

PIERRE SPARR®

2018 RIESLING GRAND CRU SCHOENENBOURG



Origins / This wine is 100 percent estate-grown. The Schoenenbourg Grand Cru vineyard stretches across a steep south- and southeast-facing hillside between the villages of Riquewihr and Zellenberg, at an altitude of 265 to 380 meters. As part of the Ribeauville Fault Bundle in the sub-Vosgian Hills, the subsoil consists of water-retaining marl, dolomite and gypsum, overlaid with fine layers of Vosges sandstone, siliceous gravel and Muschelkalk (consisting of a sequence of limestone and dolostone beds with fossil shells, formed 240 million years ago in the Middle Triassic.) Schoenenbourg vineyard has been renowned since the 16th century.

Appellation / AOC Alsace Grand Cru

Varietal Composition / 100% Riesling

Vineyard Region / Vosges hillside, south/southeast exposure

Vineyard Size / 1.5 hectares (3.7 acres)

Soil / Water-retaining Keuper, marl, dolomite and gypsum, overlaid with fine layers of Vosges sandstone, siliceous gravel and Muschelkalk (fossil shells)

Average Vine Age / 36 years

2018 Vintage Notes / Harvest dates are set to achieve the best sugar-to-acid ratio, generally 100 days after the median date of flowering. Copious rain marked the start of the 2018 vintage followed by a hot late summer and early fall, which resulted in full-flavored, generous wines.

Harvest / Third week of October, set by decree for each AOC

Yields / 50 hectoliters per hectare (3.7 tons per acre)

Vinification / Traditional, temperature-controlled fermentation, no malolactic

Aging / Stainless-steel tanks, wine on fine lees for 8 to 10 months

Alcohol / 13.5%

TA / 5.5 g/L

Residual Sugar / 8.2 g/L

Tasting Notes / Bright yellow hue, with aromas of lime zest, pine and honeysuckle. The full minerality appears on the palate, framed by fresh citrus and a dynamic, racy body. The long mineral/aromatic finish indicates the age of these vines. This charismatic Alsatian Riesling still has many years to develop its full potential.

Aging Potential / 10 plus years

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