

SPECIAL ISSUE  
*Wine Country Travel*

# Wine Spectator

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## *Exploring California*

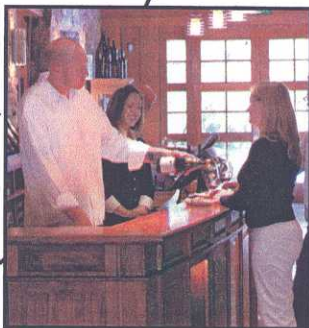
Where to Wine and Dine in  
Five Vineyard Regions



SONOMA VALLEY



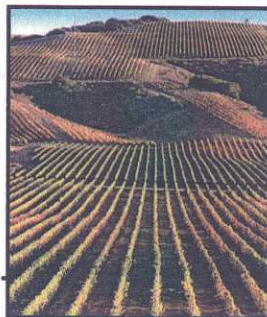
ANDERSON VALLEY



NAPA VALLEY



SIERRA Foothills



SANTA BARBARA

**Austria: Whites Excel in 2006**  
**Great Values From France**  
**Scandal Strikes Brunello**

JUNE 15, 2008  
\$5.95 US



## AUSTRIA

## Blafränkisch &amp; Blends

**91 Krutzler Qualitätswein Trocken Südburgenland Perwollf 2005 \$122** A very lush, full-bodied red, showing intense flavors of dark plum, chocolate, dark cherry and mocha, with silky tannins. Has a long, long finish of spice, plum pudding and smoke. Blafränkisch. Drink now through 2014. 667 cases made.—K.M.

**91 Paul Lehrner Qualitätswein Trocken Mittelburgenland Steineiche 2005 \$42** A rich, full-bodied red, with loads of ripe plum, dark cherry and blueberry flavors all backed up by a crisp acidity. The finish oozes with chocolate and espresso notes, with an accent of Asian spice. Blafränkisch. Drink now through 2012. 1,167 cases made.—K.M.

**90 Paul Lehrner Qualitätswein Trocken Mittelburgenland Paulus 2005 \$48** A graceful red, offering refined, lip-smacking flavors of cherry, chocolate, blueberry and spice, with a supple texture and fine tannins. Has a bright finish of cardamom, with hints of maple. Blafränkisch, Cabernet Sauvignon and Zweigelt. Drink now through 2013. 1,167 cases made.—K.M.

**90 Wachter-Wiesler Qualitätswein Trocken Südburgenland Julia 2005 \$23** Intensely fruity, with concentrated kirschlike aromas and flavors. There's impressive balance and structure that carries the refined raspberry and red plum notes, with plenty of fine-grained tannins. Spicy finish. Blafränkisch, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now through 2013. 583 cases made.—K.M.

**89 Anton Iby Blafränkisch Qualitätswein Trocken Mittelburgenland Dürrau Juwel 2004 \$75** Chewy, with concentrated red berry, mocha and anise flavors that are accented by smoky notes. Firmly tannic, with plenty of acidity and structure on the finish. Drink now through 2012. 417 cases made.—K.M.

**89 Wachter-Wiesler Qualitätswein Trocken Südburgenland Pfarrweingarten 2005 \$18** Crushed red fruit and spice flavors dominate this fresh, zippy red. Red plum and berry notes are accented by hints of beef and mint. Blafränkisch. Drink now through 2012. 1,083 cases made.—K.M.

**88 K. Alphart Pinot Noir Qualitätswein Trocken Thermenregion Reserve 2005 \$60** A ripe style, with raspberry, licorice and dark cherry flavors that fan out nicely on the broad, spicy finish. Drink now through 2010. 116 cases made.—K.M.

**88 J. Heinrich Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Terra O. 2005 \$46** A lush red, with a supple texture and well-concentrated flavors of raspberry, red plum and lively cherry. The fresh finish is filled with baker's chocolate and spice. Blafränkisch, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and others. Drink now through 2011. 1,250 cases made.—K.M.

**88 Kopfensteiner Blafränkisch Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Weinberg 2005 \$29** Very juicy, balanced and fresh, with a firm acidity behind the rich red plum, raspberry and blueberry flavors. Has medium-grained tannins, with chocolate and pepper notes on the finish. Drink now through 2011. 833 cases made.—K.M.

**87 Graf Trauttmansdorff Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Weinsberg Cuvée 2002 \$36** An intense minty strain runs through the blackberry and espresso flavors. The ripe, tannic finish features bitter-sweet chocolate notes. Blafränkisch, Zweigelt, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now. 1,250 cases made.—K.M.

**85 J. Heinrich Blafränkisch Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland 2006 \$15** Focused flavors of cherry, plum and berry are accented by touches of sandalwood in this medium-bodied red. Drink now through 2011. 5,000 cases made.—K.M.

## AUSTRIA

## Dessert

**95 Willi Opitz Pinot Gris Trockenbeerenauslese Neusiedlersee 2006 \$114/375ml** A luscious sweetie, with layers of baked apple, piecrust, peach cobbler and apricot flavors. Oozes cream and spice on the long, fresh, enveloping finish. Stunningly rich and flavorful. Drink now through 2025. 75 cases made.—K.M.

**94 Feller-Artinger Ruster Ausbruch Burgenland Essenz 2005 \$58** A rich, creamy style, with loads of ripe pear, mango and butterscotch flavors. Very ripe on the finish, yet not overblown, with enticing spicy and smoky notes. Luxurious. Chardonnay and Pinot Blanc. Drink now through 2018. 95 cases made.—K.M.

**94 Kracher Scheurebe Trockenbeerenauslese Burgenland Zwischen den Seen No. 4 2005 \$77/375ml** Impressively concentrated and lush-tasting, with loads of ruby grapefruit, peach, apricot, honey and butter flavors. There's plenty of structure to back it all up, with a long finish of baked peach and allspice. Drink now through 2025. 167 cases made.—K.M.

**93 Feller-Artinger Ruster Ausbruch Burgenland Jonathan Essenz 2005 \$69** Fruity, ripe and juicy, with intense flavors of guava, pineapple, glazed apricot and cream. The thick, viscous finish features plenty of decadent caramel and butterscotch. Chardonnay and Riesling. Drink now through 2018. 42 cases made.—K.M.

**93 Kracher Chardonnay Trockenbeerenauslese Burgenland Nouvelle Vague No. 10 2005 \$98/375ml** Essence of baked apple, with elegant notes of cream, spice and peach cobbler. There's also a luscious core of pear tart. The long finish features notes of baked pineapple and mango. Drink now through 2020. 75 cases made.—K.M.

**93 Kracher Trockenbeerenauslese Burgenland Grande Cuvée Nouvelle Vague No. 7 2005 \$90/375ml** Rich glazed apricot and pineapple flavors fill this fruity dessert white. Concentrated spice and glazed mango notes carry through to the creamy finish. Drink now through 2018. 312 cases made.—K.M.

**93 Kracher Welschriesling Trockenbeerenauslese Burgenland Zwischen den Seen No. 8 2005 \$92/375ml** Deeply flavored, unctuous, lush and buttery, with a glorious array of ripe stone fruit flavors—peach, apricot and hints of nectarine—that are flanked by a spicy essence. Honey and cream fill the long finish. Drink now through 2020. 83 cases made.—K.M.

**93 Manfred Weiss Eiswein Neusiedlersee 2005 \$22/375ml** Focused and refined, with concentrated flavors of melon, pear, peach and spice. There's also impressive structure, with a finish filled with white chocolate and cream. Grüner Veltliner. Drink now through 2018. 188 cases made.—K.M.

**92 Kracher Chardonnay Trockenbeerenauslese Burgenland Nouvelle Vague No. 5 2005 \$83/375ml** This is very fresh and oozes with fresh citrus, apple and peach flavors that are flanked by plenty of spice and cream. Finishes with orange peel and candied ginger. Drink now through 2020. 125 cases made.—K.M.

**92 Kracher Muskat Ottonel Trockenbeerenauslese Burgenland Zwischen den Seen No. 6 2005 \$87/375ml** Creamy and lush-tasting, with ripe peach, apple and marmalade flavors. Well-structured and balanced, with a firm well of mineral and spice notes on the finish. Drink now through 2020. 83 cases made.—K.M.

**92 Kracher Traminer Trockenbeerenauslese Burgenland Nouvelle Vague No. 3 2005 \$77/375ml** Very rich, exotic and exuberantly spicy, with flavors of ripe pear, apricot and cardamom. The long finish is filled with candied fruits and meadlike flavors. Drink now through 2020. 104 cases made.—K.M.

**92 Kracher Welschriesling Trockenbeerenauslese Burgenland Zwischen den Seen No. 1 2005 \$73/375ml** Intense and full-flavored, with glazed apricot, ripe peach and plenty of smoky notes, followed by a lusciously long finish of cream and spice. Drink now through 2018. 167 cases made.—K.M.

**92 Held Schröck Ruster Ausbruch Burgenland Turner 2005 \$116/375ml** Very creamy, lively and rich, with distinctive fresh flavors of clove, pear, white raspberry and peach cobbler. The long, mellow finish features tropical fruit flavors, with hints of mocha. Furmint. Drink now through 2018. 33 cases made.—K.M.

**92 Tschida Muskat Ottonel Eiswein Neusiedlersee Angerhof 2005 \$34/375ml** Bursts with aromas and flavors of peach, pear, ripe apple and spice, all on a fine, elegant texture and accented by rich tropical fruit notes. Finishes with notes of buttery piecrust and cinnamon. Drink now through 2015. 83 cases made.—K.M.

**92 Wenzel Ruster Ausbruch Burgenland Sz 2004 \$90/375ml** Spicy, with a rich amber hue and flavors of glazed apricot, baked pineapple and ruby grapefruit. There's plenty of sea salt and spice on the luscious finish. Furmint and Gelber Muskateller. Drink now through 2014. 91 cases made.—K.M.

**91 Kracher Scheurebe Trockenbeerenauslese Burgenland Zwischen den Seen No. 9 2005 \$92/375ml** This sweetie shows lots of honey and butter flavors. Peach and apricot fill out the fruit components, with a touch of grapefruit and a thick, spice-filled finish. Drink now through 2018. 83 cases made.—K.M.

**91 Anita & Hans Nittaus Trockenbeerenauslese Neusiedlersee 2004 \$49/375ml** Baked apple, peach cobbler and piecrust aromas and flavors are thick and rich. Finishes with toast, butter and marmalade notes. Chardonnay, Pinot Blanc, Sauvignon Blanc and Riesling. Drink now through 2018. 192 cases made.—K.M.

**91 Peter Schandl Ruster Ausbruch Burgenland 2006 \$40/375ml** A viscous sweetie, with rich, enveloping flavors of ripe apricot, baked vanilla, vanilla and spice. The long finish is filled with butter and smoke. Has a good sense of freshness. Ruländer. Drink now through 2015.—K.M.

**91 Steindorfer Scheurebe Trockenbeerenauslese Burgenland 2001 \$40/375ml** Quite spicy, rich and ripe, with concentrated peach, pear and apricot flavors that are joined by intense notes of juniper and chamomile. Long and sweet, with a buttery finish. Drink now through 2012. 167 cases made.—K.M.

**90 House of Hafner Burgenland Eiswein Burgenland Cuvée 2006 \$15/375ml** Delicate and elegant, with concentrated ripe pear, buttercream and baked apple pie à la mode flavors. An intense spiciness envelops the refined finish. Grüner Veltliner, Riesling and Chardonnay. Drink now through 2015. 708 cases made.—K.M.

**90 Münzenleder Welschriesling-Chardonnay Trockenbeerenauslese Burgenland 2002 \$24/375ml** Very creamy and fresh-tasting, with ripe pear and baked apple flavors that lengthen out nicely on the broad, mineral- and spice-filled finish. Drink now through 2014. 458 cases made.—K.M.

**90 Tschida Sämling 88 Beerenauslese Neusiedlersee Angerhof 2005 \$30/375ml** Lush and rich, with a core of concentrated baked apple, ripe pear and honey flavors, which extend on the long, spice-filled finish. Drink now through 2015. 125 cases made.—K.M.

## AUSTRIA

## Grüner Veltliner

**94 Johann Donabauer Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Trocken Wachau Spitzer Point 2006 \$33** Vibrant, smoky and rich, with concentrated flavors of peach,

quince, apricot and lychee. Powerful, with a hint of tannins and a long finish of spice and cream. Drink now through 2015. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. 292 cases made.—K.M.

**92 Knoll Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Trocken Wachau Loibner Ried Loibenberg 2006 \$60** Very smoky and lush, with golden raisin, apricot and tropical fruit flavors. The long finish is supported by a firm structure and lots of crunchiness, spicy notes. Drink now through 2014. 75 cases imported.—K.M.

**92 Nigl Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Kremstal Privat 2006 \$46** A ripe, lush style, with flavors of golden raisin, ripe peach, pear and hints of butterscotch. Finishes with gobs of smoke and spice. Try with seared foie gras. Drink now through 2014. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. 17 cases imported.—K.M.

**91 Knoll Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Trocken Wachau Loibner Ried Kreutles 2006 \$45** Creamy and rich, with ripe peach, apricot, smoke and spice flavors. The intense finish of pepper, cumin and citrus notes make this exotic and seductive. Drink now through 2012. 75 cases imported.—K.M.

**91 Knoll Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Trocken Wachau Loibner Ried Schütt 2006 \$60** A balanced, well-crafted Grüner, with concentrated flavors of peach, red currant, berry, smoke and spice. There's hints of tea and gooseberry on the lithe finish. Drink now through 2013. 20 cases imported.—K.M.

**90 Ludwig Ehn Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Kamptal Titan 2006 \$23** Very lush and spicy, with ripe, juicy flavors of peach, apple, pear and kiwifruit. The long, creamy finish shows richness and elegance, with lots of spice. Drink now through 2012.—K.M.

**90 Loimer Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Kamptal Langenlois Spiegel 2006 \$48** This has a sublime mineral essence, with plenty of rich peach, ripe apple and spice flavors. Finishes with ruby grapefruit and a touch of honey. Drink now through 2013. 415 cases made.—K.M.

**90 Mantlerhof Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Kremstal Spiegel 2006 \$28** There's impressive power to the grapefruit, quince, fig and peach flavors. Has a long finish of mineral, smoke and spice, with hints of cream. Well-balanced and fresh-tasting. Drink now through 2013. 200 cases made.—K.M.

**90 Rainer Wess Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Kremstal Pfaffenberg 2006 \$37** Rich and very spicy, with ripe peach, apple, pear and quince flavors, all topped off by a dollop of cream. White chocolate fills the ripe finish, with tropical fruit notes. Drink now through 2012. 125 cases made.—K.M.

**90 Winzer Krems Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Kremstal Kremser Wachtberg 2006 \$18** There's good power behind the peach, smoke, glazed apricot and spice flavors. Grapefruit, mineral and white pepper season the finish. Drink now through 2013.—K.M.

**89 Höppler Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland 2006 \$15** Very focused and crisp, with concentrated flavors of green peach, citrus and spice followed by a zesty finish of blood orange. Drink now through 2012.—K.M.

**89 Summerer Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Kamptal Schenkenbichl 2006 \$27** Displays a creamy aroma, with flavors of peach cobbler, apple butter, spice and apricot on a broad structure. The ripe finish echoes the flavors. Drink now through 2012. 330 cases made.—K.M.

**89 Zull Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Niederösterreich Äussere Bergen 2006 \$24** Has a supple, mouthfilling texture, with rich flavors of peach, apricot, apple pie and allspice. The long, creamy finish completes the package. Drink now through 2011. 208 cases made.—K.M.

**88 Huber Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Niederösterreich Hugo 2006 \$10** See Best Values, page 117.

**88 Nigl Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Kremstal Kremser Freiheit 2006 \$22** Fresh and juicy, with green peach, smoke and spice flavors. Mineral and grapefruit accent the finish. Drink now through 2010. 1,343 cases imported.—K.M.

**88 Nikolaihof Qualitätswein Trocken Wachau Hefeabzug 2006 \$28** This has a rich array of tropical fruit flavors and hints of butterscotch. Firm on the finish, with plenty of mineral notes. Grüner Veltliner. Drink now through 2010. 122 cases imported.—K.M.

**88 Josef Schmid Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Kremstal Kremser Alte Reben Priorissa 2006 \$26** Focused citrus, spice and quince flavors fill this well-structured Grüner. The firm finish features notes of almond and sea salt. Drink now through 2012. 415 cases made.—K.M.

**88 Weinrieder Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Niederösterreich Reserve 2006 \$34** Bright, ripe and juicy, with an array of red peach, pear, currant and spice flavors. The mouthfilling finish features plenty of lush, creamy notes. Drink now through 2011. 250 cases made.—K.M.

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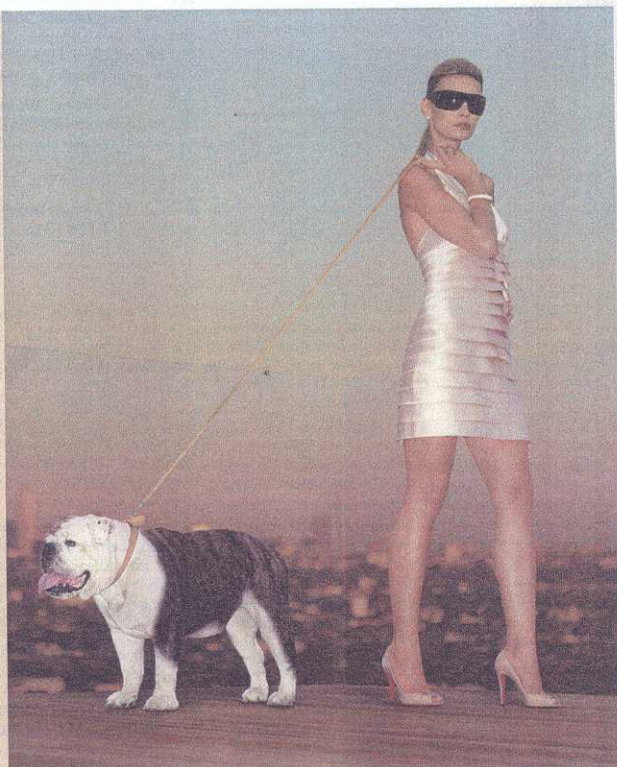
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**87 Graf Hardegg** Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Niederösterreich Vom Schloss 2006 \$21 Tastes of white currant, pippin apple and apricot, with hints of mango and spice. The ripe finish features smoke and grapefruit notes. Drink now. 120 cases imported.—K.M.

**87 Michlits** Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Meinklang 2006 \$14 Offers lots of intense grapefruit flavors, with some minerally notes. There's an herbal edge to the finish. Try with oysters. Drink now through 2011. 1,250 cases made.—K.M.

**87 Bernhard Ott** Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Wagram Der Ott 2006 \$25 This has a nice ripeness, with fruity and spicy flavors of peach, apricot, ripe pear and baked apple. The broad finish features smoky notes. Drink now through 2011. 1,250 cases made.—K.M.

**87 Bernhard Ott** Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Wagram Fass 4 2006 \$21 Ruby grapefruit, peach, smoke and spice flavors mix easily in this ripe style Grüner. The clean finish features minerally notes. Drink now through 2010. 5,000 cases made.—K.M.

**87 Josef Schmid** Qualitätswein Trocken Kremstal Cuvée Pepino 2006 \$15 Crisp, with green apple, peach and grapefruit flavors. White pepper and spice linger on the finish. Drink now. 200 cases imported.—K.M.

**87 Stiftung Fürst Liechtenstein** Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Weinviertel 2006 \$14 Grapefruit and mineral flavors fill this medium-bodied white with plenty of zest. There's a creamy lift to the finish. Drink now through 2011. 2,000 cases made.—K.M.

**86 Hugl Weine** Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Niederösterreich 2006 \$12/11 Flavors of fresh-squeezed lime and crunchy apple give this a lively allure. Has a snappy finish of sea salt and pepper. Drink now. 2,133 cases imported.—K.M.

**86 Laurenz Five** Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Niederösterreich Laurenz und Sophie Singing 2006 \$14 Ripe peach and baked apple flavors fill this balanced and firm-tasting white. Finishes with mineral and spice, with notes of grapefruit. Drink now. 16,666 cases made.—K.M.

**86 Wieninger** Qualitätswein Trocken Wien Nussberg Alte Reben 2006 \$13 Firm, with concentrated ripe apple, peach and apricot flavors. Finishes with notes of butter and spice. Drink now. 1,250 cases made.—K.M.

**85 Graf Hardegg** Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Niederösterreich Veltlinsky 2006 \$12 Juicy and crisp, with concentrated green apple and citrus flavors. Finishes with white pepper and mineral. Drink now. 800 cases imported.—K.M.

**85 Bernhard Ott** Grüner Veltliner Qualitätswein Trocken Niederösterreich Am Berg 2006 \$16 Shows crisp, well-defined lemon-lime flavors, with notes of green apple. Has a very clean, focused finish. Drink now. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. 5,000 cases made.—K.M.

## AUSTRIA

### Zweigelt & Blends

**90 Domäne Müller** Zweigelt Qualitätswein Trocken Südstaiermark Ried Deutsche Weingärten 2000 \$30 A rich red, with a complex array of dark plum, pomegranate and dark chocolate flavors. There's also plenty of vanilla, which lingers on the finish with notes of fresh ground coffee and mocha. Drink now through 2012. 600 cases made.—K.M.

**89 Kurt Angerer** Zweigelt Qualitätswein Trocken Kamptal Granit 2006 \$20 Concentrated flavors of dark plum, kirsch and blackberry fill this rich, ripe red, which is also powered by hints of smoke and beef. Has a luscious finish of mincemeat and black licorice. Drink now through 2011. 583 cases made.—K.M.

**89 Claus Preisinger** Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Paradigma 2004 \$60 Lush and rich, with loads of blueberry, dark plum and kirsch flavors. The tannins are big, but in bounds. Has a powerful finish of French roast and raspberry. Zweigelt and Merlot. Drink now through 2011.—K.M.

**88 Paul Achs** Zweigelt Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Langer Acker 2006 \$38 A fruity, lip-smacking red, with essence of blueberry and lush flavors of raspberry and cream. The snappy finish is filled with nutmeg, chocolate and vanilla. Drink now through 2011.—K.M.

**88 Gernot Heinrich** Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Pannobile 2005 \$45 This is spicy, showing ripe, well-concentrated flavors of kirsch, dark plum and spice, with medium-grained tannins and chocolate and mint notes on the finish. Zweigelt, Blaufränkisch and Merlot. Drink now through 2010.—K.M.

**88 Weninger** Zweigelt Qualitätswein Trocken Mittelburgenland 2006 \$15 There's a deep well of red plum, raspberry and kirsch flavors in this juicy, well-structured red. Has plenty of spice, along with hints of black olive and licorice on the long finish. Drink now through 2011. 150 cases imported.—K.M.

**88 Winzer Kreams** Zweigelt Qualitätswein Trocken Kremstal Reserve 2003 \$20 Blueberry aromas and flavors fill this spicy, vibrant red, which shows licorice, raspberry and cream on the rich finish. Drink now.—K.M.

**87 Feller-Artlinger** Zweigelt Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland 2005 \$16 This features ripe flavors of kirsch, blueberry and dark cherry. The lively finish lengthens out nicely with notes of spice and cream. Drink now through 2010. 625 cases made.—K.M.

**87 Gernot Heinrich** Zweigelt Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland 2006 \$23 Focused flavors of cherry, licorice and dark plum are well-structured, with hints of roast beef. Finishes with powerful spice and red currant notes. Drink now through 2010.—K.M.

**87 Winzer Kreams** Blauer Zweigelt Qualitätswein Trocken Kremstal Edition Chremisa 2005 \$18 Has a silky texture, with plenty of zip to the cherry, plum and red currant flavors. Raspberry and cream fill the finish. Drink now through 2010. 1,250 cases made.—K.M.

**87 Zull** Zweigelt Qualitätswein Trocken Niederösterreich 2006 \$18 A vibrant, spicy red, with delicious cherry and berry flavors. The refined finish features touches of mocha and cream. Drink now. 1,167 cases made.—K.M.

**86 J. Heinrich** Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Siglos 2006 \$18 Juicy, with snappy red plum, raspberry and cherry flavors that lengthen out well on the zippy finish. Zweigelt and Blaufränkisch. Drink now. 4,167 cases made.—K.M.

**85 Schloss Halbtorn** Zweigelt Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Zwei. 1 2006 \$12 Quite beefy and ripe-tasting, with a core of dried cherry and raspberry flavors to back it up. Spicy finish. Drink now. 5,000 cases made.—K.M.

**85 Winzer Kreams** Blauer Zweigelt Qualitätswein Trocken Kremstal St.-Severin 2006 \$10 Fresh and juicy, with lively flavors of red plum and berry, followed by hints of tobacco leaf on the finish. Drink now. 12,500 cases made.—K.M.

## AUSTRIA

### Other Red

**91 Schloss Halbtorn** Pinot Noir Qualitätswein Trocken Neusiedlersee 2005 \$75 A suave texture and flavors of raspberry, spice, dark cherry and chocolate fill this rich red. The finish lingers with hints of hickory

smoke and mocha. Drink now through 2012. 750 cases made.—K.M.

**90 Leo Hillinger** Pinot Noir Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland 2004 \$18 Smooth and seductive, with ripe flavors of cherry, spice, mincemeat and smoke. There's also plenty of dark chocolate and olive, with hints of mint on the long finish. Drink now through 2012. 500 cases made.—K.M.

**90 Pittnauer** Pinot Noir Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Reserve 2005 \$60 A spicy, well-crafted Austrian red, with cherry and berry flavors. Fine-grained tannins and lots of lush, creamy notes fill the fresh finish. Drink now through 2011. 100 cases made.—K.M.

**89 Umatham** Pinot Noir Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Unter den Terrassen zu Jois 2005 \$79 Lush and vibrant, with silky tannins and a mouthful of sweet cherry, spice and roast beef flavors. Stylish, with a rich finish of cream and hints of mocha. Drink now through 2011. 465 cases made.—K.M.

**88 Birgit Braunstein** Saint Laurent Qualitätswein Trocken Neusiedlersee-Hügelland Goldberg 2004 \$33 Very plummy- and fruity-tasting, with concentrated blueberry notes and an intense mineral element. Notes of espresso and dark chocolate fill the finish. Powerful. Drink now through 2011. 500 cases made.—K.M.

**88 House of Hafner** Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Dornröschen 2003 \$25 This is spicy and supple, with deliciously ripe, fruity flavors of red plum, cherry, paprika and sandalwood. Finishes with milk chocolate notes. A good quaff for roast pork or barbecue fare. Dornfelder and Rösler. Kosher. Drink now through 2010. 583 cases made.—K.M.

**88 Juris** Saint Laurent Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland Reserve 2004 \$42 A thick, rich-tasting Saint Laurent, showing plenty of dark plum and cassia flavors, with hints of mint. The lush finish features plenty of spice and smoke. Drink now through 2011. 667 cases made.—K.M.

## AUSTRIA

### Other White

**94 Knoll Riesling** Smaragd Trocken Wachau Dürnsteiner Ried Schütt 2006 \$79 A big, rich Riesling, with tropical fruit flavors of mango and guava, along with luscious ripe peach and apple. The finish is filled with spice and smoke. This is really humming. Drink now through 2018. 25 cases imported.—K.M.

**93 Ailram** Riesling Qualitätswein Trocken Kamptal Strasser Gaisberg Reserve 2006 \$32 Exhibits enticing aromas of cherry and plum, with pear, apple and lemon curd flavors, which are accented by powerful minerally notes. Sea salt and pepper fill the crisp finish. This should age beautifully. Drink now through 2015. 833 cases made.—K.M.

**93 Knoll Riesling** Smaragd Trocken Wachau Dürnsteiner Ried Kellerberg 2006 \$70 Rich and powerful, with loads of luscious apple, peach, ripe pear and currant flavors. Notes of mineral and smoke are joined by plenty of spice on the lush yet firm finish. One for the cellar. Best from 2009 through 2016. 35 cases imported.—K.M.

**92 Knoll Riesling** Smaragd Trocken Wachau Loibner Ried Loibenberg 2006 \$64 Lush, with a rich texture and a concentrated array of powerful apple, nectarine, mineral and crisp apple flavors. There's also plenty of ripe tropical fruit notes, with a long, spicy finish. Drink now through 2015. 50 cases imported.—K.M.

**91 Bründlmayer** Riesling Qualitätswein Trocken Kamptal Zöbinger Heiligenstein Lyr 2006 \$70 A creamy white, offering rich, ripe tropical fruit flavors, with notes of smoke and spice. Shows honey and meringue on the finish. Drink now through 2012.—K.M.

**90 Meinhard Forstreiter Riesling Qualitätswein Trocken Kremstal Donau 2006 \$19** Racy and structured, with well-focused green apple, Asian pear and citrus flavors. Shows pretty floral notes on the crunchy, mineral-filled finish. Drink now through 2014. Tasted twice, with consistent notes. 833 cases made.—K.M.

**90 Hiedler Riesling Qualitätswein Trocken Kamptal Maximum 2006 \$62** A powerful white, with white peach, Golden Delicious apple and pear flavors. A bit tight now, but should open up in the cellar. There's plenty of butter and spice on the finish. Best from 2009 through 2013.—K.M.

**88 Franz Hirtzberger Grauburgunder Smaragd Trocken Wachau Spitzer Pluris 2006 \$48** A ripe white, with rich flavors of almond, mineral, peach, smoke and spice. Well-structured, with a creamy finish. Drink now through 2011. 217 cases made.—K.M.

**88 Stadmann Zierfandler Qualitätswein Trocken Thermenregion Mandel-Höh 2006 \$27** Smoky and ripe, with exotic tropical fruit and roasted almond flavors. Vanilla and cumin linger on the finish, which is full-bodied and well-structured. Drink now through 2012. 750 cases made.—K.M.

**88 Stiftung Fürst Liechtenstein Riesling Qualitätswein Trocken Niederösterreich Clos Domaine 2006 \$18** Has concentrated flavors of pear, crisp apple and mineral, with hints of vanilla. Well-structured, with a bright finish that echoes the peach and rich, spicy notes. Drink now through 2012. 1,300 cases made.—K.M.

**87 Zantho Muskat Qualitätswein Trocken Burgenland 2006 \$15** Displays a very spicy aroma, with fresh flavors of peach, apricot and gooseberry. Mineral and citrus notes enliven the finish. Try as an aperitif. Drink now through 2010. 2,083 cases made.—K.M.

## CHILE

**96 Casa Lapostolle Clos Apalta Colchagua Valley 2005 \$75** See Highly Recommended, page 115.

**96 Concha y Toro Cabernet Sauvignon Puente Alto Don Melchor 2005 \$69** See Highly Recommended, page 115.

**93 Viña Quebrada de Macul Cabernet Sauvignon Maipo Valley Domus Aurea 2004 \$55** This is alluring, with mint, sage and warm cocoa aromas leading the way for dried currant, licorice, loam and coffee notes. There's plenty of grip, particularly for the vintage, with extra waves of currant and mint on the lengthy finish. Back on form after the awkward 2003. Drink now through 2016. 2,430 cases made.—J.M.

**91 Viña Santa Rita Cabernet Sauvignon Maipo Valley Medalla Real Special Reserve 2005 \$19** See Smart Buys, page 117.

**90 Viña Santa Rita Sauvignon Blanc Leyda Valley Floresta 2007 \$23** Bright and pure, with lots of mâche, sweet pea, chive flower and mineral flavors backed by a bright, tangy finish. This has solid length and richness. Drink now. 3,500 cases made.—J.M.

**89 Viñedos Emiliana Chardonnay Casablanca Valley Novas 2006 \$16** See Smart Buys, page 117.

**89 Viña Quintay Sauvignon Blanc Casablanca Valley 2007 \$16** This is rock-solid, with mouthwatering lime, sea salt and sweet pea flavors backed by a bracing, thyme-tinged finish. Has a latent richness. Drink now. 2,000 cases imported.—J.M.

**88 Viña Errázuriz Carmenère Aconcagua Valley Single Vineyard Don Maximiano Estate 2006 \$27** Polished, with mesquite and mocha notes leading the way for currant, tobacco and plum sauce notes. Fleshy, smoky, vanilla-tinged finish. Drink now. 600 cases imported.—J.M.

**88 Viña Santa Rita Sauvignon Blanc Casablanca Valley Reserva 2007 \$14** Plump up front, with lemon zest, grapefruit and mineral flavors backed by a mouthwatering finish. Drink now. 68,200 cases made.—J.M.

**87 Casa Lapostolle Cabernet Sauvignon Rapel Valley 2006 \$13** Juicy layers of raspberry, vanilla and cassis bush are backed by a bouncy, slightly raised finish. Also contains Carmenère, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. Drink now through 2009. 25,000 cases imported.—J.M.

**87 Geo Wines Chono San Lorenzo Estate Maipo Valley 2005 \$21** Juicy, with a nice core of black cherry, plum and sweet tobacco backed by a bright mineral note on the medium-weight finish. Carmenère, Syrah and Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now. 1,000 cases made.—J.M.

**87 Viña Quintay Sauvignon Blanc Casablanca Valley Clava 2007 \$11** Has a crunchy texture, with chalk, chive and lime flavors followed by a bright, mineral finish. Drink now. 200 cases imported.—J.M.

**86 Viñedos Emiliana Cabernet Sauvignon-Merlot Central Valley Novas 2005 \$16** Polished, with good concentration to the black cherry, currant, vanilla and toast notes. The fleshy finish shows a coffee hint. Drink now. 10,000 cases made.—J.M.

**86 Viña Santa Rita Shiraz Maipo Valley Reserva 2006 \$14** Polished and forward, with a toasty vanilla note leading the way for medium-weight black cherry and licorice flavors. Drink now. 8,000 cases made.—J.M.

**85 De Martino Cabernet Sauvignon-Malbec Maipo Valley 2006 \$15** Medium-weight, with lots of grapey, berry fruit and a layer of sweet vanilla and dill-laced toast. Drink now. 2,000 cases imported.—J.M.

**84 Concha y Toro Chardonnay Casablanca Valley Casillero del Diablo Reserve 2007 \$7** See Best Values, page 118.

**84 Espíritu de Chile Sauvignon Blanc Central Valley 2007 \$11** —J.M.

**84 Espíritu de Chile Carmenère Central Valley 2006 \$11** —J.M.

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