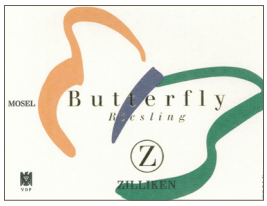
Highlights from the Press – Zilliken 2025

Stuart Pigott Reviews

"Since the 1980s this has been one of the most consistently excellent producers not only on the Saar, but in Germany as a whole. This legendary producer is very much a family affair, and though Dorothee has done some reorganization since she came back home, the style of wines didn't change significantly during the four decades I've been following them. What did change was the quality of the dry wines, and for them 2025 is a spectacular vintage. The wines with natural grape sweetness have always been brilliant, in every sense of the B-word! Riesling Auslese from the Rausch site of the 2003 and 2005 vintages drunk recently were divine, and still had decades of life ahead of them. This gives you an idea just how long real Saar Stars can age. The secret? A perfectionism that begins in the vineyard and ends in the deepest cellar in the region where dripping stalactites hang from the ceiling. Thime seems to almost stop down there." *Reviewed by Stuart Pigott, July 2026*



Zilliken "Butterfly Riesling" 2025

[90] *Stuart Pigott Reviews*

I love the spring-like freshness of this juicy, off-dry Riesling that has a touch of chervil character that helps the lively acidity balance the generous white tree fruit. *Reviewed by Stuart Pigott – May 2026*

[89] *Mosel Fine Wines*

It offers a delicately backward but nicely precise nose of wet stone, lemon, pear, herbs, and fine spices. The wine is finely precise and dancing on the palate, where fresh fruits mingle with chalky and smoky elements. The finish is delicate, crisp, and very engaging. *July 2026*

Zilliken Estate Riesling Trocken 2025

[92] *Stuart Pigott Reviews*

Who says that Saar wines are steely and austere? This one joyfully embraces you. Brimming with ripe stone fruit, citrus and spring meadow aromas, this is extrovert yet subtle! Very clean and precise finish. *Reviewed by Stuart Pigott – May 2026*

[89] *Mosel Fine Wines*

This bright-yellow-colored wine is still a bit shy on the nose, but already shows a nice creamy side with minerals, bitter grapefruit, and smoke. The wine has the sorbet lightness of Saar on the palate and leaves a superbly delicate and playful feel of minerals and fresh fruits in the finish. *July 2026*

Continues

Zilliken Saarburg Riesling Trocken Alte Reben 2025

[94] *Stuart Pigott Reviews*

Wonderful floral complexity plus ripe mango, this is at once very juicy with terrific freshness and mineral power, but without weight. Great spicy finish! *Reviewed by Stuart Pigott – May 2026*

[92] *Mosel Fine Wines*

This yellow-colored wine offers a superb nose of grapefruit, fine spices, and whipped cream. The wine proves subtly chalky on the palate, and superbly finely chiseled. The fruit precision is truly remarkable. This is a great dry wine in the making. *July 2026*

Zilliken Rausch Riesling Diabas 2025

[96] *Stuart Pigott Reviews*

A super-refined Saar wine with a fantastic floral delicacy that makes you want to forget all the everyday cares of the world. I love the way that the structure extends into every corner of the wine. Mountain stream freshness and clarity at the extremely long and filigree finish. *Reviewed by Stuart Pigott – July 2026*

[92] *Mosel Fine Wines*

This bright-yellow-colored wine offers a superb feel of fresh herbs, white peach, apricot blossom, and fine spices. The wine proves beautifully juicy and creamy on the palate and leaves a creamy and subtle feel in the long and comparatively intense finish. The aftertaste is simply admirable of elegance and finesse. *July 2026*

Zilliken Saarburg Riesling Kabinett 2025

[93] *Stuart Pigott Reviews*

The bright apricot fruit and wonderful clarity pull you straight into this elegant beauty in which succulence flips into mineral freshness at the long, crisp finish. *Reviewed by Stuart Pigott – July 2026*

Zilliken Rausch Riesling Kabinett 2025

[95] *Stuart Pigott Reviews*

Very youthful and intensely mineral this great Saar Kabinett is extremely bright and juicy with abundant apricot and complex citrus flavors that cascade over your palate. Intensely stony, pristine finish. *Reviewed by Stuart Pigott – May 2026*

[92] *Mosel Fine Wines*

A gorgeous nose made of pear, whipped cream, fresh herbs, and smoke. The wine proves gorgeously light-footed and superbly elegant on the palate and leaves a fresh and animating feel in the long finish. A dash of Spätlese creaminess adds depth without taking anything away from the wine's lively and dancing character. *July 2026*

Continues

Zilliken Rausch Riesling Spätlese 2025

[97] *Stuart Pigott Reviews*

Incredible vibrancy and cool elegance, the wild strawberry aroma is so expressive! Then, a giant wave of mint, citrus and lemon balm freshness picks you up and sweeps you away. The enormous minerality is like a searchlight seeking you out in the darkness of our present. *Reviewed by Stuart Pigott – July 2026*

[93] *Mosel Fine Wines*

A superb nose made of grapefruit paste, pineapple, mango, honeysuckle, mint, and smoke. The wine remains delicate and nicely playful on the palate and leaves a great feel of herbs and fine spices as well as delicately fresh notes of exotic fruits in the finish. What stands out is the sheer elegance: nothing comes over as weighty; everything is delicate and elegant. *July 2026*

Zilliken Bockstein Riesling Spätlese 2025

[95] *Stuart Pigott Reviews*

Who wants to worship at the shrine of the Melon Queen? A fantastic argument for the Saar, this is so juicy, yet elegant and fine, the natural grape sweetness beautifully integrated. Fantastic brilliance at the finish. *Reviewed by Stuart Pigott – July 2026*

Zilliken Rausch Riesling Auslese 2025

[98] *Stuart Pigott Reviews*

Oh joy! It's hard to imagine how a Riesling Auslese could be more pristine and precise than this. Cool, super-fine and shining with a lemon balm and wild flower freshness that makes you feel glad to be alive. Glides effortlessly over your palate and off into the rosy sunrise. Sensational filigree finale! *Reviewed by Stuart Pigott – July 2026*

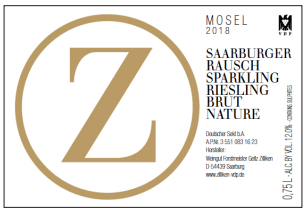
[95] *Mosel Fine Wines*

It offers a superb nose made of white peach, mango, starfruit, ginger, cucumber, whipped cream, chamomile, a hint of pineapple, and smoke. The wine is stunningly vibrant yet incredibly well balanced on the palate and leaves a great feel of freshness and elegance in the long finish. *July 2026*

Zilliken Rausch Riesling Auslese Goldkapsel 2025

[95] *Mosel Fine Wines*

It offers a beautiful nose of coconut, pear, pineapple, carraway, almond paste, citrus fruit, and smoke. The wine remains gorgeously playful and elegant on the palate, where the exotic complexity of the fruit is nicely whipped up by ripe acidity. The finish is long, lingering, and gorgeously alluring. This is a stunning expression of Auslese GK in the making. *July 2026*



Zilliken Rausch Riesling Sekt Brut Nature 2018

[91] *Wine Enthusiast*

Pear and brioche intertwine, giving both freshness and a touch of autolytic depth. The mousse is gentle and refined, supporting a lively, well-balanced palate. Ripe yet precise, it finishes clean with good length and a subtle, creamy persistence. *October 2026*