



JANUARY 2018

WINE ENTHUSIAST

FRANCE

97 MURÉ Riesling Alsace Grand Cru Vorbourg - Clos St Landelin 2015

The heady aromatic scent of fresh tangerine peel takes turns with the refreshing perfume of green Seville oranges. The palate takes these enticing aromas and bundles them into one arrow-like force of concentrated freshness. This is a high-wire act of piercing brightness and layered citrus aroma. This is like a self-generating well of freshness that convinces with its luminosity, raciness and rapier-like purity of citrus flavors. Everything is heightened : Fruit, dryness, freshness and vibrant verve. It is tempting but it would be a shame to drink this now. Keep this genie in its bottle for a while longer, if only to see what fascinating direction it takes. This is wondrous. Drink 2022-2037. - A.N.

96 MURÉ Riesling Alsace Grand Cru Zinnkoepfle 2015

Whiffs of red-cheeked mirabelle plum, tart red apple, a touch of earth and vivid tangerine immediately signal pleasure. The absolutely straightlaced, concentrated and dry palate adds hints of quince and blood orange. This is dry, even lean but absolutely powerful with bundled flavor. You can feel heat and energy at the core of this, there is real ripeness and force here, played against absolute, vivid and cleansing freshness. High drama indeed. Let it age a while before playing it out. It will be worth the wait. Drink 2022-2037.- A.N.

93 MURÉ Pinot Gris Alsace Grand Cru Vorbourg - Clos St Landelin 2015

A wonderfully aromatic nose of blossom and Conference pear is very appetizing. The palate comes in with pear fruited generosity and an almost oily mouthfeel that speaks of the power of this concentrated wine. There is a pleasant edge of pithy bitterness that acts as a counterpoint to the inherent richness and ripeness of the fruit alongside fresh acidity. This is balanced and rounded and just off dry with a lovely, fresh structure that echoes long. There is great aging potential here. Drink 2017-2030. - A.N.

92 MURÉ Crémant d'Alsace - Cuvée Prestige

There is a savory touch of salt and herb amidst the fruity mirabelle plum notes on the nose. The palate shows a lovely background of autolytic richness, akin to sponge and rye bread and also has a piquant salty accent that entices all the way to the lemony bright finish. The mousse is fine and elegant, the finish is long and dry. - A.N.

92 MURÉ Crémant d'Alsace Rosé

A very vivid impression of tart red currant on the nose soon attains a creamy edge. The palate has beautiful purity of fruit : Red currant heightened by vivid citrus freshness. There is something weightless and wonderfully light about this with its really fine mousse, a sophisticated dry apéritif with a wonderful and long aftertaste of tart red apple. - A.N.

90 MURÉ Crémant d'Alsace Brut

Bright fresh notes of greengage and lemon play on the nose. The palate has the same zippy fruit flavors which are ripe but remain resolutely fresh. The mousse is frothy and lively, accentuating the lemony brightness even more against a more mellow autolytic background. A wonderfully balanced dry fresh apéritif. - A.N.