

Jancis Robinson von Michael Schmidt

Deutzerhof, Mayschosser Mönchberg Frühburgunder Grosses Gewächs 2018 Ahr

Pale-medium raspberry red, ruby rim. A gentle fragrance mixes delicate floral aromas with notes of prunes, brushwood, pepper and spice. Frühburgunder tends to be a little leaner than Spätburgunder, and this goes for the Mönchberg too, although the fruit of sour plums and the customary vegetal trademark with just a dash of sorrel get on well together. A little peppery towards the finish, but the tannins are well behaved and not too astringent. Definitely dry. (MS)

13.5% Drink 2021 – 2025 **17**

Deutzerhof, Heimersheimer Landskrone Spätburgunder Grosses Gewächs 2018 Ahr

Medium-depth cherry-red colour with raspberry hue on rim. The nose focuses on ripe fruit, with more than a hint of blackcurrant creeping up on aromas of cherry and plum. Starts off with deliciously juicy fruit on the palate, before clove and cedar make their mark on a velvety texture. Wood ageing has been handled well so as not to dominate the flavour. Tannins are well behaved, but firm enough to lend sufficient structure. Maybe not the most complex, but a very friendly Grosses Gewächs. (MS)

13.5% Drink 2021 – 2026 **17**

Deutzerhof, Neuenahrer Kirchtürmchen Spätburgunder Grosses Gewächs 2018 Ahr

Seems a little more advanced than its siblings, at least in terms of appearance with cherry-red hue and pink rim. Perhaps ageing in wood has been handled a bit differently, as the pleasant composition of dark cherry and mocha seems to suggest. The palate confirms the seductive approach with velvety texture, ripe sweet fruit, acidity and tannins competing in an exercise of moderation. Tempts me to return to my bad old ways of calling a wine feminine. The reason is that the Kirchtürmchen does not grow on slate, but on loess and loam. (MS)

13% Drink 2021 – 2027 **17.5**

Deutzerhof, Mayschusser Mönchberg Spätburgunder Grosses Gewächs 2018 Ahr

Medium-depth cherry red, ruby rim. Intense dark fruit on the nose with notes of plum, cherry and blackberry, hints of mocha and coffee reflecting the contribution of oak. Almost inky. Spicy and peppery notes complement the juicy fruit, cherry on the palate, hints of dark bitter chocolate emerge. Finely grained tannins lend structure without scratching. (MS)

13.5% Drink 2022 – 2030 **18**

Deutzerhof, Altenahrer Eck Spätburgunder Grosses Gewächs 2018 Ahr

Deep cherry red with ruby reflexes. I try to cut down on my swearing, but could not contain myself when the first bottle turned out to be corked. Fortunately my association with JancisRobinson.com entitled me to a second bottle. A very compact fragrance is hard to prise apart, but dogged persistence is rewarded with almoststewed fruit, fruit pudding and Christmas cake. My experience of the latter one is entirely restricted to eating it, but I am sure it must contain raisins, mixed spice, ginger and nutmeg. *Panta rhei* is what Heraclitus would have said about the taste, although elements of grated chocolate and sweet tobacco add piquancy to the liquid pleasure. English Christmas cake and German Black Forest gâteau manage to fuse my divided loyalties. (MS)

13.5% Drink 2022 – 2030 **18.5**

Deutzerhof, Caspar C Spätburgunder trocken 2017 Ahr

A fragrance which does not stint on fruit, with ripe plums and cherries taking centre stage. A little wood spice adds a touch of complexity. Despite a noticeable presence of tannins, the Caspar C exhibits a truly juicy quality with cherries à la Mon Chéri (cherry liqueur chocolates). Acidity adds its refreshing qualities, a subtle touch of liquorice on the finish reflects the expert handling of oak ageing. (MS)

13.5% Drink 2020 – 2025 **17**

Deutzerhof, Mayschosser Spätburgunder trocken 2017 Ahr

Cherries and the smell of woodland put together an intriguing fragrance. The palate adds a touch of blackcurrant, but without the sweetness of cassis. Starts off quite smooth, but brings in some spicy tannins on the finish. Lighter style of dry Spätburgunder. (MS)

13% Drink 2020 – 2023 **16**

Deutzerhof, Alpha & Omega Frühburgunder trocken 2018 Ahr

As far as Frühburgunder goes, the depth of colour of the A & O is quite impressive. The nose is not just trying to flatter with the fragrance of soft red berries, but also exhibits a pronounced vegetal streak. A hint of cigar box completes the spectrum of aromas. The palate puts spicy and vegetal components first, but juicy fruit does make a valid contribution. You can even spot a hint of slate dust on the finish. Truly dry. (MS)

13% Drink 2021 – 2025 **17**

Deutzerhof, Heimersheimer Chardonnay trocken 2018 Ahr

A fragrance of grass and earth after a rain shower is complemented by a gentle notion of aniseed, which reflects a few months spent in wood. A pronounced tang of hazelnuts, delicate roasted notions and the presence of tannins on a slightly astringent finish all confirm the contribution made by oak, but it's well accommodated by rich texture and full body. The fruit is still quite faint at this early stage, pear and grapefruit the gallant contenders. (MS)

13% Drink 2021 – 2026 **16.5**