

Vintage 2020

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Christian Hermann once again produced outstanding Prädikat wines, and I did not want to again withhold the first 100 Parker points for a young wine (the 2020 Dr. Hermann TBA from the Erdener Prälät) after I had driven him almost into depression (and myself into ridiculousness) with a 99+ RP score a few years ago. Hermann has produced sensational Kabinetts, Spätlesen, Auslesen and Trockenbeerenauslesen. Sometimes they have 100 grams less of sugar per liter than before but with sensational acids, with the results being the most animating sweet wines I have ever tasted in my life as a wine critic. A TBA you can only drink by the thimble, oily and sweet as they all are now?

Christian Hermann has bottled another series of insane Rieslings, namely noble sweet TBAs, of which the Prälät shows everything we can expect of an eternal wine: concentration, finesse, elegance and oh-so-stimulating acidity that it is impossible to drink this wine as a meditation wine because you cannot resist enjoying it sip after sip. Mind a sugar shock, though: There are almost 150 grams of sugar in a single 375-centiliter bottle! It is the fine, crystalline and precise acidity that makes the sweet Rieslings of 2020 stellar wines of the vintage. Hermann's Treppchen TBA is another amazing sweet wine that is even more filigreed yet not as rich as the Prälät. If you don't like spending a fortune for a Hermann TBA, you should try the Auslesen, the Spätlesen and, last but not least, some of the Kabinett Rieslings, of which the Wehlener Sonnenuhr is absolutely beautiful.

