

James Suckling - Mai 2018

ALSACE SHINES WITH DRY WHITES

More than 400 wines reviewed

The situation has a lot to do with the excellence of the vintage 2016. The 2016 Alsaces wines have a great balance and clarity combined with more than enough concentration and depth : «We really like the quality of 2016.» said Véronique Muré of the Muré Estate in Rouffach. « They don't have the volume of 2015, but they have the elegance, and we think that's more important». We agreed that, in Alsace, bigger doesn't always mean better. For us, the 2016 vintage seems almost ideal for the region.

96 MURÉ Riesling Clos Saint Landelin 2016

Because this is still quite closed and very subtle. Delicate citrus, exotic fruit and floral notes. It could be overbooked it, but this has stunning depth combined with great refinement. A super long finish that is diamond bright and very silky. Better from 2019 and will probably hold up well beyond 2040. Made from organically grown grapes and Demeter certified.

96 MURÉ Pinot Noir Clos Saint Landelin 2016

Rather closed, but there are some delicate candied citrus and earthy notes on the nose. A big, complex wine with a serious tannin structure that needs a couple of years develop. It has a very long finish that's intense and polished. Better from 2020. Made from biodynamically grown grapes and Demeter certified.

96 MURÉ Pinot Gris Clos Saint Landelin Sélection de Grains Nobles 2016

The stunning exotic-fruit-coulis character and wonderful freshness will make you feel this is less sweet than it really is. A long, powerful and extremely lively finish with some minerals lifting it. Delicious now, but this had decades of aging potential. Made from biodynamically grown grapes and Demeter certified.

95 MURÉ Riesling Zinnkoepflé 2016

Very ripe and rather exotic with papaya and a hint of smoke. This is a really concentrated dry riesling with impeccable balance and a very long, mineral finish. Drink or hold. Made from organically and biodynamically grown grapes. Demeter certified.

95 MURÉ Riesling Clos Saint Landelin Sélections de Grains Nobles 2016

An exotic fruit extravaganza ! Luscious and seductive. This remains totally straight, all thanks to the vibrant acidity and the purity of the flavors. Right through the very long clean finish. Delicious now, but this wine will develop magnificently over at least a quarter of a century. Made from organically grown grapes.

94 MURÉ Pinot Noir «V» 2016

Irresistible ripe cherries, berries and candied lemons on the nose with a hint of smoke from oak. The wine is every bit seductive on the palate with a delicate impression of sweetness. The elegant tannins come through at the long finish. You could hold this for a few years, but it's hard to resist now. Made from biodynamically grown grapes and Demeter certified.

94 MURÉ Crémant d'Alsace Grand Millésime Extra Brut 2012

Alsace's answer to the Champagnes from Krug and Bollinger. This powerful and complex Crémant has notes of patisserie and fresh herbs, as well as great depth at the long intense finish. A great sparkling wine for dining table. Drink or hold.

92 MURÉ Riesling Côte de Rouffach 2016

Maybe this isn't the most powerful dry riesling on the planet, but it has seductive apricot and floral aromas, as well as a great balance of juicy fruit and crisp, mineral acidity. Drink now or in 2019 and 2020. A very flexible food wine for European and East Asian cuisines. Made from organically and biodynamically grown grapes. Demeter certified.

91 MURÉ Pinot Gris Lutzeltal 2016

This smells like a whole bunch of bananas. Big and ripe, but with a cool and slightly funky side at the finish, which is cleaner and longer than most in this category. Drink now or in 2019. Made from organically grown grapes.

91 MURÉ Crémant d'Alsace «Cuvée Prestige» brut

Lots of fresh apples and pears with a hint of toast, making this sleek and medium-bodied Crémant easy to enjoy. A very clean and pure finish. Drink now.

90 MURÉ Pinot Gris Côte de Rouffach 2016

The ripe cantaloupe and nectarine character and silky richness of this wine are balanced with discrete acidity that keeps it on track, preventing any hint of heaviness. Quite a soft finish. Drink now or in 2019 and 2020. Made from biodynamically grown grapes and Demeter certified.

90 MURÉ Crémant d'Alsace Rosé brut

Plenty of strawberry and raspberry character, giving this medium-bodied rosé sparkler lots of appeal. Quite a creamy mid-palate with a hint of sweetness, but it has enough acidity to give this good length. Drink now.

89 MURÉ Muscat Steinstück 2016

Open grapey and floral nose, then very crisp and vibrant on the palate this is very refreshing dry muscat. Drink now. Made from organically grown grapes.