STUART PIGOTT

THÖRLE

WEINGUT THÖRLE / SAULHEIM · RHEINHESSEN

RHEINHESSEN NOW: Northern Rocking

Stuart Pigott · November 3, 2026

We are delighted to share Stuart Pigott's latest tasting report, "RHEINHESSEN NOW Part 2: Northern Rocking," published on November 3, 2026.

Stuart describes the remarkable development of northern Rheinhessen, where limestone soils give Riesling, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir a distinctive character that often reminds him of Burgundy. He names our estate among the leading producers of this exciting region.

We are particularly proud that our 2024 Hölle Spätburgunder appears in his special selection, as one of only 4 wines in "THE SUPERNOVAS OF THE NORTH," with 97 points. Our Probstey Spätburgunder 2024, Hölle Riesling 2025 and Schlossberg Riesling 2025 also received 97 points.

For Johannes and me, these reviews are a wonderful recognition of our work in the vineyards and cellar. —Christoph Thörle

2024 PINOT NOIR

Spätburgunder Hölle Unfiltriert 2024 - 13% · 97/100

Enormous structure with massive peppery and chalky character, yet this also has freshness and finesse. The combination of power, minerality and tension makes me think of Grand Cru Clos de la Roche in Burgundy, but this is brighter and more animating than those wines are. Super-long, velvety finish. Matured in a mix of 40% new and 60% used barriques for 18 months.

Spätburgunder Unfiltriert 2024 - 13% · 92/100

A very serious Pinot Noir for an entry-level wine with excellent freshness and a robust tannin structure. Sour cherry, forest berry and dried orange zest aromas plus a touch of spice from oak. Matured in used barriques for 18 months.

Spätburgunder Saulheim Kalkstein Unfiltriert 2024 - 13% · 94/100

Stunning sour cherry and spice nose! Terrific concentration, but also cool and focused. The fine tannins build to an impressive chalky crescendo, then the last chord echoes long, long, long. Matured in a mix of one third new and two thirds used barriques for 18 months.

Spätburgunder Schlossberg Unfiltriert 2024 - 13% · 95/100

Very cool, fresh and firmly-structured with a very bright acidity that's still very young. Very fine tannins underline all this. Still a bit closed on the nose, but the vibrancy of the fruits rouge aromas is stunning. Matured in a mix of 40%new and 60% used barriques for 18 months.

Spätburgunder Probstey Unfiltriert 2024 - 13% · 97/100

Deep spice nose of damson plum and candied orange peel, great concentration and a compact tannic core, but oh so velvety. Serious power at the bold and emphatically dry finish in a manner that reminds me of Grand Cru Richebourg. Matured in a mix of 40% new and 60% used barriques for 18 months.

SPARKLING WINES - DEUTSCHER SEKT

Riesling Sekt Cuvée Josephine Brut 2023 - 12.5% · 92/100

For a non-prestige level sparkling Riesling that has masses of leesy character and full, ripe pear fruit. Enticing and mouthfilling with a lovely freshness and forthright mousse.

Sekt Blanc de Blancs Brut 2022 - 12.5% · 93/100

The attractive nose of candied citrus and ginger pulls you into the medium-bodied palate where there's excellent balance of creaminess, elegant acidity and a savoury touch. The lively mousse accentuates the freshness at the texturally complex finish 12.5% / A cuvée of 53% Chardonnay, 47% Pinot Blanc that was disgorged in June 2026.

2025 DRY WHITE WINES

Silvaner Saulheim Kalkstein trocken 2025 - 13% · 94/100

Even in this very youthful state there's no doubt about the depth and textural complexity of this forthrightly Burgundian style dry Silvaner. Excellent chalky minerality on the focused, medium-bodied palate, then mouthwatering flint and wet-stone freshness at the long, complete finish. Wild fermented and matured for 7 months on the full lees in used wooden casks. Should age very well!

Grauburgunder Saulheim trocken 2025 - 13% · 93/100

What a stunning bronze colour this dry Pinot Gris has! A very serious dry wine for the grape, it deftly balances chalky minerality and ample tannins with toasted raisin bread and summer meadows character. Long, mellow, yet animating finish. Wild fermented and matured for 9 months on the full lees. 15% fermented on the skins.

Chardonnay & Weissburgunder Saulheim trocken 2025 - 13% · 94/100

The effusive, flinty and nutty nose pulls you into the creamy and well-structured wine that you could mistake for a high-end white Burgundy. The rich lemon curd character is married to fine oak tannins and a chalky freshness at the long, complete finish. Wild fermented and matured for 10 months on the full lees in 500 and 1200 liter oak casks, 30% new.

2025 DRY RIESLING

Riesling Austernkalk trocken 2025 - 12.5% · 95/100

The aromas of mirabelle, peach, lemon, freshly-opened oyster and smoky cascade out of the glass! Concentrated, but focused with a wonderful chalky minerality. Fantastic balance and brilliance through the very long finish. From a high altitude parcel in the Schlossberg site. Wild-fermented and matured for 8 months on the full lees.

Riesling Saulheim Kalkstein trocken 2025 - 12.5% · 95/100

You could easily mistake this very compact and intensely chalky dry Riesling for a GG, because it easily has the structure that category demands. The yellow fruit aromas are discreet and the salty minerality builds as the wine washes over you. Still very young, this will benefit enormously from another year, two or ten in the bottle. Wild fermented and matured for 8 months on the full lees.

Riesling Schlossberg trocken 2025 - 12.5% · 97/100

So tightly-wound and cool in spite of all the ripeness and austere power. However, I think you'd have a hard job finding a dry white that's more profoundly mineral wine than this. Some may find that a bit much, but for me it's very exciting. Wild fermented and matured for 8 months on the full lees.

Riesling Probstey trocken 2025 - 12.5% · 96/100

The way this is well-rounded is positively erotic. Ripe through and through with an embaressment of mirabelle riches, yet fresh and so beautifully balanced. Long, creamy and super-harmonious, yet bone dry finish. Wild fermented and matured for 8 months on the full lees.

Riesling Hölle trocken 2025 - 13% · 97/100

A giant of stone fruit concentration, this has a stature and finesse that stun me. Grows and grows as it aerates in the glass. Almost endless, super-silky finish in which the considerable power feels effortlessly underplayed. Decant this if you want to drink it young! Wild fermented and matured for 8 months on the full lees.

2025 RIESLING KABINETT

Riesling Kabinett 2025 - 9.5% · 92/100

I love the dynamic interplay of racy, lemony acidity with juicy white tree fruits and flinty freshness on the sleek and driving palate. Spot-on balance just other side of the dry/off-dry divide. Extremely refreshing Amalfi lemon zest and wet-stone finish.

Riesling Schlossberg Kabinett 2025 - 9% · 94/100

Vibrant aromas of red apple, rose hips, basil and lime zest pour from the glass of this youthful Riesling Kabinett. At once powerful, cool and focused this has enormous wet-stone freshness at the zesty, long finish.

Riesling Hölle Kabinett 2025 - 9.5% · 95/100

A great Riesling Kabinett fromRheinhessen? Yes! The explosive aromas of spring blossoms anouncethe arrival of this youthful beauty that has an impeccable balance of citrus juiciness, chalky mineralityand elegant acidity, these threads winding ever tighter together on the long, very intense and dynamic finish. Excellent potential.

2025 RIESLING AUSLESE & BEERENAUSLESE

Riesling Hölle Auslese 2025 - 7.5% · 93/100

What a juicy and elegant Riesling Auslese for this region that's not famous for this category. A delicious fresh, fruit salad, the moderately succulent sweetness well-balanced by the lively citrusy acidity.

Riesling Teufelspfad Beerenauslese 2025 - 6.5% · 95/100

Lush, exotic and seductive, but anything other than loud, I love the ripe Mandarin orange character as much as the more expressive passion fruit and papaya flavours. The very energetic acidity makes it bright and propels it over the palate at a brisk clip. Very pure and clean at the succulent finale.

Riesling Probstey Beerenauslese 2025 - 6.5% · 94/100

Rippling with floral honey richnes, this is a bold and imposing BA! Deep candied and caramelized orange flavours. Full-throttle sweetness, but there's a cornucopia of flavour. At this very youthful stage very compact and honeyed.

Riesling Hölle Beerenauslese 2025 - 6% · 96/100

This is very tropical, but more on the dried flower and herbal side than the fruity one. Analytically this has high sweetnes, but the combination of the concentration and racy acidity keeps this very bright and precise. Extremely long, well-structured finish.