

Qatra Wine Tasting Report – 26th August 2025

Venue: Palazzo Capua, Sliema

Menu

Canapes:

Stilton on crostini with grape chutney

Tomato, mozzarella, pistachio pesto in cups

Starter

Casarecce in asparagus & prawns, white wine & island herbs

Main Course

Baked salmon topped with scallop & saffron mousse. Broccoli hash, roasted carrots and langoustine cream

Dessert

Passion fruit mousse with coconut ice cream drizzled with red currants

Wine	Vintage	Brand	Type	Country	Supplier	Varietal	RRP	Voting out of 20	Consumption
Riesling Brut	NV	Petri	White	Pfalz, Germany	Wine Merchants	Riesling	€ 14.50	12.5	3
Ungeheuer GG Riesling	2018	von Winning	White	Pfalz, Germany	Wine Merchants	Riesling	€ 45.00	15.57	5
Ürziger Würzgarten Grand Cru Riesling	2018	Dr. Loosen	White	Mosel, Germany	Wine Merchants	Riesling	€ 39.00	15.8	5
Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Terrassen	2019	Domäne Wachau	White	Wachau, Austria	IV Cellars	Grüner Veltliner	€ 25.00	16.2	4
Renner	2022	Schloss Gobelsburg	White	Kamptal, Austria	Mirachem	Grüner Veltliner	€ 39.00	15.7	5

Average
consumption
per person
1.15 bottles

1

Aperitif accompanying the canapes:

Tasting Notes Petri Riesling Brut



General Profile

- **Style:** Sparkling wine (Winzersekt) made with the traditional method (second fermentation in the bottle) shop.weingut-petri.dewinemerchants.com.mt.
- **Alcohol:** Approximately 11.5–12% ABV—Wine Merchants Malta lists it at 12% winemerchants.com.mt, while Petri's own site gives 11.5% shop.weingut-petri.de.
- **Sweetness and Acidity:** Crisp and refreshing. Petri notes show residual sugar of about 8.1 g/L and a high acidity of 8.4 g/L shop.weingut-petri.de.

Aromas (Nose)

- Bright and fresh with **gooseberry, green apple, and kiwi** notes.
- Delicate floral nuances and hints of pomelo and grapefruit add complexity.
- A slight yeasty or bready undertone rounds out the nose winemerchants.com.mt.

Palate (Taste)

- **Zesty citrus and yellow fruit flavors** dominate—grapefruit, bitter orange, green apple, kiwi.
- A vivid, **tangy, and robust mouthfeel**, brought to life by a fine, pearly mousse.
- The finish is **mineraly**, with lingering green apple and subtle floral echoes winemerchants.com.mt [Winedexer](https://www.winedexer.com).



Tasting Notes – 2018 von Winning Forster Ungeheuer Riesling GG

Appearance & Structure



- **Color:** Gold-yellow, displaying density and purity. vinumnobile.de/cuzziolgrandivini.it
- **Alcohol:** Around 12.5–13% ABV. greatlittlevineyards.com/vinumnobile.de
- **Classification:** *Grosses Gewächs* — Germany's top-tier dry vineyard wine status. vinumnobile.de/Skurnik_Wines_&Spirits
- **Vineyard:** Forst — Ungeheuer vineyard with soils comprising sandstone, limestone (ancient coral reef), and basalt. Skurnik_Wines_&SpiritsWikipedia
- **Vinification:** Spontaneous fermentation in 500L oak barrels; aged on gross lees for 14–18 months for texture and complexity. cuzziolgrandivini.it/Skurnik_Wines_&Spirits

Nose (Aromas)

- **Fruit & Spice:** Aromas of apricot, peach, candied orange peel, dried pineapple, passionfruit, vanilla, and tropical notes. greatlittlevineyards.com/cuzziolgrandivini.it/Wine_Searcher
- **Mineral & Earthy:** An undercurrent of flint, smoke, umami, and earthy-soil complexity. greatlittlevineyards.com/Wine_Searcher/cuzziolgrandivini.it

Palate (Taste)

- **Fruit & Texture:** Rich, opulent flavors—dry apricot, nectarine, pineapple, orange peel, and hints of exotic fruit. greatlittlevineyards.com/Wine_Searcher/WineBerserkers
- **Balance & Acidity:** Lively acidity brings tension and harmony, countering the wine's richness. WineBerserkers
- **Secondary Notes:** Subtle oak's influence—smoky, creamy, with lees-driven depth, and a savory, umami



dimension. greatlittlevineyards.com/cuzziolgrandivini.it/WineBerserkers

- **Finish:** Immensely long, mineral-laden, with lingering stone-fruit, smoke, and bright citrus echo. greatlittlevineyards.com/Wine_Searcher/Dining_and_Cooking

Critical Acclaim & Score

- **Decanter:** 93/100 — Elegant, deep, finely oaked nose; long complex finish with orange peel flavors. [greatlittlevineyards.com](https://www.greatlittlevineyards.com)
- **Wine Advocate:** 92+/100 — Charming and refined, balancing sweet-ish richness with restraint. [greatlittlevineyards.com](https://www.greatlittlevineyards.com)
- **Falstaff:** 95/100 — Praise for power and extract. [Wine Searcher](https://www.wine-searcher.com)
- **Vinum:** 17/20 — High marks for quality. [Wine Searcher](https://www.wine-searcher.com)
- **Wine & Spirits:** 89/100. [Wine Searcher](https://www.wine-searcher.com)

Tasting Notes – 2018 Dr. Loosen Ürziger Würzgarten Riesling GG Alte Reben



Overview & Terroir

- **Vineyard & Classification:** This is a Grosses Gewächs (GG)—Dr. Loosen’s top-tier, dry Riesling from the VDP–Grosse Lage® vineyard Ürziger Würzgarten, specifically the “Urglück” parcel with ungrafted vines up to 120 years old, grown in red volcanic slate soils [drloosen.comHansa](https://www.drloosen.com/Hansa).
- **Vinification:** Fermented spontaneously in large neutral oak barrels (up to 3,000 L), aged for 12 months on full lees [drloosen.comKL Wines](https://www.drloosen.com/KL%20Wines).
- **ABV & Style:** Dry, with approximately 12.5% ABV [botilia.grWine Searcher](https://www.botilia.gr/Wine%20Searcher). This vintage holds strong aging potential, recommended through at least 2030–2035 [botilia.grWine Searcher](https://www.botilia.gr/Wine%20Searcher).

Aroma (Nose)

The wine delivers a beautifully expressive nose:

- **Fruity & Floral:** Delicate wild strawberries, gooseberry, lime, citrus zest—especially lime juice and peel—and hints of vineyard peach and iris blossom [KL Winesdrloosen.com](https://www.klwines.com).
 - **Spice & Mineral:** Subtle spice, saline slate-tinged minerality [KL WinesCaskCartel.com](https://www.klwines.com).
 - **Expert Summary** (CaskCartel): "Rich savoury-slate aroma, followed by Mirabelle plums, vineyard peach, lemons, and spices" [CaskCartel.com](https://www.caskcartel.com).
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Palate (Taste & Texture)

- **Acidity & Structure:** Bright, focused, with lively acidity balanced by a rich, textured body [CaskCartel.comKL WinesWine Searcher](#).
- **Flavor Notes:** Lemon, grapefruit, citrus nuances layered with peach, apricot, and a pervasive mineral drive [CaskCartel.comWine SearcherKL Wines](#).
- **Texture:** Impressively succulent and spicy, with a precise and deep mid-palate that lingers on the finish [CaskCartel.comKL Wines](#).
- **Reviewer Observation** (Ken's Wine Guide): Light-plus body with notes of Bosc pear, ginger, honeydew melon, green apple, and apricot; the finish is subtly off-dry and elegantly drifting away [kenswineguide.com](#).

Critical Reception

Source	Score	Notes
Wine Enthusiast	95/100	"Deep ripples of smoke and spice... packed with bristling lemon and grapefruit... rich in texture yet steely and firm." Wine Searcher
Falstaff	94/100	Echoes the savory slate aroma, citrus, and lasting mineral finish. Wine Searcher
James Suckling	94 points	Wildflowers, honey, spice and pithy citrus with a detailed, textural palate KL Wines
John Gilman (JS)	93 points	Notes of wild strawberry, gooseberry, lime, slate minerality, focus, complexity, long finish. KL Wines
Vinous (AG)	91 points	High-toned strawberry distillate, lime peel, herbal notes and lingering wet stone finish. KL Wines

Tasting Notes — 2019 Domäne Wachau Grüner Veltliner Smaragd Terrassen



Color & Style

- Bright, luminous straw-gold hue—crystal-clear and radiant. [vinello.atweinshop24.cc](#)

Aromatics (Nose)

- Open and engaging, with **ripe apple** and **delicate citrus notes**, underscored by a **white pepper spiciness**, **pear**, **quince**, and a subtle **tobacco** nuance. [vinello.atweinshop24.cc](#)
- Additional descriptors include hints of **mango**, **lychee**, and a faint exotic floral touch. [weinshop24.ccVineshop24](#)

Palate & Texture

- A powerful yet harmonious mouthfeel, featuring **lively, refreshing acidity** balanced by a full yet graceful body. vinello.atweinshop24.cc
- Juicy fruit layers meld seamlessly with layers of **spice, dried herbs**, and a gentle mineral thread. vinello.atweinshop24.ccVineshop24

Finish

- Impressively long and resonant, with lasting **spice** and herbal notes that echo the fruit's

brightness. vinello.atweinshop24.ccVineshop24



Additional Flavor Dimensions

- Some tasting notes point to **stone fruit, candied lemon peel, saline hints**, and **nutty, balsamic echoes**—adding complexity and intrigue. privateceller.comvinoteca.online

Technical & Contextual Details

- **Classification:** *Smaragd* — the Wachau's top-tier, dry designation for wines with at least 12.5% ABV and a natural richness. Named after the emerald lizard sunning itself on Wachau's stone terraces. [WikipediaWikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smaragd)
- **Vineyards & Terroir:** Crafted from select Grüner Veltliner grapes grown by hand in steep, stony terraces between Loiben and Spitz in the Wachau. The vineyards' Urgestein soils and microclimate shape the wine's signature mineral character. weinshop24.ccVineshop24+1
- **Vinification:** Grapes were harvested late (late October–early November), fermented in stainless steel, and matured briefly in large wooden barrels for added texture. vinello.atVineshop24
- **Alcohol, Acidity, Residual Sugar:** Typically around 13–13.5% ABV. Acidity measured at approximately 5.5–5.8 g/L; residual sugar very low (about 1.5 g/L), consistent with its dry nature. Vineshop24vinello.chvinello.at
- **Ratings:** Holds solid 92-point acclaim from both **Falstaff** and **Robert Parker's Wine Advocate**. vinello.atvinello.ch
- **Drinkability & Aging:** Approachable in youth yet built for aging—drinkable now, with potential to evolve over 3–6 years. weinshop24.ccVineshop24

Tasting Notes – 2022 Schloss Gobelsburg Grüner Veltliner Ried Renner (Kamptal, Austria)

Overview & Terroir



- **Single Vineyard (Ried Renner, Erste ÖTW):** Located at the foot of the Gaisberg Riesling terraces in Kamptal, the vineyard features deep, loess-rich soils mixed with erosion materials from brown paragneiss, mica, and amphibolite. This contributes excellent water retention and minerality. gobelsburg.atWeingut [Schloss Gobelsburgwein-quadrat.at](http://SchlossGobelsburgwein-quadrat.at)
- **Alcohol & Aging:** The wine is around 13.5% ABV and is fermented partly or aged in large wooden barrels. gobelsburg.atwein-quadrat.at
- **Accolades:**
 - **Falstaff (2024/25):** 94 points gobelsburg.atFalstaff
 - **International Wine & Spirits Awards:** 94 points – Gold gobelsburg.at
- **James Suckling:** 95 points, praising its toasty, smoky elements and Burgundian texture gobelsburg.at
- **Vinous (Antonio Galloni):** 93 points, noting hay, honey, pepper, conifer, and understated depth gobelsburg.at

Aromas (Nose)

- **Falstaff:** Exhibits notes of blossom honey, ripe mango, and yellow stone fruit—inviting and approachable. Falstaff+1
- **James Suckling (via Gobelsburg):** Highlights dried pear, candied citrus, and a toasty, slightly smoky quality. gobelsburg.at
- **Vinous:** Describes an overlay of hay and honey, with a hint of conifer that is calming yet subtly rich. gobelsburg.at



Palate (Taste & Texture)

- **James Suckling:** Medium–full-bodied with a Burgundian-like texture, deeply mineral and wonderfully structured with a long finish. gobelsburg.at
 - **Falstaff:** Juicy layers of apricot and greengage, silky texture, fine sweetness, and a harmonious acid-mineral balance—food-friendly with aging potential. [Falstaff+1](#)
 - **Wein.plus:** Offers complexity with smoky, nutty, herbal nuances—touches of juniper, bacon, pak choi, roasted nuts, and creamy mouthfeel leading to a firm, spicy, juicy finish. wein.plus
 - **Weinfurore:** Notes of yellow pear, lime, lemon balm, hint of caramel; vibrant palate with mineral drive, pineapple undertones, fine peppery spice, approachable already, excellent length. weinfurore.de+1
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