

HOWARD RIPLEY WINES

2019 WEINGUT JOH. JOS. PRÜM



SEPTEMBER 2020 | EN PRIMEUR

Weingut Joh. Jos. Prüm



Dr. Katharina Prüm - Photo Andreas Durst

This famous Mosel estate, one of Germany's finest, has released its 2019s.

It is a stellar year at the estate, up there with the greats. The wines have always been powerful, but since Katharina Prüm took over they have become finer and more nuanced. This year they are ripe, but each element – the vibrant fruit, the juicy acidity and pure minerality – is clearly delineated and effortlessly integrated, a combination of ripeness and freshness that is immensely appealing. There is discreet botrytis in the Goldkapsel wines, adding intensity and another layer of complexity without detracting from the purity. The differences between the vineyards are striking: these are textbook examples of their respective terroirs. The wines are very forward, and can be drunk young, but at the sweeter end have the potential to outlast us all.

The summer was cooler than 2018, but there were two significant heat spikes at the end of June and July, the latter causing some sunburn to the grapes. Rainfall was low, it did not rain much, but there was some rain in Wehlen at the end of July, which saw the vines through the worst period.

[A detailed vintage report can be found here.](#)

The Prüms are usually the last to begin picking, sometimes starting when others have almost finished, but this year, on 23rd September, they were amongst the first to send out their team, finishing before heavy rain in October signalled an end to the harvest. The early start was vital for preserving freshness, and they have produced a beautifully harmonious and elegant set of wines.

One of the trademarks of Prüm wines is a reductive quality in youth, a by-product of spontaneous fermentation. This has lessened over the last few years, and in 2019 was barely discernible, making it possible to enjoy them even younger.

A Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese, Auslese, Goldkapsel Auslese and a Graacher Himmelreich Lange Goldkapsel will be offered at auction next week. They are astonishing wines: more powerful, more intense, but retaining the charming, pure elements of the vintage.

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- Bernkasteler Badstube Kabinett** Ripe and bright, with pithy lemon peel and pear fruit, and a smooth broad slaty finish. *Drink 2021 - 2034*
£84 | Case of 6 - 75cl
- Graacher Himmelreich Kabinett** Very fresh and floral, with notes of white peach and spice, zingy ripe acidity and a long vibrant lemony finish shot through with smoky slate flavours.
£90 | Case of 6 - 75cl
£108 | Case of 3 - 150cl
Drink 2021 - 2034 | Bottles
Drink 2024 - 2036 | Magnums
- Wehlener Sonnenuhr Kabinett** There's always a bit more to the Wehlener Sonnenuhr. The white peach and citrus fruit is more generous and a tad riper, the lean slaty minerality is silky, and there is a spicy note appearing on the long finish. It is playful and zingy, bounding with energy, and exudes an effortless self-confidence. A very exciting Kabinett indeed.
£108 | Case of 6 - 75cl
£126 | Case of 3 - 150cl
Drink 2021 - 2040 | Bottles
Drink 2024 - 2045 | Magnums
- Bernkasteler Badstube Spätlese** Richer soils with a higher proportion of clay give a silky, delicate wine with clear pink grapefruit, cool broad mineral flavours and a soft rich finish. It will be approachable young and open out into glorious middle age. *Drink 2021 - 2035*
£102 | Case of 6 - 75cl
- Graacher Himmelreich Spätlese** Now we're talking: a delightful, zingy wine with a hint of green, spicy generous fruit, pretty floral notes and a long, smooth elegant smoky finish.
£114 | Case of 6 - 75cl
£132 | Case of 3 - 150cl
Drink 2021 - 2040 | Bottles
Drink 2024 - 2045 | Magnums
- Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Spätlese** The Zeltinger wines from Prüm are a little broader than their brothers in next-door Wehlen. This is juicy, bright and very stony, with delicate ripe citrus fruit, the mineral power tempered by persistent scented flavours tapering to a smooth, almost creamy salty finish. *Drink 2021 - 2035*
£108 | Case of 6 - 75cl
- Wehlener Sonnenuhr Spätlese** Wehlener wines are always the most linear in the Prüm stable, with a lean strong slaty backbone supporting all the other elements. And there are lots of them this year: perfumed almost musky floral notes –primarily roses—are joined by ripe peach and very zingy lemony flavours. Each element is clearly delineated, and there is silky elegance to the long, pure salty smoky finish. Yet again, an absolute cracker.
£132 | Case of 6 - 75cl
£153 | Case of 3 - 150cl
Drink 2021 - 2050 | Bottles
Drink 2024 - 2065 | Magnums

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Bernkasteler Lay Auslese

£138 | Case of 6 - 75cl

There hasn't been a 'regular' Lay Auslese since 1998, which was gloriously balanced and seductive. This one is even better, and promises a great future. It is perfumed and bright, with rounded peach and citrus fruit and a generous soft broad slaty finish. *Drink 2021 - 2037*

Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Auslese

£132 | Case of 6 - 75cl

Smoky slaty flavours are joined by generous white peach and pear fruit, and there is a delightful lemony briskness to keep it pure and fresh. Quite lovely. *Drink 2021 - 2035*

Graacher Himmelreich Auslese

£138 | Case of 6 - 75cl

£162 | Case of 12 - 375cl

£156 | Case of 3 - 150cl

A lot going on here: a wealth of beautifully floral, soft and juicy fruit, spice, and a persistent ripe zingy acidity is counterbalanced by powerful elegant pithy salty mineral flavours. There's a relaxed, effortless charm here, like a cheerful and interesting friend you'd like to see more of.

Drink 2022 - 2045 | Bottles

Drink 2021 - 2035 | Halves

Drink 2025 - 2070 | Magnums

Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese

£156 | Case of 6 - 75cl

£183 | Case of 12 - 375cl

£177 | Case of 3 - 150cl

The generous juicy white peach fruit is lent precision by vibrant lemony acidity, and there is a depth that heralds a very long future. The mineral structure is fine and lean: it compresses the fruit and elongates the wine to an astonishing length. But there is no austerity; the wine remains supple and elegant, melting and pure, throughout.

Drink 2022 - 2060 | Bottles

Drink 2021 - 2055 | Halves

Drink 2026 - 2075 | Magnums

Zeltinger Sonnenuhr Auslese Goldkapsel

£306 | Case of 6 - 75cl

The first proper botrytis in the line-up, and what a joy it is: discreet and pure, it does not dominate, but adds a fine complexity to the rich vibrant fruit. This is a deep, dense wine with lots of energy and a ripe pithy and creamy dark slaty finish. *Drink 2022 - 2060*

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Graacher Himmelreich Auslese Goldkapsel

£306 | Case of 6- 75cl
£330 | Case of 12- 375cl
£327 | Case of 3- 150cl

More botrytis in evidence here, lending intensity, richness and elegance to the pure peach and yellow orchard fruit. The acidity is brisk and lemony, and there is a powerful long broad spicy slaty finish with a distinct saline note.

Drink 2022 - 2060 | Bottles

Drink 2022 - 2055 | Halves

Drink 2026 - 2075 | Magnums

Wehlener Sonnenuhr Auslese Goldkapsel

£342 | Case of 6 - 75cl
£366 | Case of 12 - 375cl
£363 | Case of 3 - 150cl

Cor blimey – almost painful intensity and power here. The botrytis gives creamy richness but the terroir shines through with ringing clarity; the minerality is silky and saline, the acidity ripe and juicy, and the fruit a delightful cornucopia of orchard fruit shading gradually to the tropical. It is a brilliantly fine and elegant wine that will outlast us all.

Drink 2026 - 2070 | Bottles

Drink 2022 - 2050 | Halves

Drink 2026 - 2080 | Magnums

Two older favourites:

As the climate changes, Eiswein has become a rare thing. So we were delighted to be able to get our hands on more stock of two wines we first offered in 2016. Get these jewels while you can!

2004 Bernkasteler Johannisbrünnchen Eiswein [21 16]

£720 | Case of 6 - 75cl

Drink 2021 - 2030

1998 Wehlener Sonnenuhr Eiswein [22 16]

£672 | Case of 6 - 75cl

Drink 2021 - 2030

Terms and Conditions

The prices in our offer are valid until 31st October 2020. Please let us know your requests by the 15th September 2020 for consideration in the allocation process.

As usual, we give priority to customers who support us every year and across the board.

Prices are in bond London.
Unless otherwise marked, wines are packed in:

6-BOTTLE CASES (750ml)
12-BOTTLE CASES (375ml)
3-BOTTLE CASES (1500ml)

Unless otherwise marked, wines are offered by the case only, but some single bottles are available.

If your shipping address differs from your invoicing address, please let us know when placing your order.



How to buy

Phone

Please give us a call on 020 8748 2608 to place an order or for any advice.

Email

Orders can be emailed to info@howardripley.com.

Website

The wines are available on www.howardripley.com. Please note that all website orders are not final until the allocation process has been finalised.

We will begin the allocations on the **15th September 2020**; any orders received after this will be considered after the allocation process.