



The many faces of Riesling

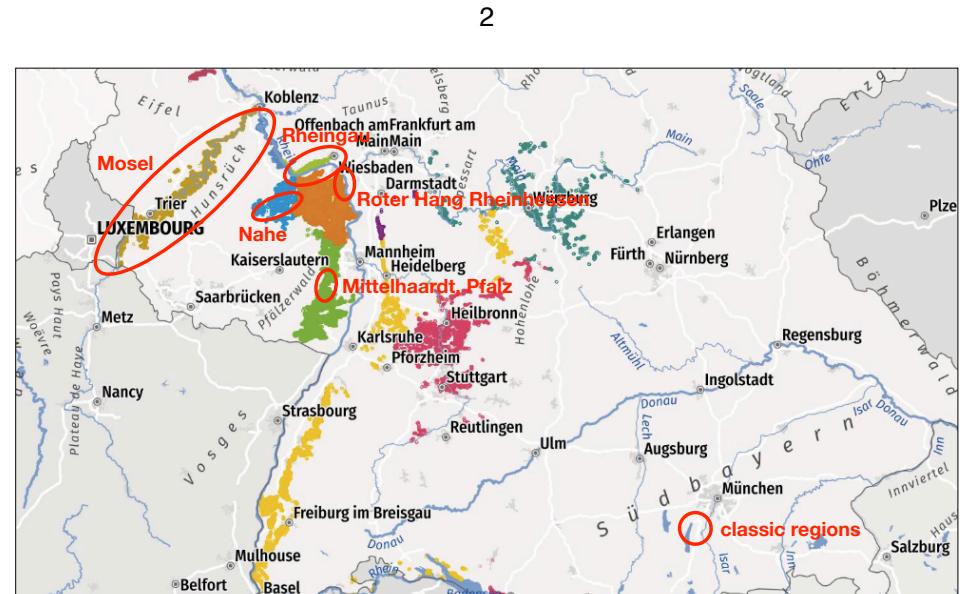
Lars Daniëls, Magister Vini & Riesling Fellow

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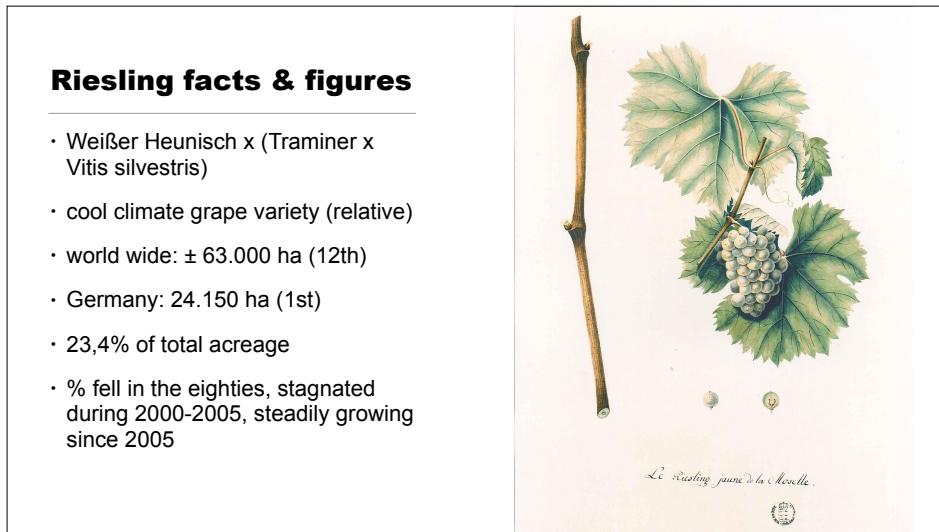
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The most versatile white grape variety in the world?

Riesling can excel at every type of wine, from sparkling to noble sweet.



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Riesling facts & figures

- Weißer Heunisch x (Traminer x *Vitis silvestris*)
- cool climate grape variety (relative)
- world wide: ± 63.000 ha (12th)
- Germany: 24.150 ha (1st)
- 23,4% of total acreage
- % fell in the eighties, stagnated during 2000-2005, steadily growing since 2005

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Riesling in the glass

- complex aroma: fruity, floral, sweet and sour, reductive, chemical
- full of flavor: rich in extract, balance sweetness-acidity, often linear, great acidity, moderate alcohol
- distinct varietal character
- good wines have sense of place and age very well
- rather seldom: flavors of MLF and new oak



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Riesling Sekt

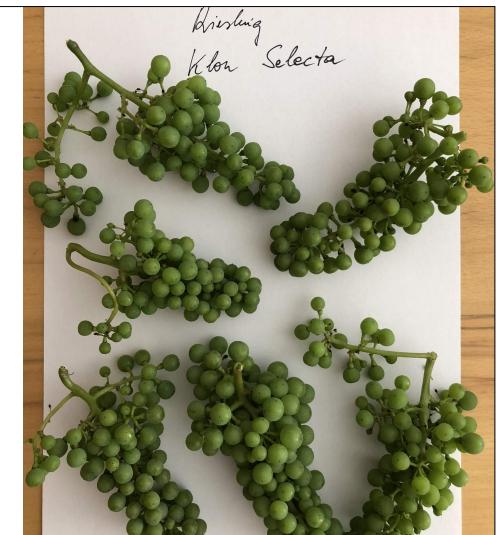
- Germans love sparkling wine; 14% of all wine drunk in Germany is sparkling
- high quality Sekt is booming
- no more *Nebensache*; more and more specialists focus entirely on high quality Sekt
- VDP Sekt Statut: VDP.Sekt (min. 24 months sur lies); VDP.Sekt Prestige (vintage, min. 36 months sur lies)
- Burgundersorten*, but also Riesling



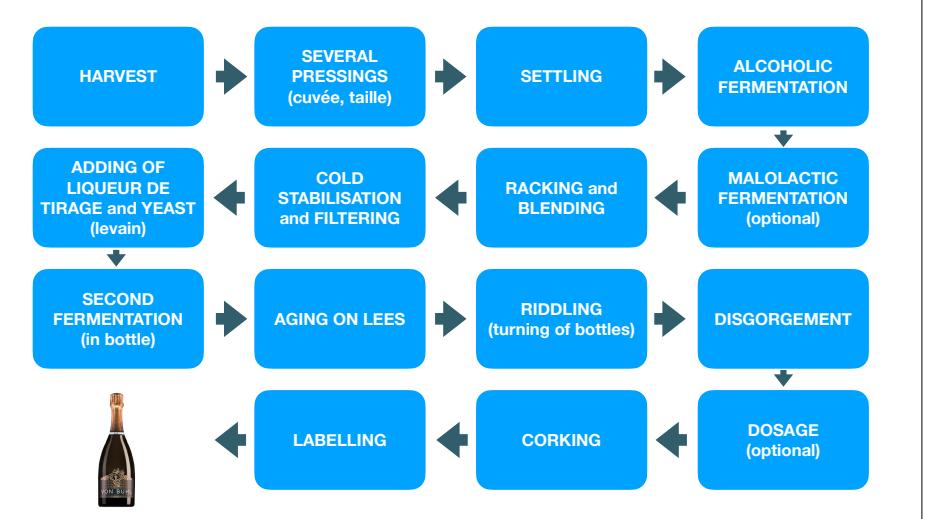
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New selections of Alte Reben and Wurzelechten

- fenotypical diversity of vines
- old non-grafted vines
- looser bunch structure, less botrytis
- lower yields
- more acidity
- potentially more complex wine
- Geisenheimer 300 series, Selecta



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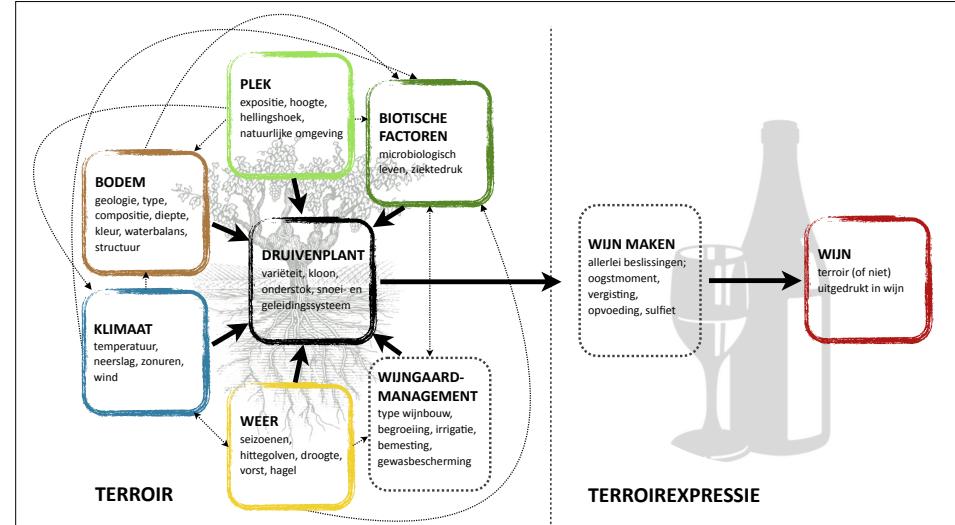
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Griesel & Compagnie
Riesling Prestige Extra Brut
2017

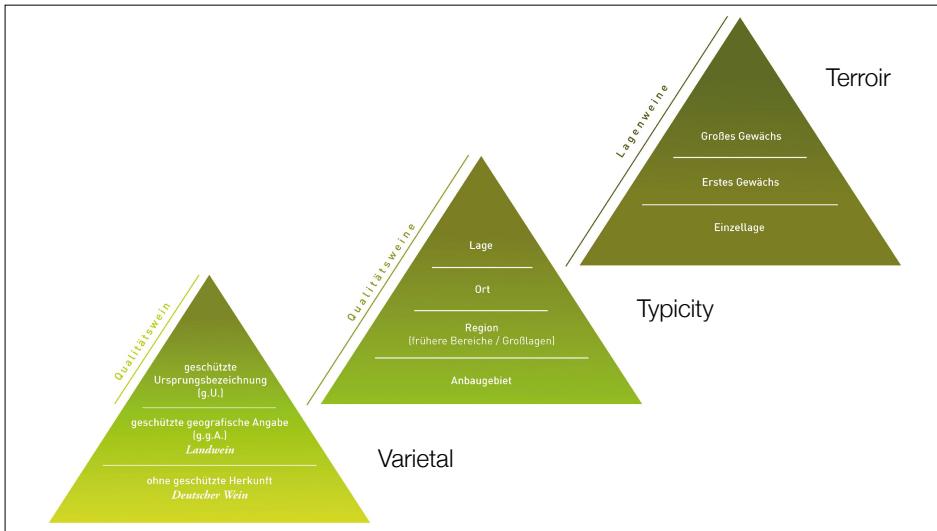
- ❖ the bubbly type
- ❖ origin: Schloss Schönberg, Bensheim (Hessische Bergstraße)
- ❖ grape variety: riesling 100%
- ❖ terroir: sandy loam on granite
- ❖ vinification: careful press, 50% of cuvée used, spontaneous fermentation, 76% stainless steel, 24% barrique, 36 months on lees, 2 g/l dosage



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Terroir Riesling

- from the best sites, single vineyards
- ripe grapes, no botrytis
- low intervention winemaking
- spontaneous fermentation or inoculation with neutral yeast
- right amount of sulphur
- fermentation temperature not very cool
- aging in bigger oak, on full lees



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Weingut Wittmann
Westhofener Riesling
Aus Ersten Lagen 2021

- ❖ the precise type
- ❖ origin: Westhofen, Morstein and Brunnenhäuschen (Rheinhessen)
- ❖ grape variety: riesling 100%
- ❖ terroir: calcareous marl, limestone
- ❖ vinification: pressing, spontaneous fermentation in old Stückfässer, aging on full lees



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Weingut Peter Jakob Kühn
Doosberg Riesling GG 2019

- ❖ the Burgundian type
- ❖ origin: Oestrich Doosberg, Grosse Lage (Rheingau)
- ❖ grape variety: riesling 100%
- ❖ terroir: calcareous löss loam on quartzite
- ❖ vinification: pressing, spontaneous fermentation in old Stückfässer, 16 months aging on full lees



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Orange wine

- skin-fermented wine made of white grapes
- very old way of making wine
- amphoras, old wooden vessels, concrete, stainless steel
- grape quality important; healthy, ripe, undamaged, no fungi
- orange/amber colour, less fruity, more tannin
- Riesling lends itself rather well



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Weingut Meierer Riesling WTF!? 2020

- ❖ the funky type
- ❖ origin: Kesten (Mosel)
- ❖ grape variety: riesling 100%
- ❖ terroir: grey and blue slate
- ❖ vinification: spontaneous fermentation of crushed berries in stainless steel, pressing after end of alcoholic fermentation, minimal addition of sulphur



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Weingut Florian Weingart Bopparder Hamm Engelstein am Weißen Wacke Riesling Spätlese Anarchie 2020

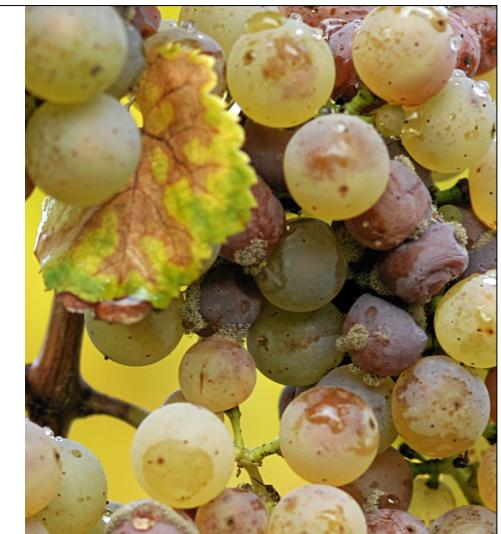
- ❖ the rebellious type
- ❖ origin: Bopparder Hamm Engelstein (Mittelrhein)
- ❖ grape variety: riesling 100%
- ❖ terroir: grey slate
- ❖ vinification: spontaneous fermentation in acacia wood, fermentation stopped by itself at RS level above Feinherb > Anarchie
- ❖ analysis: 11,5% ABV; 27,4 g/l RS; 6,9 g/l TA



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The sweet(ish) side of Riesling

- Fruchtsüß, Edelsüß and Eiswein
- for sweet wine: predicates still important
- important factor: botrytis or no botrytis
 - good botrytis: dehydration > concentration of sugars and acids
 - more β-glucans and glycerol > increased viscosity
 - honey, raisins, orange peel, caramel



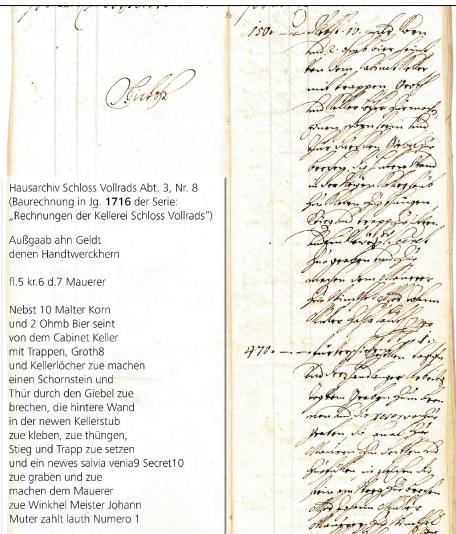
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The Comeback of Kabinett (and the birth of Kabi)

- Das Cabinet, historic wine treasury
- Prädikat Kabinett, (too) low requirements
- comeback: Mosel, Nahe and definitely also Roter Hang (Rheinhessen)
- neo-classical Kabinett: 8-9% ABV, 40-60 g/l RS, 9 g/l TA
- contemporary Kabi: 8% ABV, max. 40 g/l RS, 10-12 g/l TA
- uniquely German, uniquely Riesling!



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Weingut Günther Steinmetz Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Kabinett 2021

- the sweet retro type
- origin: Wehlener Sonnenuhr (Mosel)
- grape variety: riesling 100%
- terroir: blue slate
- vinification: whole bunch pressing, spontaneous fermentation in stainless steel, stopping fermentation by cooling, filtering and addition of sulphur



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