

Wine Notes

Schlossberg Premier Cru Riesling 2016 "Premier Cru" Dry

Estate Bottled



With just over one hectare (2.5 acres) in its holdings, Schlossgut Diel is one of the largest proprietors of this splendid, steep, south-facing vineyard in the village of Burg Layen. The weathered slate dates from the Devonian Period, with a thin layer of loam and gravel covering the bedrock. Wines from this site consistently reflect the fine marriage of sun and soil in their charming yellow fruit, reminiscent of apricot and peach, delicate spice and lingering flinty finish.

The Schlossberg has long been considered one of the finest vineyards anywhere in the Nahe region, an opinion confirmed by its high-level classification in the official Prussian vineyard survey of 1901. Drawing on the Premier Cru model, the VDP-Nahe has classified the Burg Layer Schlossberg as an "Erste Lage." The "Erstes Gewächs" label is reserved for dry premium wines from Erste Lage sites.

Harvest

Manual, multi-pass harvest of meticulously selected grapes from our estate's vineyards.

Vinification

Gentle pressing, followed by spontaneous fermentation and extended lees aging, initially in traditional wood barrels sourced from local oak followed by stainless steel tanks.

Pairing Suggestions

Pairs splendidly with shellfish, fresh water fish and seafood. Compliments poultry and veal beautifully, yet always a pleasure solo as well.

Optimal Drinking Window

Three to twelve years after harvest.

2016 Tasting Notes

Expressive, straw yellow color; refined spicy aromas with characteristic notes of slate reminiscent of apricots and Boskopp apples, as well as pears; brilliant fruit, elegant body and a tightrope walk between subtle fruitiness and balanced acidity, with an exquisite finish.



2016 Vintage

The dry, mild winter was followed by a wet and warm spring, setting the stage for an early bud break. This pattern held well into the summer months. Late summer saw the return of warm and dry conditions, with weeks of sunshine stretching from early August through the beginning of harvest. This ideal "Indian Summer" was a true winemaker's delight, allowing the grapes to ripen optimally, with incredible freshness, before a picture-perfect harvest.

Despite its small yields, 2016 will be remembered as a very high-quality vintage.