
JAMES SUCKLING | GERMANY | VINTAGE 2020

Stuart Pigott | Thursday, July 12, 2021

Bürgergarten Muskateller | 2020 VDP.Erste Lage dry

99/100 Points | „Welcome to the most beautiful rose garden there ever was! But, wait a minute, there are also hibiscus, jasmine and all kind of other floral aromas hanging in the air. The concentration and complexity of this totally exceptional dry muscat is off the scale! Breathtaking freshness at the almost endless finish. A dry muscat miracle! Drink or hold.“

Herzog Rieslaner Beerenauslese | 2020 VDP.Erste Lage noble sweet

98/100 Points | „Very dense and compact, but with sweetness at the lower end of the scale for dessert wines, this has great dried-mango, papaya and custard-apple aromas. And yet, at the breathtakingly intense finish it remains so precise and finely nuanced. Drink or hold.“

Bürgergarten "Im Breumel" GG | 2020 VDP.Grosse Lage dry

98/100 Points | „Although the intensity of this very youthful dry riesling's bouquet knocks you back in your seat, the ripe white-peach, tangerine and passion-fruit aromas are accompanied by a slew of delicate, floral notes. Tightly focused with diamond brightness on the concentrated yet sleek palate, this ends in a finish of breathtaking purity. Drink or hold.“

Herrenletten Riesling | 2020 VDP.Erste Lage dry

96/100 Points | „Very cool and fresh with notes of fresh pineapple, melon, red-fleshed vineyard peach and mint, this Pfalz dry riesling masterpiece has restrained power, but unrestrained concentration. The medium-to full-bodied palate is so precisely etched and the finish is so focused, the minerality of dramatic intensity. Drink or hold.“

Herzog Weissburgunder | 2020 VDP.Erste Lage dry

96/100 Points | „You could easily mistake this deep and complex dry pinot Blanc for a Grand Cru Burgundy, thanks to the creamy but deeply structured palate. Enveloping melted-butter and mirabelle aromas and startling minerality that are miraculously married on the richly textural palate. And then comes the warm and silky wave of the finish that leaves no doubt. Drink or hold.“

Herzog Rieslaner Auslese | 2020 VDP.Erste Lage noble sweet

95/100 Points | „A touch of mushroom from botrytis on the nose, but way more exotic fruit, particularly papaya. Eucalyptus, too. Great power and textural complexity on the full-bodied palate, the sweetness very discreet for this category. Wonderful lime-zest freshness at the finish. Drink or hold.“

Bürgergarten Riesling | 2020 VDP.Erste Lage dry

95/100 Points | „Deep stone-fruit and citrus aromas with some blossom notes. Stunning balance of ripe yet finely nuanced fruit and elegant acidity that then tightens to a long and pointed mineral finish that takes your breath away. Drink or hold.“

Mandelgarten Riesling | 2020 VDP.Erste Lage dry

95/100 Points | „Such a joyful, floral nose with notes of rose and honeysuckle, plus a hint of smoke. And that's only the beginning for this dry riesling, which can hold its own with any number of GGs, thanks to the impressive concentration of citrus fruit and nectarine. The vibrant acidity and subtle mineral freshness underline each other at the very long and expressive finish. Drink or hold.“

Herrenletten Weissburgunder | 2020 VDP.Erste Lage dry

95/100 Points | „A great dry pinot blanc with a very striking nose of persimmon, fresh hazelnuts and herbs. Although this has 13.5% alcohol, it feels almost weightless, so vibrant and delicate are the flavors. Where else can you find that? Then comes the long, super-clean finish that pulls you back to the glass for more! Drink or hold.“

Haardt Muskateller | 2020 VDP.Ortswein dry

95/100 Points | „Absurdly strong for a village wine, this has a truly mind-boggling nose of exotic fruit (star fruit, passion fruit and mangosteen) and tropical flowers. A dry white essence of the muscat grape with lightning strike freshness that dazzles with its concentration and delicacy. Nature is strong! Drink or hold.“

Haardt Riesling | 2020 VDP.Ortswein dry

94/100 Points | „Still a bit closed, but beautifully proportioned. With aeration, this medium-bodied dry Pfalz riesling develops so many delicate spicy and floral notes. Compact structure and a long, tight finish suggest this has quite some aging potential. Drink or hold.“

Haardt Scheurebe | 2020 VDP.Ortswein dry

94/100 Points | „The melon and grapefruit (pink and yellow) aromas pour from the glass of this firmly structured, medium-bodied dry scheurebe that's got so much salty minerality at the finish. Still very young and, with aeration, ever more cassis shows on the nose. Drink or hold.“

Gimmeldingen Riesling | 2020 VDP.Ortswein dry

93/100 Points | „Rippling with peach, apricot, mandarin and melon aromas, yet it is also focused and racy. Then the mineral backbone comes through at the long, very bright finish. In spite of that, this has moderate acidity and should therefore also appeal to non-riesling fans. Drink or hold.“

Haardt Weissburgunder | 2020 VDP.Ortswein dry

93/100 Points | „Cool yet effusive nose of garden peas and a wide range of white fruit, with the emphasis on pear. Only medium-bodied with spot-on balance of ripeness and elegance. The same level of balance at the long, silky finish. Drink or hold.“

MC Muskateller | 2020 VDP.Gutswein dry

93/100 Points | „Here's the exotic side of this aromatic variety, rather than the simply grapey one. As expressive on the nose as it is brilliant on the palate. Light and racy with wonderful juiciness that very neatly counterpoints the acidity through the long finish. Drink now. Screw cap.“

MC Riesling | 2020 VDP.Gutswein dry

92/100 Points | „Instantly appealing, sliced-pear and white-peach aromas with floral and mandarin notes. This medium-bodied dry riesling is so charming and lively, but also has very good depth and balance at the finish. Drink now. Screw cap.“

MC Scheurebe | 2020 VDP.Gutswein dry

91/100 Points | „A discreet Scheurebe with restrained yellow-grapefruit and basil aromas. Very crisp and straight with an appealing lightness of touch. Crisp and refreshing finish. Should appeal to sauvignon blanc fans! Drink now. Screw cap.“

MC Weissburgunder | 2020 VDP.Gutswein dry

90/100 Points | „Plenty of sliced-pear and citrus character in this open and crisp dry pinot blanc. Makes a very strong first impression. In spite of the crisp acidity, there's a slight warmth on the mid-palate, then comes a blast of freshness at the clean finish. Drink now. Screw cap.“