

Highlights from the Press – Zilliken 2023

Mosel Fine Wines

"We are fully in sync with Dorothee: the 2023 wines are superb! They have great finesse and yet also nice cut. But above all, they have the typical flavors that Zilliken afficionados have learned to love with this unique combination of orchard fruits, a hint of freshness (especially from cucumber), elements of tea, and slate to no end. The fruity-styled wines are classical with a great sense of light-footed airiness of truly great vintages. But we were particularly under the spell of the Estate's dry wines, which have lower levels of residual sugar than in recent years and have great intensity and cut. In particular, the "simple" Saarburger Trocken proves a real little gem of a truly dry Village wine. As you would have guessed, there is much to like in these classic expressions of Zilliken beauty." *June 2024, Issue No. 71*



Zilliken "Butterfly Riesling" 2023

[92] James Suckling

What an excellent introduction to the delicate yet well-structured wines of the Saar. This is barely off-dry, with a beautiful balance. I love the vanilla bean and garden herb aromas on the mid-palate, then the touch of fennel seeds at the very fresh, citrusy finish. October 2024 – Reviewed by Stuart Pigott

Zilliken Estate Riesling 2023

[92] James Suckling

The beautiful stone fruit and citrus blossom aromas pull you into this stunning, entry-level dry Riesling that glides over the medium-bodied palate. Wonderful mandarin orange freshness in the silky finish. December 2024 – Reviewed by Stuart Pigott



Zilliken Saarburg Riesling Trocken Alte Reben 2023 [94] *James Suckling*

This masterpiece of a village wine shines through its finesse and intense minerality. Simultaneously racy and polished on the barely medium-bodied palate. As it aerates in the glass, a wonderful spring blossom character emerges. Very long, concentrated and focused finish that is extremely stony. From 70-year-old vines trained on the single-pole system introduced by the Romans. October 2024 – Reviewed by Stuart Pigott

[91] Mosel Fine Wines

It offers a beautiful nose of green tea, cucumber, whipped cream, flowers, wet stone, and herbs. The wine is beautifully focused on the palate and leaves a gorgeously animating and precise feel of herbs in the long finish. This is a gorgeous dry Riesling to enjoy over the coming years. *June 2024*

Continues

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Zilliken Saarburg Riesling Kabinett 2023

[93] James Suckling

There's a mouth-filling juiciness to this wine — think of the most delicate fruit salad you ever encountered — but also a very animating acidity that soaks up a lot of the natural grape sweetness, making this seem a lot drier than it really is. A very clean and crisp finish with some real finesse. October 2024 — Reviewed by Stuart Pigott

[91] Mosel Fine Wines

The wine offers a subtly ripe nose made of lemon grass, mirabelle, greengage, mint, and citrusy fruits. It proves smooth at first on the palate, but a ripe kick of acidity brings precision and pep to the experience. The wine is beautifully long and nicely playful. This is a very nice expression of delicate Kabinett from the Saar. *June 2024*



Zilliken Rausch Riesling Kabinett 2023

[95] James Suckling

A great riesling kabinett with terrific vitality and extremely elegant acidity that give this a fantastic balance and accentuate the purity. Glides over the finish dispensing chamomile, mint and lemon balm aromas like a shower of rain. A delicate wine with great aging potential. *October 2024 – Reviewed by Stuart Pigott*

[92] Mosel Fine Wines

A fruity-styled wine with a beautiful and subtly ripe nose made of citrusy fruits, cream, cucumber, verbena, plum and slate. It is beautifully silky and delicate on the palate, where the sweetness is nicely wrapped in ripe acidity. The finish is elegant, ethereal, playful and quite persistent. *June 2024*



Zilliken Rausch Riesling GG 2023

[96] James Suckling — Top 100 Wines of Germany 2024 (#84) —

Extremely youthful and as pristine as an alpine meadow through which flows a stream. Stunning concentration on the barely mediumbodied palate. The most delicate apricot aroma, too. You could spend hours studying all the filigreed details of this Saar dry riesling masterpiece. Extremely long and focused wet-stone finish. *August 26, 2024 – Reviewed by Stuart Pigott*

[92] Mosel Fine Wines

shows an herbal and minty nose of freshly cut herbs, fine spices, lily flowers, white peach, candied tangerine, and jasmine. The wine is subtle and delicately juicy on the refined and well-structured palate. The finish has energy and is beautifully straight and pure, with smoke and spices. The length is impressive. This is a splendid and fresh expression of dry Riesling. *September 2024*



Zilliken Bockstein Riesling GG 2023

[95] James Suckling

This combines an unusual floral charm with the steeliness of Saar riesling. Notes of energy and restrained power on the barely mediumbodied palate. Lemon balm and Amalfi lemon zest in the very long, focused finish. Needs some time, but it's already clear this is a special expression of this great site. *August 26, 2024 – Reviewed by Stuart Pigott*

[91] Mosel Fine Wines

It has an herbal and finely minty nose of aniseed, white flowers, bergamot, almond, and smoke, as well as a slightly riper side including coconut and juniper. The wine proves light-weight and delicate on the finely creamy and juicy palate. There is good freshness and herbal spices coming through in the nicely long finish. *September 2024*

Continues



Zilliken Rausch Riesling Spätlese 2023

[96] James Suckling

What striking aromas of tropical fruit and flowers this classic Saar riesling Spatlese has. Very refined and elegant with a stunning purity. The power is deftly underplayed on the medium-bodied palate, so that the intensity at the very focused and filigreed finish comes as quite a surprise. Excellent aging potential. October 2024 – Reviewed by Stuart Pigott

[92+] Mosel Fine Wines

It offers a beautiful nose made of melon, pear, mint, cream, apricot, cucumber, and slate. The wine is subtly creamy and ripe on the palate, but a ripe touch of lemony acidity come through in the finish and adds focus to the experience. The acidity also adds a sense of grip to the creamy aftertaste. While riper, the wine remains beautifully light-footed and playful and could easily warrant a higher rating as it develops more cut with age. *June 2024*



Zilliken Saarburger Rausch Riesling Sekt Brut Nature 2018

[96] James Suckling

This innovative sparkling riesling is fantastically harmonious, with an incredibly sensual texture that caresses your palate, in spite of being bone dry. How did they do that? Well, the very ripe vintage certainly played a role, but what it didn't do is blow this up into a huge mouthful. In fact, the finish is very graceful, the fine mousse precisely underlining the motes of white tree fruit and lemon zest. October 2024 – Reviewed by Stuart Pigott

[91+] Mosel Fine Wines

This white-yellow wine offers a hugely enjoyable nose of bitter grapefruit sorbet, bergamot, minerals, and smoke. The Sekt is still quite firm on the palate but already offers great delicacy and finesse. The mousse still shows some exuberance in the finish, but this should blend into the wine with further bottle aging. This superb Sekt is probably best enjoyed as of 6-9 months after disgorgement so we would hold onto our bottles to get the maximum pleasure out of it. We would not be surprised if the Sekt would then warrant an even higher rating: it is that impressive! *September 2024*

AUCTION WINES

Zilliken Rausch Riesling Auslese Goldkapsel 2023 [98] *James Suckling*

The dried mango and papaya character of this great Saar riesling Auslese leaps out at you on the nose. Gigantic concentration on the very compact, medium- to full-bodied palate, with a breathtaking balance on the luscious and totally vibrant palate. Then comes the extremely refined finish, which has a remarkable delicacy for a wine of this category. Made from a mix of botrytis-affected and overripe grapes that dessicated on the vine. Enormous aging potential. Very limited production. October 2024 – Reviewed by Stuart Pigott

[95] Mosel Fine Wines

Offers a beautifully fresh nose of apricot, cream, mint, and grapefruit at first. It is only gradually and above all on the palate that more exotic and riper flavors (including pineapple, date, honey, and almond cream) join the party. The finish is gorgeously engaging and develops a great zesty-sweet balance right into the aftertaste. This is a beautiful expression of Saar Auslese Goldkapsel in the making! *October 2024*

Zilliken Rausch Riesling Kabinett 2023

[96] James Suckling

This remarkable wine smells like a whole room filled with dried flowers and herbs. Then comes extraordinary apricot and mandarin orange succulence on the light-bodied palate, followed by a wave of wet-stone minerality. Long, driving finish. Limited production. *October 2024 – Reviewed by Stuart Pigott*

[92+] Mosel Fine Wines

Made of green apple, fresh cucumber, grapefruit, whipped cream, chalk, white peach, and pear. It is beautifully balanced on the fresh and engaging palate and leaves a nice and ethereally light-footed feel of minerals, whipped cream, and fruits in the long finish. The aftertaste is nicely mouthwatering but also subtly creamy. This is a gorgeous Kabinett in the making and one which could easily exceed our high expectations at maturity, as it develops its focus. October 2024