



2008 VINTAGE RATINGS_NEW

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Carl Graff



Castell



Grans-Fassian

Winery for Value 2007 by Wine Spectator – average score of 2007 vintage wines: 90,50 points!)



Johannishof

Winery for Value 2007 by Wine Spectator – HIGHEST average score of 2007 vintage wines: 91,20 points!)

2008 Johannisberger “G” Riesling Kabinett (WJ13-08)

90 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector’s & Holiday issue
“This wine’s sweet apple and exotic citrus flavors are high-toned and delicate, picking up slightly honeyed notes on the palate. Supple, elegant and superbly balanced. It feels refined and deftly poised.”



Schloss Johannisberg

International Winery of the Year 2008, chosen by Wine & Spirits Magazine
International Winery of the Year 2009, chosen by Wine & Spirits Magazine

Collection of the Year by Gault Millau 2009



Kesselstatt

Winery for Value 2007 by Wine Spectator – average score of 2007 vintage wines: 90,30 points!)

2008 Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Kabinett (RK7-08)

92 points, The Tasting Panel Magazine, 12/09:

“Smooth, pure and lush with racy citrus acidity and rich peach fruit; elegant, complex and dense with purity and style.”

2008 Piesporter Goldtröpfchen Riesling Spätlese (RK8-08)

89 points, Wine Spectator, 12/15/09:

“Delivering crisp, ripe apple and lime notes, this elegant white has a refreshing profile, followed by a long, lime-tinged aftertaste.”

2008 Scharzhofberger Riesling Spätlese (RK13-08)

93 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector’s & Holiday issue:

“A classic expression of this great site, this is taut and lithe, its nuanced flavors of white peach, lime and mangosteen showing a vibrant clarity. Its ripe fruit is firmly tethered by racy acidity, finishing with delicate, silky length.”

93 points, Wine Spectator, 10/21/09:

“Very sleek and elegant, exhibiting apple, slate and orange Creamsicle flavors matched to a slim frame. This has fine intensity, with lingering violet and black currant accents. Compelling.”

2008 Josephshöfer Riesling Spätlese (RK25-08)

90 points, Wine Spectator, 10/21/09:

“Ripe apple and floral aromas start out, adding a squeeze of lime on the palate, making this Riesling fresh and appealing. Balanced and almost chalky on the finish.”

2008 Scharzhofberger Riesling Kabinett (RK10-08)

92 points, Wine Spectator, 11/11/09:

“This complex white bursts with black currant, violet, lime and slate aromas and flavors, all matched to a sleek profile. Racy and firmly structured, this is a serious kabinett transmitting its site, with terrific harmony and a wonderful aftertaste. Best from 2012 through 2022.”

2008 Josephshofer Riesling Kabinett (RK26-08)

88 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector’s & Holiday issue

90 points, Wine Spectator, 12/15/09:

“Strongly marked by mineral, this borders on Sauvignon Blanc in character, showing gooseberry, white peach, chive and white pepper flavors, with a nice chalky finish.”

2008 Scharzhofberger Riesling Auslese long gold cap # 10(RK63-08)

91 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector’s & Holiday issue

“This wine’s bright flavors of peach and Asian pear are focused and clean, complemented by fresh acidity and a silky texture. It picks up flavors of clear honey on the palate, feeling balanced, from beginning to end.”

2008 Ockfener Bockstein Riesling (RK51-08)

87 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector’s & Holiday issue

2008 Ockfener Bockstein Riesling Kabinett

88 points, Wine Spectator, 12/15/09:

“Lean and bracing, with apple, floral and mineral notes. There’s enough flesh midpalate to buffer its structure, and the finish is long.”



Knyphausen



Schloss Saarstein

Winery for Value 2007 by Wine Spectator – average score of 2007 vintage wines: 89,70 points!

2008 Serriger Schloss Saarsteiner Riesling Auslese (SA5-08)

91 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue
"The wines from this cool site are renowned for their acidity, an element that's amplified by the vintage, giving this an incisive, intensely racy energy. The cool citrus flavors are juicy and bright, contrasted by a flinty stoniness."



Prinz zu Salm Dalberg'sches Weingut

2008 P2 „Two Princes“ Riesling (PS29-08)

91 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue
“This shows quiet flavors of apple, citrus peel and peach skins supported by a softly stony earthiness. That earthy character gives it an unusually subtle flavor complexity for the category. It's persistent, harmonious and finely expressive.”

2008 Roxheimer Berg Riesling Spätlese (PS8-08)

91 points, Wine Spectator, 1/13/10:
“An incisive, scintillating white that grabs your attention with its bite of fruity acidity, which offsets the richness. In between there's a mix of lemon pie, apple, vanilla sauce and mineral flavors. The finish is long. Best from 2012 through 2024.”

2008 Prinz Salm Riesling Spätlese (PS12-08)

90 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue
“This is still a little stern, needing additional age to bring the flavors of nectarine and pink grapefruit into the foreground. It's pure and lively, balanced by tart, appley acidity.”

2008 Prinz Salm Riesling Kabinett (PS1-08)

90 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue
“This wine's ample apricot and citrus flavors are warm and soft, buttressed by earthy soil notes. It's rich yet balanced, developing complexity as it opens in the glass.”

2008 Prinz Salm Johannisberger Wallhausen Auslese (PS17-08)

91 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue
“This feels relatively light in body for an Auslese, setting an earthy, soil-driven breadth against a delicate, almost ethereal clarity of fruit. It's subtle and detailed, finishing with harmoniously fragrant length.”

2008 Felseneck Wallhausen Riesling 1st Growth (PS20-08)

89 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue



Joh. Jos. Prüm

International Winery of the Year 2009, chosen by Wine & Spirits Magazine

2008 J.J. Prüm Riesling Kabinett (JJ3-08)

90 points, *Wine Spectator*, 12/23/09:

“A hint of reduction and some carbonic gas make this white awkward now, but it’s light and focused, with delicate floral, peach and lime flavors, all backed by slate. Mouthwatering finish.”

2008 J.J. Prüm Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Kabinett (JJ1-08)

91 points, *Wine Spectator*, 12/23/09:

“Pure, focused and electric, with violet, black currant, peach, lime and mineral aromas and flavors. This grips your attention with its harmony and precision. Long floral and mineral aftertaste.”

2008 J.J. Prüm Graacher Himmelreich Riesling Spatlese (JJ6-08)

91 points, *Wine Spectator*, 11/18/2009:

“Elegant, packed with slate, vanilla, lime and apple aromas and flavors. A touch reduced in aroma, but lively and intense, with a lip-smacking finish. Best from 2012 through 2024.”

2008 J.J. Prüm Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett (JJ8-08)

92 points, *Wine Spectator*, 12/23/09:

“Though elegant and filigreed, this white is also fleshy and succulent as 2008 kabinette go, with peach, slate and lime notes. A hint of fresh herbs adds depth and the finish is long and smoky.”

2008 J.J. Prüm Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spatlese (JJ2-08)

93 points, *Wine Spectator*, 11/18/09:

“Pungent aromas of slate, violet and black currant are immediate and intense. The flavors show pure lime, peach and mineral salt, matched to a creamy texture and a vibrant structure. Fine length. Best from 2012 through 2027.”

2008 J.J. Prüm Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Kabinett (JJ11-08)

89 points, *Wine Spectator*, 12/23/09:

“Pure and precise, offering violet, lime and mineral salt aromas and flavors that give this a real sense of place. Though light, it’s intense and almost creamy in texture. Nice, juicy finish.”

2008 J.J. Prüm Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Spätlese (JJ18-08)

91 points, *Wine Spectator*, 12/23/09:

“Plenty of apple, lime, slate flavors and a saline intensity highlight this vivid, lighter-than-air Riesling. It’s well-balanced, but the harmony will come after a few more years in the cellar. Fine, lingering aftertaste. Best from 2012 through 2024.”



Schubert / Maximin Grünhaus

Winery for Value 2007 by Wine Spectator – average score of 2007 vintage wines: 90,30 points!)

International Winery of the Year 2008 and 2009, chosen by Wine & Spirits Magazine

2008 Maximin Grünhäuser Riesling QbA (MG6-08)

90 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue
"While still shedding some yeasty fermentation aromas, this is expressive and impeccably poised, its fresh acidity enlivening the citrusy flavors. Terrific quality for an entry-level wine."

90 points, Wine Spectator, 12/31/09:

"Rich, yet saturated with apricot, spice and mineral aromas and flavors. On the dry side, with fine structure and a lingering slate aftertaste."

2008 Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Auslese (MG8-08)

95 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue:
"This is stunningly expressive, an elegant, sophisticated portrayal of one of Germany's greatest vineyard sites. The fruit is youthful and exuberant, yet the minerality is even more intensely pronounced, with the detail and delicate finesse of the Abtsberg's blue slate soils clearly on display. It finishes with incredibly persistent aromas, feeling complex, crystalline and precise."

2008 Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett (MG1-08)

91 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue
"Graceful, elegant and finely drawn, this captures the verve and refinement of the vintage. Right now, it's still wrapped up in some post-fermentation yeastiness, but the balance and slate expression are beautiful, and it promises to develop superbly in the cellar."

89 points, Wine Spectator, 12/15/09:

"Peony, lime and Empire apple flavors grace this elegant white, which is balanced on the tangy side, with fine intensity and a bracing finish."

2008 Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett (MG5-08)

93 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue
"Under winemaker Stefan Kraml, the Grünhaus estate has been in top form. This Kabinett captures the essence of Abtsberg's steep slopes, feeling cool, energetic and saturated with slate aromas. Its impeccable balance should ensure a long, slow development in the cellar."

2008 Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Kabinett trocken

87 points, Wine Spectator, 12/15/09:

"Light and airy, offering apple and pear flavors backed by crisp acidity. A dry style, with a hint of mineral on the firm finish."

2008 Maximin Grünhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Spatlese (MG7-08)

92 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue
"This is floral and fragrant, its flavors of white peach and exotic citrus feeling pure and succulent. At the same time, it's firmly wrapped up in its minerality and acidic structure, and may be slow to unwind. The finesse and slate character of the site are on clear display."

89 points, Wine Spectator, 12/15/09:

"A lighter style, sleek and tangy. Offers apple, pear and lime flavors, with a layer of mineral on the finish. Focused and vivid."

2008 Maximin Grünhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Spatlese (MG12-08)



90 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue
"This is extremely youthful and backwards, taking a full day to emerge. There's a lot of finesse and plenty of slate character, but the nectarine and Meyer lemon fruit is stubbornly reclusive, demanding another decade or two in the cellar."

90 points, Wine Spectator, 10/21/09:

"A mix of black currant, vanilla, lime and slate marks this finely etched Riesling, which is aromatic and juicy. Shows fine balance in a delicate style, with a mouthwatering finish."

2008 Maximin Grunhauser Abtsberg Riesling Superior (MG48-08)

87 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue

2008 Maximin Grunhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Eiswein (MG3-08)

92 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue:
"While delicious, this is not a classically styled von Schubert Eiswein, its unctuous flavors almost gewurz-like in their litchi and rosewater perfume. It's dense in texture and very long, feeling elegantly harmonious and refined."

2008 Schloss Grünhaus Pinot Blanc (MG57-08)

88 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue

2007 Maximin Grunhäuser Abtsberg Riesling Alte Reben trocken (MG58-08)

86 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue

89 points, Wine Spectator, 12/31/09:

"A fruity style, just off-dry, with plenty of peach, grapefruit and nectarine notes. Turns drier on the finish, with a white pepper aftertaste."

2007 Maximin Grunhäuser Herrenberg Riesling Alte Reben trocken (MG59-08)

88 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue



Thanisch

Winery for Value 2007 by Wine Spectator – average score of 2007 vintage wines: 90,80 points!)

2008 Wwe. Dr. Thanisch Riesling (HT1-08)

89 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue

87 points, Wine Spectator, 12/31/09:

“Nectarine and passion fruit flavors combine in this chalky white. A layer of spice and mineral keeps it all interesting.”

2008 Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Kabinett (HT3-08)

90 points, Wine Spectator, 12/15/09:

“Tangy, with slate augmenting apple and yuzu notes in this sleek, off-dry Riesling, which is well-proportioned, with a floral note in the aftertaste.”

2008 Bernkasteler Badstube Riesling Auslese (HT9-08)

89 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue

2008 Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Kabinett (HT7-08)

88 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue

89 points, Wine Spectator, 12/15/09:

“A hint of reduction blows off with air, revealing nectarine, lime, apple and mineral notes. Firmly structured, with moderate length.”

2008 Bernkasteler Doctor Riesling Spätlese (HT5-08)

93 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue:

“This shows prominent notes of slate under fresh flavors of white peach and Asian pear. Lemony acidity brings it all into balance, impressively seamless with everything fitting in its proper place.”

90 points, Wine Spectator Insider, 11/4/09:

“There's a confection aspect to the lime, apple and peach flavors in this elegant, classy white, with a beam of lime and mineral on the finish. Light-weight and focused. Drink now through 2024.”



VILLA SACHSEN

2008 Rheingraf Riesling Spätlese (VS3-08)

89 points, Wine & Spirits Magazine, Dec. 2009 – The Collector's & Holiday issue



VALCKENBERG



WEINGUT LIEBFRAUENSTIFT

Gutsweine – Estate Denomination

2008 Riesling trocken (dry) - (WL3-08L)

83 points, Gault Millau

2008 Weissburgunder trocken (dry) - (WL4-08L)

84 points, Gault Millau

2008 Estate Riesling trocken (dry) – VINOLOK (WL4-08)

84 points, Gault Millau

2008 Estate Riesling Kabinett – VINOLOK (WL5-08)

85 points, Gault Millau

Ortsweine -Village Denomination

2008 Wormser Riesling trocken (dry) (WL6-08)

85 points, Gault Millau

Premium Line -Vineyard Denomination

2008 Wormser Liebfrauenstift-Kirchenstück Riesling trocken (dry) (WL8-08)

86 points, Gault Millau