



Johannishof - Charta Riesling 2009

WJ14-09

Estate:

Winery for Value 2007 by Wine Spectator – HIGHEST average score of 2007 vintage wines: 91.2 points!

The Johannishof estate is owned by the Eser family. Their focus is small production, high quality, estate-bottled Rieslings, in all styles. They own parcels of some of the best vineyards in the towns of Johannishof (Hölle, Klaus, Vogelsang, Goldatzel) and Rudesheim (Berg Rottland), to name a few. Johannishof is a member of the Charta group, which is comprised of about 30 top Rheingau wineries that banded together to promote high quality dry Rieslings. Johannishof is also one of the early proponents of the Erstes Gewächs system.

Estate owner/winemaker: Johannes Eser

Acres under vine: 50; Average annual production: 11,000 cases

Varietals produced: Riesling (99%), Pinot Blanc (1%)

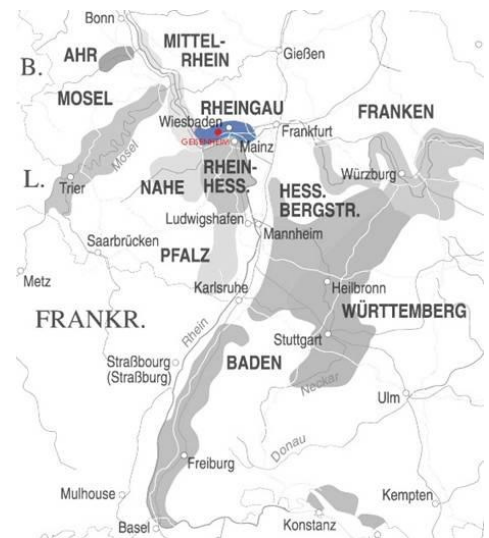
The Vineyard:

The association of CHARTA-Estates was founded to foster the classic type of Rheingau Riesling, to continually improve the quality and to make the wines distinctive from wines of other wine growing areas.

Only selected Rheingau Riesling wines that comply with the high standards of the association are allowed to be bottled in the inimitable Charta bottles with the symbol of the Romanic arches.

Region: Rheingau

The Rheingau is a relatively small but hugely important region that lies in the "elbow" of the Rhein, where the river takes a brief east-west jaunt on its journey up to the North Sea. Riesling dominates here, with a little enclave of Pinot Noir being planted around the village of Assmannshausen. The Rheingau is renowned for promoting dry styles of Riesling, having created both the Charta and Erstes Gewächs (First Growth) designations for top dry Rieslings (Erstes Gewächs also applies to the top Pinot Noirs in the Rheingau). Many of their wines are sold in a blue-green fluted bottle that is only allowable for Rheingau wines.



Vintage Report 2009

2009 started with very low temperatures, even with snowfall on March 25. Then April turned out to be unseasonably warm... At 14th of April we saw one of the earliest pop outs since 1955. The warm spring weather brought about a fast growth in the vineyard with an advantage of three weeks and flowering started already end of May. Beginning of June weather turned cooler and flowering took very long up to 6 weeks, which already had an influence on the amount of berries per grape. During summer there was a good mixture of sun and rain. The first days of October were rainy and very warm, but fortunately the weather changed quickly to dry and cool. We started picking on October 5th under ideal conditions. Our grapes were very healthy with a high oechsle level and a nice amount of acidity, however with 20 % less yield. Botrytis infected berries were very hard to find, so the main focus in 2009 is on our non-botrytised wines.

Tasting Notes:

Charta wines are made from selectively picked Riesling grapes to meet the very high standard of the Charta vintners. These fruity wines have an elegant acidity and match perfect with food.

Technical Information:

Alcohol: 11.5%

Acidity: 0.81 % (8.1 g/l)

Residual Sugar: 1.17 % (11.7 g/l)

Ratings: Wine Spectator – 91 points, Fine Wine Review – 90 points