



THE WORLD OF FINE WINE 2018

TASTING SAVOR ALSACE GEWURZTRAMINER

After an uncommonly high-scoring, Andrew Jefford and co-tasters Charles Metcalfe and Jancis Robinson MW are convinced that Alsace's much-maligned variety deserves much greater respect, its depth, breadth, and terroir expressiveness a match for any white wine style in the world.

90 MURÉ Gewurztraminer 2013 Clos Saint Landelin

AJ : Back a vintage and into full light gold now, handsome. Deep, rich, complex : instantly you know that you are in front of a serious and possibly profound Gewurz. Deep fruits with some freshness, as well as lots of honeyed spice; botrytized complexities. Age has swiped the florals somewhat, but the mushroomy richness of age is ample recompense. On the palate, it is classical, pure, and rich, it's sugars well qualified by the complexities both of age and of concentration. Floral spice and mushroomy, earthy richness come together admirably here. Impressive wine. Deep, round, mature; perfectly ready for me.

CM : Lovely golden color to this. Creamy, toasty, litchi aromas. The palate is rich and seductive, with opulent, Turkish-delight rose-petal fragrance and enough acidity to balance the sweetness. At a delightful point in its evolution. I'd drink this now.

JR : Deep cooper. Very sweet start and some floral Gewurz character - heady lilies ? and an little bit of reverberation on the finish. A tad simple. But good intensity. Savory. Long. Drink 2016-20.

87 MURÉ Gewurztraminer 2013 Grand Cru Zinnkoepflé

AJ : Mid-gold. Tangy, lush and full : lots of honeycomb richness here, with just a little pear and rose, but not hugely varietal. Pretty nonetheless, and generous. Big, full, generous, but not at all dense, fine-drawn, fine grained, or subtle. A simple adventure in sugar.

CM : Golden color. Honeyed, rich aromas, with a hint of marzipan and a touch of oxidation. This is dominated by the sweetness, which is very high. It's hard to see how this will develop. It's all about honey and sweetness at the moment. This is almost too sweet for me, because the other components are overwhelmed. There is a creamy, honeyed length, though.

JR : Deep apricot color. Smoky and not much focus. Lots of round sweetness, but not freshness.

AJ : Andrew Jefford

CM : Charles Metcalfe

JR : Jancis Robinson