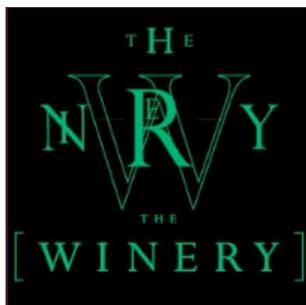


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And so we bid farewell to a week of Rieslings and Spätburgunders. See our [guide to German Week](#) at JancisRobinson.com, and [Germany 2012 - a guide](#).

The residents of Maida Vale in north-west London are very lucky. While specialist wine retailers have come and mostly gone on British streets, they have had one excellent treasure trove of fine wines on their doorstep for decades. [The Winery](#) is the most delightful small, handpicked wine shop in the cluster of shops on Clifton Gardens, W9, currently owned by David Motion, who presumably funds his wine habit from his work in the music business.

He's a true enthusiast and the Germans should give him some sort of award because, fortunately for them, he happens to be extremely enthusiastic about modern German wine. He has long championed the sort of wine the Germans drink - as opposed to the fruitier styles that traditional British importers of German wine favoured for so long (he's a bit like [The WineBarn](#) and the new [German Wine Importers](#) in this regard). Most of the wines on the crammed shelves of The Winery (which really does look and feel like an old-fashioned pharmacy) are there because David Motion has personally gone to the regions to dig them out.

This tends to mean, in Germany at any rate, that he introduces a host of new names to his customers. He recently showed me a range of his latest finds, quite a number of them from producers entirely new to me. Knowing how much effort he puts into selection, I felt I was a little mean with my scores - but I can see that he is trying to find wines that will not be too expensive once he brings them in and gets them on his shelves. This, sensibly, means a preponderance of Kabinett trocken and Spätlese trocken - generally so much more reasonably priced than the [smart Grosse Gewächse](#) that Julia wrote about a week ago.

On his latest foray to Germany he seems to have concentrated on the newer, drier wines of the Mosel (see my article about [Loosen's dry wines](#) last Monday). The Melsheimer Riesling trocken 2011 looked a great buy to me, and an excellent introduction to hand-made new wave dry German wine. And all the Walter wines except an odd Riesling trocken 2011 would also be a useful starting point for someone curious about dry German Riesling. They're certainly a long way from classic Mosel, say the intensely fruity but featherlight glory of a Zilliken Saar wine, but these more potent dry wines are a testament to climate change, and lower yields, and are almost certainly easier to match with food.

I gave quite a number of these pungent, coiled-spring wines 16.5, with the von Racknitz (great name) Kieselstein possibly offering the best value. The Winery is certainly a happy hunting ground, not just for German wines but for a wide range of seriously interesting bottles, with particular enthusiasms also including hand-picked finds from California and Piemonte. There's a full wine list on [their website](#).

The wines below are grouped by grape variety/style and then presented in alphabetical order by producer.

RIESLING TROCKEN

[Altmann, Rosengärtchen Riesling trocken 2011 Mosel](#) 15 Drink 2013-2015

Small estate, less than 1 ha. A little hard on the end. Straightforward. Just a slight lack of fruit and purity. 12.5%
£14.99 *The Winery*

[J.B. Becker, Eitviller Rheinberg Riesling trocken 1997 Rheingau](#) 15.5 Drink 2000-2010

Mid gold. Very punchy and pungent on the nose. Quite rare to find a white this old at this price! Just a bit dry and drying out on the end. Not sure this is a great buy - bit of a Majestic-like 'good German buy'... 12%
£18.99 *The Winery*

[Becker Landgraf, Riesling trocken 2012 Rheinhessen](#) 16 Drink 2013-2015

Tight and dry and very respectable. Lots of apple fruit. Tight. Tense. Quite long. **GV** 12%
£12.99 *The Winery*

[Fritz Ekkehard-Huff, Riesling trocken 2011 Rheinhessen](#) 14.5 Drink 2014-2015

Young woman making wine at her parents' estate. Relatively light and bone dry. Just a tad hard. 12%
£13.99 *The Winery*

[Fritz Ekkehard-Huff, Niersteiner Pettenthal Riesling trocken 2011 Rheinhessen](#) 16 Drink 2013-2017

Very broad and spicy. Quite rich and intense. Very very much better than the entry-level Riesling trocken. 12.5%
£36.99 *The Winery*

[Joachim Flick, Hochheimer Königin Victoriaberg Riesling trocken 2012 Rheingau](#) 16 Drink 2013-2015

Pale greenish gold. Floral and relatively dense. Quite earthy and flattering. Palate scrunch on the finish. A real bouquet of flowers. 12.5%

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£16.99 *The Winery*

Peter Jakob Kühn, Oestricher Doosberg Riesling Grosses Gewächs 2008 Rheingau 16 Drink 2010-2014

Wild and floral on the nose. Almost herbal oil. Very interesting – should be sold on a market stall in terms of all those floral smells. Fully evolved. I wasn't given a price for this. 13%

Peter Lauer, Fass 2 Riesling trocken 2011 Saar 16.5 Drink 2013-2016

Quite pure and tingly on the nose. Intense nose with a strongly fruity core. These grapes must have been very ripe to manage this alcohol and this intensity. Pungent finish. Well done. 13%

£21.99 *The Winery*

Lubentiusshof, Burg von der Layen Riesling trocken 2010 Mosel 15.5 Drink 2013-2015

Personal property up near Koblenz of the von Othegraven winemaker. Pale gold. 7.5 g/l RS and 9.3 g/l TA. Very marked acidity and some floral notes. Easy and friendly. 12%

£17.99 *The Winery*

Lubentiusshof, Gäns Riesling trocken 2011 Mosel 16.5 Drink 2013-2017

Virtually a monopole. Tight and scented. 7 g/l RS. Really quite pure and with excellent line. Impressive. 12.5%

£24.99 *The Winery*

Melsheimer, Riesling trocken 2011 Mosel 16 Drink 2013-2015

Wild yeast. Attractively funky and tight. Good introduction to new-wave dry Riesling. Very appetising and truly dry. **GV** 11.5%

£14.99 *The Winery*

Fred Prinz, Riesling trocken 2012 Rheingau 15.5 Drink 2014-2016

Soar-away nose. Lightly chewy. Very youthful. Grapefruit peel and a bit astringent. 12.5%

£13.99 *The Winery*

Fred Prinz, Hallgartener Hendelberg Riesling trocken 2010 Rheingau 15.5 Drink 2014-2016

Hallgarten. On an extension of Steingarten. Lightly cheesy nose. Lots of acid and tension. Piercing. Very tense. 13%

£21.99 *The Winery*

Riffel, Riesling trocken 2012 Rheinhessen 15 Drink 2014-2015

Loose, off dry. Quite a bit of body. For the moment a bit chewy and tough. 12%

£12.99 *The Winery*

Riffel, Quartzit Riesling trocken 2011 Rheinhessen 16 Drink 2014-2018

Smells of glue! From Scharlachberg. Lots of ripe fruit on the front palate and then very smoky and pungent. Really grabs the palate. Very intriguing! 13.5%

£16.99 *The Winery*

Studert-Prüm, Bernkasteler Graben Riesling Kabinett trocken 2012 Mosel 16.5 Drink 2015-2020

His first dry wine from the vineyard next to the Doctor. Minerally pointed nose. Chewy and tight – bit of a tight spring. 12.5%

£16.99 *The Winery*

Studert-Prüm, Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spätlese trocken 2011 Mosel 15.5 Drink 2012-2014

Intense nose that seems quite evolved. Broad and peppery but it lacks a bit of tension. 12%

£18.99 *The Winery*

Van Elkan, Schiefer Riesling Spätlese trocken 2011 Ruwer 15.5 Drink 2013-2015

One hectare, a hobby winemaker in the Ruwer. A bit reduced but intriguing. Very fine textured though. Quite pure and zesty for a 2011. 12%

£18.99 *The Winery*

Kirsten von Geldern, Pur Riesling trocken 2011 Mosel 16.5 Drink 2013-2016

Distinctive hint of coconut. Masses of tension. Tight and exciting on the nose and then with lots of smooth fruit on the palate. The fruit just curls around the palate on the end. Broad and mouthfilling on the end – all in all a very good combination. Long. RS 3 g/l.

12.5%

£21.99 *The Winery*

Von Othegraven, Kanzemer Altenberg Riesling Grosses Gewächs 2011 Saar 16 Drink 2013-2015

Lightly nutty nose. Concentrated. Very pure. Almost oily. Just a bit heavy for me. 13.5%

£39.99 *The Winery*

Von Racknitz, Riesling trocken 2011 Nahe 15.5 Drink 2014-2015

Next to Hildegard of Bingen abbey. Looks quite dense. Quite funky nose. Bone dry. Not expensive. Smoky fruit on the palate. A tad hard on the end but very well intentioned.

12.5%

£13.99 *The Winery*

Von Racknitz, Vom Kieselstein Riesling trocken 2011 Nahe 16.5 Drink 2013-2016

Pebble stone. (One of a series of different soil types.) Exciting mineral nose and masses of broad fruit on the palate. Great combo and drinking very well now. Though it's still a bit chewy on the end. 12.5%

£18.99 *The Winery*

Walter, Riesling trocken 2012 Mosel 16 Drink 2013-2015

Very broad pungent, relatively evolved wines made at this address. Real soaring lift of grapefruit fruit. Crackling race and real weight of fruit on the palate. Cracking stuff. Hint of elderflower. 12%

£10.99 *The Winery*

Walter, Riesling trocken 2011 Mosel 14.5 Drink 2012-2013

Pale gold. A tad occluded on the nose. Very floral start and a bit of mousiness on the

finish. Much less successful than the 2012. 12.5%
£9.99 *The Winery*

Walter, Riesling Spätlese trocken 2011 Mosel 16 Drink 2012-2015
He's a 25-year-old; fellow student of Stuart Pigott. Relatively deep gold. Broad and round. Really quite soft and intense. Tastes well on the way to medium dry – perhaps just because of the relatively low acidity. Drinking well now. 12.5%
£15.99 *The Winery*

Walter, Riesling Spätlese trocken 2010 Mosel 16 Drink 2012-2015
Very pungent nose. Hint of gingerbread. Very distinctive indeed. I'm not sure I'd guess Mosel – the wines seem fatter. Near Clemens Busch. Almost more like a cross between Nahe and Rheinhessen. 12%
£15.99 *The Winery*

RIESLING KABINETT

Joachim Flick, Hochheimer Königin Victoriaberg Riesling Kabinett 2012 Rheingau 16 Drink 2014-2018
Light and floral. Very pretty. Direct and pure. Very frank. 8.5%
£16.99 *The Winery*

Von Othegraven, Wawerner Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett 2011 Saar 16 Drink 2015-2019
First vintage from a parcel bought from Dr Fischer. Very funky wild yeast nose. Lots of sweetness and honey. Extremely youthful. Good tension. 10%
£21.99 *The Winery*

Walter, Briedeler Riesling Kabinett 2010 Mosel 15 Drink 2014-2018
Rather funky metallic nose with fruit that's not that pure. Tough finish. 8.5%
£13.99 *The Winery*

SPÄTBURGUNDER

J B Becker, Wallufer Walkenberg Spätburgunder Spätlese trocken 2004 Rheingau 15 Drink 2008-2011
Pale ruby. A bit sweaty on the nose. Soft and syrupy. Fades a bit fast. 13%
£27.99 *The Winery*

Becker Landgraf, Gau-Odernheimer Spätburgunder trocken 2011 Rheinhessen 15.5 Drink 2014-2017
Pale red. Sweet nose with a little bit of oak in evidence. Lively with lots of acidity and just a little bit of smokiness and syrup. Not bad. But a little bit of rusty nails. 13%
£16.99 *The Winery*

Peter Lingen, Neuenahrer Sonnenberg Spätburgunder Spätlese trocken 2011 Ahr 16 Drink 2015-2018
Unnecessarily heavy bottle. A bit chewy and tough but with good life and acidity. The warm minerals of the Ahr are in evidence. Long. Tough finish. But with no shortage of character. Masses of chew. 13%
£27.99 *The Winery*

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