

LOUIS GUNTRUM, Rheinhessen www.guntrum.de

The Guntrum family has been growing grapes and making wine in the Rheinhessen since 1648. Louis Konstantin is the 11th generation to manage the estate but is very much a man looking forward rather than relying on the past. Quality has steadily improved under his careful management and the astute purchase of grand cru vineyards in Nierstein and Oppenheim has benefited the wines across the range. Yet prices remain very reasonable, in line with the character of the modest, agreeable Konstantin, who wants you to enjoy his wines rather than worry about the price. And we heartily recommend them.

**DE0377W Guntrum Dry Riesling 2007, Rheinhessen 12.5% £8.49**

The warmer climate of the Rheinhessen is immediately apparent in this Spatlese Trocken. The vivid acidity is balanced by rounded peach and ripe grapefruit flavours, making this very drinkable. To 2011

DE0387W Guntrum Riesling Kabinett 2007, Rheinhessen 11.5% £9.99

The simple label does not do justice to this delicious off-dry white. Peach, apple and melon flavours, good minerality and a lovely mouthfeel. Finishes long with a delicate grapey sweetness. Enjoy to 2014

DE0357W Guntrum Niersteiner Rehbach Riesling Spatlese 2007, Rheinhessen 10% £12.49

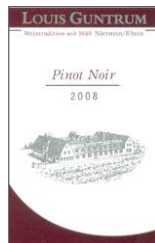
If there was one Guntrum wine to try then this impressive Spatlese from the Rehbach's slate soils would be it. Peach, pear and ripe nectarine flavours with savoury mineral notes and a lovely subtle acidity. The balance and ripeness of fruit gives an off-dry impression despite the high sugar levels. Enjoy to 2017

DE0365W Guntrum Oppenheimer Herrenberg Riesling Auslese 2005, Rheinhessen 9% £13.99

2005 was an excellent vintage and this rich, sweet Auslese does not disappoint. Intense peach, nectarine and orange flavours that linger nicely on the finish. To 2015

DE0398R Guntrum Pinot Noir 2008, Rheinhessen 14% £9.99

Tasting Konstantin's first release of Pinot Noir was quite a revelation. Aged two months in oak barrels, the wine has perfumed aromas of cherry, raspberry and creamy vanilla. Rounded summer fruit flavours with gentle tannins and fresh but not excessive acidity. Finishes with a spicy lift. An attractive, elegant wine to enjoy to 2012

**SIX-BOTTLE SAMPLER CASES**

Our Six Bottle Sampler Cases give a saving of £5 and there is also free delivery on 12 bottles or more

DEC002W	German Dry Rieslings	£52.94
2 x DE0046W	Villa Wolf Riesling Trocken 2006, Pfalz	7.99
2 x DE0377W	Guntrum Dry Riesling 2007, Rheinhessen	8.49
2 x DE0288W	Donnhoff Dry Riesling QbA 2008, Nahe	12.49

DEC003W	German 'Fruity' Off-Dry Rieslings	£55.94
2 x DE0018W	Dr. Loosen Riesling QbA 2008, Mosel	7.99
2 x DE0387W	Guntrum Riesling Kabinett 2007, Rheinhessen	9.99
2 x DE0338W	Donnhoff Riesling QbA 2008, Nahe	12.49



In June our wine buyer Greg Shaw toured a number of German wine regions, visiting producers and trying different wines. The result is this feature on some of the country's best producers. We have wines from **Helmut Donnhoff** in the Nahe, arguably Germany's greatest winemaker, and from the two estates of **Ernst Loosen**, in the Mosel and the Rhein-Pfalz. We are also delighted to introduce **Louis Konstantin Guntrum**, a rising star of the Rheinhessen.

Riesling is undoubtedly the country's most important variety, yet it doesn't have to be sweet. There is great demand within Germany for dry or 'trocken' wines, and the real discovery of this visit was the range and quality of the dry whites. Home produced red wines are also much in demand, especially from Pinot Noir. Most are somewhat over-priced and so difficult to recommend, which is why Louis Guntrum's Pinot Noir came as such a pleasant surprise. So we are delighted to offer this and a wide range of other wines that show just how good German wines can be.

You can make your own selection from amongst the wines listed and enjoy free delivery. Alternatively, we have two six-bottle **Sampler Cases**, one highlighting dry Riesling, the other 'fruity' or off-dry Riesling. Take two of these cases, making 12 bottles in all, and you can **save up to £16** including free delivery!

DR. LOOSEN, Bernkastel, Moselwww.drloosen.com

Through his efforts to raise the profile of Germany's premium wines Ernst Loosen has become perhaps the best known winemaker in Germany. It should not be forgotten however that his authority was established by the world class quality of wines from his family estate in the Mosel. When Ernie took over production in 1987, the wines were good but with radical changes and his 100% focus on quality, they soon became great and an inspiration to his fellow producers. Ernie is a man of strong opinions, which he is not slow to express, but he is also an exceptional winemaker and his wines really do deliver.

**DE0018W Dr. Loosen Riesling QbA 2008, Mosel 7.5% £7.99**

Subtle white peach aromas with a touch of minerals. Light, pure and elegant on the palate, fresh but not acidic with an attractive sweetness. This is a great introduction to the Dr. Loosen style. A consistent Wine Spectator 'Best Value'. Enjoy now to 2011

DE0117W Dr. Loosen Bernkasteler Lay Riesling Kabinett 2007, Mosel 7.5% £11.99

The vineyard name 'Lay' is pronounced 'Lie' and means 'slate'. *'Offering a site-typical combination of black cherry and lime, this Kabinett evinces a striking sense of levity (at only 7.5% alcohol) yet without tasting overly sweet. Instead, this is unquenchably refreshing, with hints of smoke and pungent herbs adding to the invigorating effect of the finish. Drink 2009-18. 89 points'* The Wine Advocate

DE0407W Dr. Loosen Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spatlese 2007, Mosel 8% £19.99

'Fresh apple in counterpoint with lemon- and vanilla-cream characterize the Wehlener Sonnenuhr Riesling Spatlese, which preserves terrific refreshment on the palate even as it slathers on cream. This is another one of those seemingly levitating, where's-the-alcohol wines. Bitterness of vanilla bean grapefruit zest along with wet stone add further interest to a long finish. Drink 2009-24. 91pts' Wine Advocate

DE0326Q Dr. Loosen Riesling Beerenauslese 2006, Mosel 7% 18.75cl £9.99

2006 was a remarkable vintage with normally rare botrytis affected grapes produced in abundance. So Ernie Loosen decided to include the grapes from all his best vineyards in a generic Beerenauslese and release it in quarter bottles, so wine enthusiasts could enjoy the exceptional flavours of late harvest German Riesling at a very reasonable price - In fact this wine is less than a third the price of the 2005!

'This is a sweet, plump wine, filled to the brim with lush tropical fruit flavours. The aromas show remarkably pure pear and pineapple scents, with just a touch of dried apricots but also a sense of slate-driven minerality. Editors' Choice. 93 points' Wine Enthusiast Magazine. For drinking now and to 2014.

JL WOLF, Pfalzwww.jlwolf.com

Whilst Dr. Loosen's estate on the Mosel produces world class sweet Rieslings, the beautiful JL Wolf estate near Wachenheim in the Pfalz is the source of his equally impressive dry wines. The Pfalz is in fact the northern extension of France's Alsace and like Alsace is the sunniest and driest part of its country.

The small 10ha Wolf estate is planted mostly to Riesling with some Pinot Gris and other aromatic varieties. All the wines are fermented dry and though the single varietals are great value, we were particularly impressed by the dry Rieslings. The estate produces superb single vineyard wines, but for quality and value our favourite was the Wachenheim Riesling. At under £10 a bottle this is an amazing value,

which is repeated across a range that now includes a delicious Silvaner. For anyone who imagines German whites are all sweet, these full, rounded, dry wines will come as a very pleasant surprise.

DE0057W Villa Wolf Pinot Gris 2007, Pfalz 12% £7.99

Pinot Gris is rare in Germany, but ideally suited to the Pfalz. Bright straw colour and aromas of melon and peach with subtle floral notes. Surprisingly full and rich in the mouth with melon, peach and fig, smoky, spicy notes and a citrus edge. There is good spicy complexity and a just dry finish. Drink to 2012

DE0046W Villa Wolf Riesling Trocken 2006, Pfalz 12.5% £7.99

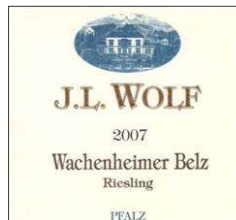
Completely dry Riesling can be rather severe unless the grapes are properly ripened, as in this example from Dr. Loosen. Steely, mineral aromas with fresh citrus notes. Very pure in the mouth, lean and crisp and a touch of lime. Minerals and stone fruit flavours come through on the long dry finish. Not as full as the premium wines but still a pure, refreshing wine. 'Best Buy' Wine Enthusiast Magazine. Enjoy to 2011

DE0307W Villa Wolf Silvaner 2007, Pfalz 11.5% £7.99

Silvaner is Germany's third most planted variety but is usually sweet. This dry, unoaked version from the sandy loams of the Pfalz is full and round with intense stone fruit flavours and fresh citrus acidity. An open, expressive style that works particularly well with Asian food. To 2011

DE0068P Villa Wolf Pinot Noir Rosé 2008, Pfalz 10.5% £7.99

Attractive summer rosé made by removing Pinot Noir juice from the skins soon after crushing. Red cherry, peach and strawberry flavours with a slightly sweet impression on the finish. This is a delicious though delicate rosé that would work well with spicy foods. Enjoy to 2011

**DE0317W JL Wolf Wachenheim 'Village' Riesling Trocken 2007, Pfalz 12.5% £9.99**

This is a superb example of modern German dry Riesling. The sandstone soils have produced intense mineral flavours that are balanced by white peach, nectarine and quince flavours. There is crisp apple acidity and complex notes of greengage and passionfruit. A real 'eye-opener' wine to enjoy to 2011

DE0296W JL Wolf Wachenheim Belz Riesling 2006, Pfalz 12% £14.99

The Belz vineyard with its naturally chalky soils is considered 'Premier Cru' quality. This French type of classification is not accepted by the German authorities but is typical of how Ernst Loosen thinks of his vineyards and wines in international terms. Technically a Spatlese Trocken, the Belz is a real step up in quality from the Village wine. Good intensity of guava and exotic fruit flavours, lemon and minerals. Lovely balance of fruit and acid with a very long finish. Drinking well now but can be kept to 2014,

DONNHOF, Oberhausen, Nahe www.doenhoff.com

So short a space cannot really do justice to the wines of Helmut Donnhoff, 'undoubtedly the best producer in the Nahe, if not the whole of Germany' said Wine Magazine and 'a stellar winemaker who leaves tasters shaking their heads in awe' according to The Wine Advocate. We can just note briefly that Helmut is a modest thoughtful man making some of the most complex, pure and beautiful Rieslings on the planet. The estate has been family owned since 1750 and Helmut has gradually increased the size to 20ha through the judicious purchase of grand cru vineyards considered too steep and difficult to work by less committed growers. Production remains small and dare we say perfectly formed and it is to privilege to offer a selection of his wines.

**DE0288W Donnhoff Dry Riesling QbA 2008, Nahe 11.5% £12.49**

A great introduction to the Donnhoff style from vines grown on ancient volcanic soils. Perfumed elegant aromas with peach, baked apple and notes of minerals. Crisp steely acidity on the palate balanced by grapefruit, white peach, lime and apple flavours and a wonderfully balanced, mineral finish. To 2012.

DE0338W Donnhoff Riesling QbA 2008, Nahe 9.5% £12.49

Donnhoff's entry-level 'fruity' Riesling has an elegance and balance most winemakers dream of. Of Kabinett quality with 30g/l of sugar, it has refreshingly pure aromas with minerals and white peach and intense, juicy flavours on the palate. It seems at once to be sweet yet refreshingly pure, with mineral acidity and a lovely long finish bringing in flavours of whitecurrant, grapefruit and crisp apple. To 2013.

DE0187W Donnhoff Oberhauser Leistenberg Riesling Kabinett 2007, Nahe 8.5% £14.99

Aromas of peach melba, pomegranate and minerals. Medium-bodied with good intensity of stone fruit flavours and lemon zest. The pure fruit flavours and grapey sweetness give roundness and mouth-feel. This is balanced by an underpinning minerality that really comes through on the long, medium-dry finish. *'Pure and citrusy and very young, but depth and balance bodes well. 16.5/20'* Jancis Robinson To 2014

DE0348W Donnhoff 'Tonscheifer' Dry Slate Riesling 2008, Nahe 11.5% £14.99

This is in fact Leistenberg Kabinett Trocken but to differentiate it from the previous wine, Helmut renamed it 'Tonscheifer' or 'Dry Slate' to reflect its origins. Almost perfumed aromas of flint, minerals and notes of baked apple and spice. Pure and focused on the palate, lean and intensely flavoured with stone fruits, minerals, whitecurrant and grapefruit and a touch of spice. A remarkable wine. To 2013