

# Germany Tasting

\$22

2014 Strub Niersteiner Paterburg, Riesling Spätlese, Rheinhessen – On the nose, lemon, Persian melon, cress and mint anticipate the dynamic of this wine’s silken palate, juxtaposing animating brightness and incisive cut with luscious ripeness and cooling caress. Sweetness here is more obvious than in this year’s other Strub offerings, but that fits the wine’s personality, and on the lingering finish that sweetness quite appropriately backs off a bit.

2017 August Kessler, Pinot Noir Saignée Rosé, Rheingau – While bright and fresh with fruit, this robust structured rosé offers enough substance to thrive beyond a summer season. Dry and sprightly, it offers crisp raspberry and cherry flavors nuanced by complexities of garrigue and earth. A pleasant bite of tannins elongates the finish.

2016 August Kessler “The Daily August”, Pinot Noir, Rheingau – Fresh redcurrant and cherry aromas with just a hint of fresh herbs on the nose. Medium-bodied with great fruit and an almost silky mouthfeel. Just a hint of tannin and lively acidity at the finish make this easy to drink now

2016 Franz Keller, Pinot Noir Vom Löss, Baden – The nose of this wine is beautifully perfumed, suggesting whiffs of cherry blossom, graphite, plum and smoke. Black cherry and berry flavors seem delicate initially, but amass concentration and complexity with aeration, building layers of savory earth and tannin. A full-bodied, rich and expansive wine, it should improve well through 2030.