

15. Dezember 2022

Robert Parker Wine Advocate Ratings Domäne Wachau Vintage 2021

STEPHAN REINHARDT | 8th Dec 2022

Austria: 2021 – A Dream Vintage? A Spotlight on the 2021 Single-Vineyard Whites from the Danube



Riesling Smaragd Achleiten 2021 – 94+ points

The 2021 Ried Achleiten Riesling Smaragd opens with a dense, intensely aromatic and spicy, complex nose. Elegant and juicy on the palate yet precise and crystalline, this is a powerful but athletic and enormously saline Riesling with concentrated stone fruit aromas and firm, saline length. This is a compact, promising Riesling from a magnificent Wachau site. Tasted at Schloss Dürnstein, Wachau, in September 2022.

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Kellerberg 2021 – 94 points

The 2021 Ried Kellerberg Grüner Veltliner Smaragd shows a bright, spicy and concentrated nose with yellow fruit aromas. Salty and savory on the palate, with a very dense texture and grippy tannins, this is a rich, spicy, very powerful and long-lasting Kellerberg Veltliner that needs a few years to purge. Tasted at Schloss Dürnstein, Wachau, in September 2022.

Riesling Smaragd Kellerberg 2021 – 94 points

The 2021 Ried Kellerberg Riesling Smaragd offers a very ripe, intense and concentrated, almost raisiny nose and is dense and compact on the palate, showing lots of substance, plenty of salt and grip as well as very good aging potential. Tasted at Schloss Dürnstein, Wachau, in September 2022. Smaragd Kellerberg 2021 – 94

Riesling Federspiel Loibenberg 2021 – 94 points

The 2021 Ried Loibenberg Riesling Federspiel is a sensationally animating and juicy Riesling from the cooler areas of the intrinsically warm site. This has clear and bright, finely spicy and concentrated fruit with stone fruit aromas. Dense, savory and spicy on the palate with good substance, peach peel flavors and fine tannins, this is an elegant, juicy and spicy Federspiel with grip and persistent salty-crystalline structure. Tasted at Schloss Dürnstein, Wachau, in September 2022.

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Achleiten 2021 – 93+ points

Clear, fresh and with cool, spicy aromatics on the nose, the 2021 Ried Achleiten Grüner Veltliner Smaragd is juicy and elegant on the palate with hints of iodine. With a compact and persistent structure and fine, crystalline acidity, this is an intensely juicy and aromatic Veltliner with a salty, spicy, extremely stimulating finish. Tasted at Schloss Dürnstein, Wachau, in September 2022.

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Kirnberg 2021 – 93 points

From gravel and loess soils in Rossatz on the south side of the Danube River, the 2021 Grüner Veltliner Ried Kirnberg Smaragd shows a clear, intense and elegant, still slightly reductive nose of white fruits and sur lie notes. Lush and round on the palate, with a creamy texture and a vivacious, finely bitter finish, this is a substantial yet refined and elegant Veltliner with a long, intense and finely saline, well-structured aftertaste. 13% stated alcohol. Natural cork. Tasted in October 2022.

Riesling Smaragd Loibenberg 2021 – 93 points

The 2021 Ried Loibenberg Riesling Smaragd shows a clear, concentrated, spicy and stony nose of ripe stone fruit. The palate is dense, spicy and tangy, quite rich; but in terms of finesse and terroir character, at the moment, it doesn't have a chance against the sensational Riesling Federspiel from the Lobenberg. Tasted at Schloss Dürnstein, Wachau, in September 2022.

Riesling Smaragd Singerriedel 2021 – 93 points

The 2021 Ried Singerriedel Riesling Smaragd displays dense, spicy and concentrated ripe fruit with savory rocky notes. Playful and elegant on the palate, this has ripe, concentrated and aromatic fruit with persistent length, not only structurally but also fruit-wise. This is an excellent, age-worthy Riesling from one of the DAC's most famous vineyards. Tasted at Schloss Dürnstein, Wachau, in September 2022.

Chardonnay Reserve 2020 – 92+ points

The 2020 Chardonnay Reserve offers a clear and fresh, still slightly reductive bouquet of crushed stones and fresh lemon juice notes. On the palate, this is an elegant, savory and juicy Chardonnay with some brittle tannins on the tart, fresh and lemon-bitter finish. A touch too phenolic for my taste but excellent quality. 13% stated alcohol. Natural cork. Tasted in October 2022.

Gemischter Satz Uralt-Reben Smaragd 2021 – 92 points

From roughly 80-year-old vines in the single-vineyard Ried Vorderseiber, the 2021 Gemischter Satz Uralt-Reben Smaragd is based on at least 10 grapes varieties planted in the mid-1920s as a field blend. The bouquet is clear, bright and aromatic as well as intense and well concentrated, intertwining ripe, white fruit aromas with saline notes of crushed rocks. Round, elegant and savory on the palate, this is a medium to full-bodied, tightly structured but stimulating, grippy Wachau DAC with good structure and salinity on the finish. 13% stated alcohol. Natural cork. Tasted in October 2022.

Grüner Veltliner Steinwerk Spitzer Graben 2021 – 92 points

Vinified with indigenous yeasts in granite and marble stoneware, the unfiltered 2021 Grüner Veltliner Spitzer Graben Steinwerk offers a clear, pure and immediate nose with ripe and intense fruit, pastry and chamomile aromas with hints of ginger. Clear, intense and elegant on the palate, this is a medium-bodied, dense Veltliner with tension, purity and a persistent saline and structured, refreshing mineral finish. 12.53% stated alcohol. Natural cork. Tasted in October 2022.



DOMÄNE
WACHAU

Grüner Veltliner Federspiel Kreuzberg 2021 – 91 points

From the south bank of the Danube River in Rossatz where the vines root in amphibolite rocks and benefit from large temperature fluctuations between days and nights, the 2021 Grüner Veltliner Ried Kreuzberg Federspiel opens with a clear and aromatic, finely spicy white-fruit aroma on the nose. Round and lush but also vital and elegant on the palate, this is a full-bodied, fresh, already accessible and pleasant Veltliner from the—still—less prestigious side of the Danube River. The finish is crisp and savory and provided with refreshing lime and lemon aromas as well as fine phenolic grip and stimulating salinity. 12.5% stated alcohol. Screw-cap closure. Tasted in October 2022.

Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Axpoint 2021 – 91 points

The 2021 Ried Axpoint Spitz Grüner Veltliner Smaragd shows a clear, bright, very clean and spicy, stony and tart nose. Juicy, dense and almost tropical in its fruit on the palate, this is an elegant, succulent and balanced, waltz-dancing Veltliner from the Spitzer cru. The finish is crystalline, fresh and pleasantly bitter, with fine tannins as well as tart notes. It's opulent and baroque but needs time. Tasted at Schloss Dürnstein, Wachau, in September 2022.