

4-2011

## **BINZ+BRATT ...**

Our new wine **BINZ+BRATT WEISSER RIESLING** dry from Mosel region has received great honor in Poland. The wine was awarded a **GOLD Medal** at the GRAND PRIX Magazynu WINO 2011 in the category of white wine below 50 polish zloty. (approx. 12 Euro) As there is only One Gold Medal per category in this competition the BINZ+BRATT WEISSER RIESLING can be called the *best white wine available in Poland*.

**BINZ  
BRATT**

EST 2008



## **Weingut K.F.GROEBE ...**

Participated at the IWC LIBRARY COLLECTION 2011 with two vintages of **Westhofener Kirchspiel Riesling Spätlese**. Both wines were among the best rated wines in their individual vintage. For us just one more proof that Groebe wines are durable like no others.

*Westhofener Kirchspiel Riesling Spätlese 2001, 93/100*

### Westhofener Kirchspiel



Vintage: 2001  
Produced by: Weingut K.F. Groebe  
Country: Germany  
Region: Rheinhessen  
Score: 93/100

Judges Comments: Lime blossom, nectarine, sweet, lovely fresh apples, packed stone fruit. Dries off in finish.

THE LIBRARY  
COLLECTION

2001 VINTAGE 93/100

Westhofener Kirchspiel Riesling Spätlese 2006, **94/100**

## Westhofener Kirchspiel



Vintage: 2006  
Produced by: Weingut K.F. Groebe  
Country: Germany  
Region: Rheinhessen  
Score: 94/100

Judges Comments: Exotic, ripe, scented florals and fruits.  
Lovely balance of sweetness and fresh citrus acidity. Lovely.



Please check here: <http://www.internationalwinechallenge.com/LibraryCollectionResult.aspx>

### HARVEST PREVIEW 2011

After November and December 10 with lots of snow and an early ice wine harvest, the year 2011 started unusually mild and dry. With temperatures just above zero January was warmer than expected. Although we had some precipitation it was no snow but all rain. As a result the river Rhine stepped over its banks and flooded houses, vineyards and major roads. The B42 from Wiesbaden to Rüdeshheim was blocked for several days as water was a natural barricade.

February and March have been very dry and mild with almost 40% and 60% less rain compared to the average. Snow was only something we could dream of.

April had 60% more sun hours than expected. The natural result was an early bud spring around mid of the month. The disaster came only two weeks later when a short frost period hit vineyards in the Pfalz and Rheinhessen area early May. Vines damaged by frost did not recover over the season and delivered only a small percentage of the crop of a healthy vine.

While spring was sunny and dry, the summer became too wet with a lack of sunshine. July was the months with the highest variations from normal. With almost 60% more rain but 25% less sunshine July was anything but nice. This also continued in August and the first week of September.

Many producers started to harvest their grapes 1<sup>st</sup> of September. Particular in Pfalz the early grapes were ripe. Markus Schneider, a producer which grows quite a few hectares of Sauvignon Blanc, had to work almost day and night to get the crop in. Also Axel Neiss started to get prepared to pick Grauburgunder and Weissburgunder.

With the 12<sup>th</sup> of September the weather became sunny, dry and windy drying out the grapes. As a result the must weight increased rapidly while the level of acidity decreased. Producers in Rheinhessen like Groebe and Dreissigacker started to harvest the first Riesling grapes, unusually early. Then the conditions turned to become more stable.

Late September and October offered almost perfect harvest conditions. Chilly nights with sunny days made all wine makers smiling. Finally the vast majority of the grapes were picked until mid October. All quality levels were possible from excellent standard Riesling to top noble sweet wines.

Currently we still see a few grapes outside waiting for the first frost. Ice wine will be the highlight of the 2011 vintage. If it happens remains to be seen. We will keep you updated with our full vintage report early 2012.

Sincerely Yours