



ZILLIKEN 2021 Rausch Riesling Grosses Gewächs (GG)

A super-refined dry Riesling from a top-rated vineyard and a historical family winery in Germany's Saar valley.

This is the Zilliken estate's top dry wine, from the best parcel of the Rausch vineyard in the village of Saarburg. Delicate aromas of ripe melon, lemon curd and meadow flowers and a cool herbal austerity open a nose of breathtaking beauty and elegance. Deep, refined orange, passion fruit and candied lemon dance across the nearly vertical palate, while the grippy texture is redeemed by a pliable, persistent acidity.

THE ZILLIKEN WINERY

Weingut Zilliken is one of the leading wine estates of the Saar region in Germany. Renowned for the steely precision of their Rieslings grown in the very cool climate and slate soils of the area, the Zilliken estate built its reputation with intense, yet delicate and nearly weightless Rieslings that "float like a butterfly." The Zilliken family traces its wine-growing tradition back to 1742. Since then, their winemaking philosophy has always been to carefully preserve the potential that the wine carries within itself. Their greatest effort is in the vineyards, and their approach in the cellar is traditional and simple, with fermentation, clarification and maturation all happening naturally in old Fuder casks.

THE 2021 VINTAGE

We look back fondly on the freezing winter in January and February of 2021. I'm always happy when nature finally has the chance to come to rest. We had frost at the beginning of April, but fortunately it didn't damage the vines because budding had not yet taken place. The summer was cool and wet, so we invested a lot of manual work to create an open, airy wall of foliage. After a wonderful Indian summer, we started harvesting on October 11. We are particularly happy about the good weather during the harvest, which allowed some excellent selections for the GG dry wines, and also for some noble sweet Grosse Lage wines.

[94] James Suckling

"Very precisely delineated Riesling GG that has been uncompromisingly produced with character in mind rather than weight of volume. Intense wet stone minerality already drives the wine over the palate with considerable power." – August 2022

[93] Wine Enthusiast

"Engaging floral and herbal aromas of jasmine, hops and sage, with razor-sharp acidity that balances lemon curd, quince, and lime notes. The powerful structure is supported by this acidity. Hints of spice prime the finish." – February 2023

TECHNICAL INFO

Grape Variety: 100% Riesling
Alcohol: 12.0%
Residual Sweetness: 8.0 grams/liter
Total Acidity: 8.8 grams/liter
Total Production: 321 cases
UPC: 810404021187

NUTRITION INFO

Calories: 107 per serving (5 oz.)
Carbohydrate & Sugar: 1.2 grams per serving
Fat & Cholesterol: None
Sustainably Grown
Pesticide & Herbicide Free
GMO Free
Gluten Free
Vegan

