

Decanter

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ALSACE : TOP RIESLING TERROIRS by Stephen Brook

The varied grands crus of Alsace produce sublime Rieslings - if you know where to look. Stephen Brook takes you on a tour of the best sites from south to north and recommends some stellar bottles to buy . . .

VORBOURG : Clos St Landelin

Vorbourg is a very large southerly grand cru planted to many varieties. Its most exceptional terroir is this 15ha Clos, a monopole of the biodynamic Domaine Muré. It's south facing, dry and sunny, planted to high density, and its stony clay-limestone soil has good drainage. The Rieslings are not especially mineral, but they do have richness, texture and complexity. The lower sectors can attract botrytis, and in the past the Muré wines often had residual sugar, but today they are essentially dry and all the better for it.

92/100 MURÉ Riesling 2014 Clos Saint Landelin

The nose is delicate and fragrant rather than powerful, with refined apricot aromas. It's more citric, with grapefruit and lime flavours, on the palate, which is tight and has considerable tension. Long and saline on the finish. Biodynamic.