cap. Excellent Spatlese: round, light bodied, and crisp, with moderate richness, and a long, vibrant finish. Fine value; needs further aging. AP #010. 9.5% [2019-2024] Slocum Imports (CT), Ewald Moseler (OR), Metamora Importing (OH), Great Lakes Wine (IL), Classic Wine Imports (MS)

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WILLI SCHAEFER

**WEINGUT WILLI SCHAEFER**

- **2016 GRAACHER HIMMELREICH KABINETT, \$256 (\$32)** ★★★★★+
- **2016 GRAACHER DOMPROBST KABINETT, \$256 (\$32)** ★★★★★
- **2016 GRAACHER DOMPROBST SPATLESE, NO. 10, \$360 (\$45)** ★★★★★
- **2016 GRAACHER DOMPROBST SPATLESE, NO. 05, \$400 (\$50)** ★★★★★
- **2016 GRAACHER HIMMELREICH SPATLESE, \$320 (\$40)** ★★★★★
- **2016 WEHLENER SONNENUHR SPATLESE, \$336 (\$42)** ★★★★★

Willi Schaefer produces Rieslings of great character and balance from 9.9 acres of vines in three celebrated vineyards, especially those in Graach. Production is small: only 3,000 cases a year. ♦ Willi Schaefer's 2016s are slightly leaner and crisper than in other recent vintages, such as the ripe and rich 2015s, but they display vibrancy and ethereal personality. Here, the Himmelreich Kabinett displays classic character (green apple, lime, honeysuckle, pink grapefruit, honeydew melon). It is light bodied, round, balanced, and very long on the finish, with a hint of tannin. Can be aged further. AP #02. VDP.Grosse Lage. 466 cases. 7.5% ♦ The Domprobst Kabinett is exceptional: intensely flavored, light bodied, and quite rich (for a Kabinett); a wine that is supple, long

on the palate, balanced, and lingering in the finish, tasting of lime, tangerine, white peach, honey, and pineapple. AP #03. VDP.Grosse Lage. 586 cases. 7.5% ♦ The Domprobst Spatlese #10 is exceptional: refined in aroma/flavor, light bodied, and very well balanced, tasting of white peach, cherimoya, honey, lime, honeysuckle, and green apple. Very long finish. Can be aged. AP #10. VDP.Grosse Lage. 341 cases. 7.5% ♦ The second Domprobst Spatlese (#05) is also terrific. It is ripely flavored (lime, honeysuckle, tangerine, honey), well balanced, and very long and persistent on the finish. Can be aged. AP #05. VDP.Grosse Lage. 260 cases. 7.5% ♦ The 2016 Graacher Himmelreich Spatlese is an over-achiever this vintage—a luscious, refined wine. It is round, light bodied, and quite ripe and intense in flavor (pineapple, lime, tangerine, green apple, honey), with very good balance, and a long, harmonious finish. Superb. Needs aging. AP #08. VDP.Grosse Lage. 270 cases. 7.5% ♦ Few wine lovers associate the great Sonnenhur vineyard in Wehlen with Willi Schaefer, but maybe they should. The 2016 Spatlese is first rate: very ripe and elegant in character (white peach, honeysuckle, cherimoya, pineapple, pear, honey, lime), light bodied, and beautifully balanced; a wine with a long flavor evolution, and long, rich finish. Warrants modest aging. AP #17. VDP.Grosse Lage. 96 cases. 7.5% [2021-2027]

Skurnik Wines & Spirits, Syosset, NY 516.677.9300

**WEINGUT SCHLOSS VOLLRADS,
2016 SCHLOSS VOLLRADS AUSLESE,
\$200/6 375 m.l. (\$50/375 m.l.)**

Vinolok closure. Wonderful 2016 Auslese: refined in aroma/flavor, light bodied, crisp, and quite rich; a wine with intense, vibrant character (peach, lily of the valley, pineapple, lime, honeysuckle, honey), a long flavor evolution, and a very persistent finish. Great value. Warrants aging. AP #027. 7.5% [2023-2038] Schmitt Soehne, Millersville, MD 410.729.4083

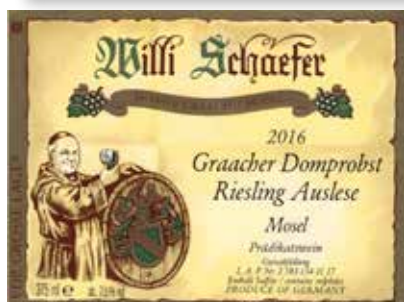
★★★★★

**WEINGUTER WEGELER, 2016 ROTHENBERG, ★★★★★
GEISENHEIM ROTHENBERG AUSLESE, \$260/6 (\$65)**

A superb Auslese: very rich and aromatic, with refined, complex character (peach, honey, lime, honeysuckle, linden blossom), light body, good balance, and an extremely long finish. Exceptional quality. Needs aging. AP #015. VDP.Grosse Lage. 7% [2022-2032] Truly Fine Wine, San Diego, CA 858.270.9463

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WILLI SCHAEFER



WEINGUT WILLI SCHAEFER

- **2016 GRAACHER HIMMEL REICH AUSLESE, \$600 (\$75) ★★★★★+**
- **2016 GRAACHER DOMPROBST AUSLESE, ★★★★★
NO. 11, \$680 (\$85)**
- **2016 GRAACHER DOMPROBST AUSLESE, ★★★★★
NO. 14, \$800 (\$100)**

These are remarkable Graacher Riesling Ausleses; all will benefit from additional bottle aging. The Himmelsreich is beautiful: complex and refined in aroma/flavor (honey, peach, pineapple, litchi nut, linden blossom), light bodied, crisp, and very long on the palate, with a vibrant, lingering. AP #04. VDP.Grosse Lage. 93 cases. 7% ♦ The Domprobst #11 is exceptional: intense and elegant in aroma/flavor (lime, honey, tangerine, white peach, pineapple), it is very well balanced, and very long and persistent on the finish. First rate. AP #11. VDP.Grosse Lage. 113 cases. 7.5% ♦ The Domprobst #14 is richer still; a superb Auslese, with very fine aromas/flavors and excellent depth. It is luscious and crisp on the palate, with layers of flavor, and a persistent, harmonious finish, tasting of lime, tangerine, pineapple, honey, and honeydew melon. One of the wines of the vintage. AP #14. VDP.Grosse Lage. 35 cases. 7.5% ♦ [2022-2032] Skurnik Wines & Spirits, Syosset, NY 516.677.9300

WEINGUT WILLI SCHAEFER – Auction Lots

- **2016 GRAACHER DOMPROBST SPATLESE, ★★★★★**
NO. 13, \$500/6 (\$125)
- **2016 GRAACHER DOMPROBST AUSLESE, ★★★★★**
#15, \$600/6 (\$150)

Willi Schaefer's auction lots have an extra dimension of character, richness, and texture to them than other bottlings from the same vineyard and in the same vintage do not. The Domprobst Spatlese #13 is outstanding: concentrated yet very elegant in flavor (linden blossom, honey, white peach, honeysuckle), with light body, wonderful balance, and a very long finish. Auslese rich. AP #13. VDP.Grosse Lage. 60 cases. 7.5% ♦ The Domprobst Auslese #15 is like a fine Beerenauslese; a rich, crisp wine that nevertheless has a wonderful range of distinctive, refined aromas/flavors (cherimoya, pineapple, honeysuckle, lime, tangerine, honey), superb balance, and a vibrant, persistent finish. Outstanding. 10.8% R.S. AP #15. VDP.Grosse Lage. 19 cases. 7.5% [2025-2038] Skurnik Wines & Spirits, Syosset, NY 516.677.9300

WEINGUTER GEHEIMRAT J. WEGELER ★★★★★+
1992 OESTRICHER DOOSBERG AUSLESE,
\$390/6 500 m.l. (\$97.50/500 m.l.)

Light medium greenish gold color. Extremely complex in flavor (toffee, honey, walnut, tangerine, dried peach, lime, spearmint), this is a round, crisp, light medium bodied Auslese of excellent quality—now mature, but holding well. It is beautifully balanced and very long and persistent on the finish. A wonderful wine and a terrific value (where can one buy a Riesling of this quality, at such a modest price, that has been aged for 25+ years at the estate?). AP #3/93. 10% [2018-2021] Truly Fine Wine, San Diego, CA 858.270.9463

OTHER DRY/TROCKEN WHITE VARIETALS — Medium Priced:
\$101-\$200/case (\$12.60-\$25/btl. full retail)

*Note: All wines are QUALITATSWEIN TROCKEN,
 unless indicated otherwise.*

BISCHOFSLICHE WEINGUTER, ★★★★★
2015 DOM, WEISSBURGUNDER, MOSEL, \$96/6 (\$24)

Screw cap. Light medium yellow color. Lightly oaked, this is an excellent Pinot Blanc at the price. It is round, medium full bodied, and moderately intense in flavor (pear, lemon peel, cedar), with good balance and a medium long finish. Fine value. AP #121/17. 12.5% [2019-2020] Schmitt Soehne, Millersville, MD 410.729.4083

FURSTLICH CASTELL'SCHES ★★★★★+
DOMANENAMT, 2016 SILVANER,
SCHLOSS CASTELL, \$92/6 (\$23)

Screw cap. A fragrant, elegantly flavored Silvaner. It is medium bodied and crisp, with moderately intense flavors (pear, apple, honeydew melon, white peach, lime, roasted nut), good balance, and a medium long finish. Great value. Aged 3 months in stainless steel tank. Bocksbeutel. AP #029. VDP.Gutswein. 12% [2019-2020] Valckenberg International, Jenks, OK 918.299.2610

JOACHIM HEGER, 2016 GEMISCHTER ★★★★★
SCHATZ, BADEN, \$160 (\$20)

Screw cap. An excellent dry blend that is very aromatic in character (Muscata-like), medium bodied, moderately intense in flavor (apple, lime, lemon grass, grapefruit, dried fig, honeysuckle), balanced, and medium long on the finish. Very good value. 54% Rivaner, 24% Sauvignon Blanc, 11% Chardonnay, 8% Riesling, 3% Weissburgunder. 0.55% R.S. AP #02. 12% [2018-2019] Schatzi Wines, Milan, NY 845.266.0376

JULIUSSPITAL, 2016 SILVANER, ★★★★★
WURZBURGER, \$184 (\$23)

Screw cap. Very fine quality, this is an excellent wine and a great value. It is fragrant, medium full bodied, and crisp; a Silvaner with pear, white peach, lime, and pineapple aromas/flavors, good balance, and a medium long finish. Bocksbeutel. AP #076. 12.5% [2019-2021] Northwest Wines, San Francisco, CA, and others

LOUIS GUNTRUM WEINKELLEREI, ★★★★★+
2016 GRAUBURGUNDER, RHEINHESSEN,
\$144/12 liters (\$18/liter)

Screw cap. Supple, full bodied, and ripely flavored, this is a very good Pinot Gris at the price. It has peach, guava, lemon, lightly floral aromas/flavors, good balance, and a medium length finish. Fine Value. 0.25% R.S. AP #27. 13.5% [2019-2020] Broadbent Selections, Richmond, VA 804.353.1818

P.J. VALCKENBERG, 2016 PINOT BLANC, ★★★★★
RHEINHESSEN QUALITATSWEIN, \$112 (\$14)

Screw cap. An excellent value, this is a medium bodied, supple wine with pear, lime, and apple fruitiness, with overtones of roasted nut and honey. It is balanced and medium in length. AP #32. 12% [2018] Valckenberg International, Jenks, OK 918.299.2610

PFEFFINGEN, 2016 DRY SCHEUREBE, PFALZ, ★★★★★
\$182 (\$22.75)

Screw cap. A terrific dry Scheurebe: aromatic and very distinct in character (honeysuckle, lime, apple, pineapple, lemon grass, rose petal), it is medium bodied, well balanced, and very long on the finish. Great value! AP #09. 12% [2018-2020] Cellars International, San Marcos, CA 760.566.0499

PFLUGER, 2017 QUARZIT, SAUVIGNON ★★★★★
BLANC, DEUTSCHLAND, \$184 (\$23)

Screw cap. Very fine quality Sauvignon and an excellent value. It is supple, medium bodied, dry, and intensely flavored (lemon grass, grapefruit, lime, guava, litchi nut), with good balance and a long finish. Organic. AP #60. 12% [2019-2020] Valckenberg International, Jenks, OK 918.299.2610

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