



The Wines of Germany

Anne Krebiehl

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- Winner of the 2020 Louis Roederer wine book of the year award
- Explains the confusing German wine laws and their significance for today's wines
- Features detailed profiles of the most interesting producers across all regions, providing a full view of the broad spectrum covered by Germany's winemakers

This historic wine nation at the heart of Europe produces a diverse range of wines – Riesling above all, but also compelling Spätburgunder, aka Pinot Noir, and Silvaner, amongst others. Yet in the minds of many it is still associated with mass-produced sweetish plonk. But following a bruising twentieth century, German wine over the past thirty years has experienced a renaissance. In *The Wines of Germany*, Master of Wine Anne Krebiehl takes us with her on a journey through vineyards clustered along the country's many winding rivers to uncover this new world of German wine.

She begins with a thorough explanation of German wine law – a subject so complicated that it can alienate all but the most dedicated wine enthusiast – taking a historical perspective and showing how current moves to review the law could considerably simplify it. It is only right that Riesling, the light and aromatic grape synonymous with this country, gets a chapter all to itself, as does Spätburgunder. Plantings of this grape doubled between 1990 and 2010 to make Germany the third-largest grower worldwide. As an enthusiast for Sekt, Krebiehl is keen to explain how far from the tank-produced wines of past decades this sparkling wine has come, with artisan winemakers across the regions returning to the old methods to create bottle-fermented Sekts of quality.

Taking the thirteen regions in turn, Krebiehl explains the unique history, geography and climate of each, presenting a selection of some of her favourite producers. From the famed steep slopes of the Mosel, where Riesling reaches its pinnacle of expression, through the largest region, Rheinhessen, home of the infamous Liebfraumilch, to less well-known regions such as Saale-Unstrut and Sachsen, Krebiehl paints a vivid picture of each region's unique offering, inspiring readers to begin their own explorations.

German-born but London-based, **Anne Krebiehl MW** is a wine writer and lecturer. Her work has been published in many trade and consumer publications. She lectures, particularly on German wine, consults for London restaurants and translates wine-related texts. Anne also judges at international wine competitions. Her interests are German, Austrian, Italian and New Zealand wines, with a particular focus on Pinot Noir, Riesling and traditional method sparkling wines.

