

94 points *2017 Domäne Wachau • Spitzer Ried Singerriedel Riesling Smaragd*

The 2017 Spitzer Ried Singerriedel Riesling Smaragd opens very reductive but bright and precise on the nose which shows white peach aromas. Super precise, salty and fresh, this is a piquant and tight-knit Riesling of great finesse, elegance, complexity and intensity, with juicy apricot on the stimulatingly aromatic, refreshing finish. A gorgeous long distance runner that tastes sexy already like a Staud Marillenkönfitüre. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

93 points *2017 Domäne Wachau • Dürnstein Ried Kellerberg Grüner Veltliner Smaragd*

From 13 or 14 separate plots, the golden-yellow colored 2017 Dürnstein Ried Kellerberg Grüner Veltliner Smaragd is from deeper soil and offers elegant, ripe and generous fruit intermixed with flinty aromas on the nose. Full-bodied and fresh on the palate, this is a salty-piquant and stimulating Veltliner with remarkable finesse, tannin structure and good grip. It's big and muscular with the elegance and finish of a gentleman. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

93 points *2001 Domäne Wachau • Weissenkirchen Ried Achleiten Riesling Smaragd*

The 2001 Weissenkirchen Ried Achleiten Riesling Smaragd is very clear and fresh on the intense but botrytis-free nose, with herbal and floral tea aromas complementing the clear apricot notes. Pure, salty, fresh and very elegant on the palate, this is a gorgeous matured Riesling with great vitality and tension, still with good grip and a dry, straight character. Very salty. Great and ready to go for another decade or more. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

92 points *2017 Domäne Wachau • Weissenkirchen Ried Achleiten Grüner Veltliner Smaragd*

The 2017 Weissenkirchen Ried Achleiten Grüner Veltliner Smaragd is lovely, clear, fresh, intense and ripe on the well concentrated and complex nose. Full-bodied, intense and lush, this is a concentrated, fleshy, quite powerful and structured Grüner with a long, salty, well structured finish with good freshness but a slightly dry and bitter (astringent) finish. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

92 points *1996 Domäne Wachau • Weissenkirchen Ried Achleiten Riesling Smaragd*

From a very difficult, wet and cold vintage, the intensely yellow-golden colored 1996 Weissenkirchen Ried Achleiten Riesling Smaragd shows concentrated but fresh, leafy apricot and green gooseberry aromas on the nose. Lean but intense and salty on the palate, this is an electrifying, just ripe, elegant and firmly structured Riesling with chamomile flavors on the finish. It has high acidity and great character with depth and length. A great classic from a horrible year with fine tannins and energy. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

92 points *1973 Domäne Wachau • Grüner Veltliner Auslese Von der Ried Achelten zu Weissenkirchen in der Wachau*

Brilliant golden-orange in color, the 1973 Grüner Veltliner Auslese Von der Ried Achelten zu Weissenkirchen in der Wachau displays a delicate, elegant, slightly smoky/peaty bouquet of ripe and honeyed stone fruits. Intense and sweet on the palate, this is an elegant, refined, absolutely delicious wine with a longing salinity and fine grip plus caramel and stewed peaches flavors on the aftertaste. It has 12% alcohol and 30 grams of residual sugar. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

91+ points *2017 Domäne Wachau • Weissenkirchen Ried Achleiten Riesling Smaragd*

The 2017 Weissenkirchen Ried Achleiten Riesling Smaragd is intense but less aromatic on the nose than the Singerriedel with deep, super ripe and structured aromas. Full-bodied and powerful on the palate, this is a firmly structured and almost tannic Riesling with enormous density and finesse on the finish. This needs time but I am not sure it will ever reach the finesse and elegance of the Singerriedel. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

91 points *2017 Domäne Wachau • Dürnstein Ried Kellerberg Riesling Smaragd*

The 2017 Dürnstein Ried Kellerberg Riesling Smaragd displays an intense yellow color and super ripe, concentrated fruit on the nose. Full-bodied and stimulatingly astringent on the palate, this is a firm, elegant, quite powerful and slightly bitter Kellerberg Riesling with lots of muscle but not much charm at this early stage. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

91 points *1981 Domäne Wachau • Riesling Kabinett Spitzer Graben*

From a terrible frost year (the last before 2016) the 1981 Riesling Kabinett Spitzer Graben did not ferment fully dry (it has 9.9 grams of residual sugar) and was bottled with 11.4% alcohol. Apricot confiture and spicy aromas on the nose lead to a lean but rich, intense palate with excellent grip and tension and caramel flavors on the intense, dry, lovely tannic finish. Stimulating, salty, fresh and piquant, with pancake flavors on the finish. An impressive wine indeed that was at the time marketed as Spitz Terrassen. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

90 points *2017 Domäne Wachau • Dürnstein Grüner Veltliner Ried Liebenberg Federspiel*

Partly from very old vines planted before World War II, the 2017 Dürnstein Grüner Veltliner Ried Liebenberg Federspiel is dark and spicy on the flinty, stony nose which also reveals ripe, elegant stone fruit aromas. Lush and very elegant on the palate, this has a pure, piquant and stony character with good grip and vitality and a stunning intensity on the long finish. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

90 points *2017 Domäne Wachau • Spitzer Ried 1000-Eimer-Berg Riesling Federspiel*

The 2017 Spitzer Ried 1000-Eimer-Berg Riesling Federspiel is intense, pure and fresh on the nose, with ripe apricot and spicy terroir aromas. Lush and generous but elegant and piquant on the palate, this is a stimulating, perfectly round and persistently salty Riesling with good power, grip and intensity. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

90 points *2017 Domäne Wachau • Spitzer Ried Axpoint Grüner Veltliner Smaragd*

From the bottom of the Singerriedl and cultivated in deeper soils, the 2017 Spitzer Ried Axpoint Grüner Veltliner Smaragd displays a very intense and tropical nose with mango aromas. Full-bodied and lush on the palate, this is generous and creamy but well structured and even fresh Veltliner with some bitter phenols on the finish. Tasted in Dürnstein, Wachau, September 2018.

90 points *2016 Domäne Wachau • Riesling Amphora*

Vinified on the skins in amphorae for six months and bottled in January/February 2018, the golden-yellow (Dürnsteiner) 2016 Riesling Amphora is intensely fruity on the nose, even with apricot confiture and green tea aromas due the reductive vinification. Pure, fresh and salty on the palate, this is a well structured, fruity, pretty stimulating and persistently salty Riesling with good grip and moderate 12.5% alcohol. The wine has been bottled unfined, unfiltered and with no added sulfur. Excellent! Filled in 500-milliliter bottles.

90 points *1977 Domäne Wachau • Grüner Veltliner Spätlese Von der Riede Himmelstiege zu Dürnstein in der Wachau*

The 1977 Grüner Veltliner Spätlese Von der Riede Himmelstiege zu Dürnstein in der Wachau was a late vintage with no botrytis, a great vintage like 1917 and 1947. It is very clear, fresh and pure on the elegant, stimulating nose with herbal, floral and peachy aromas and iodine/smoky notes—like Islay whisky but a bright and fresh Riesling. It's a bit sweet unfortunately (10.5 grams of residual sugar) but lush and caramelly, with intense fruit, fine tannin grip and good tension. The finish is very aromatic with round and intense fruit. I'd take it with smoked cheese.