



## RIESLING GRAND CRU LE CLOS SAINT-LÉGER 2017

*Alsace, France*



### OVERVIEW

With a single holding of more than 330 acres at Guebwiller, Domaines Schlumberger is the largest Grands Crus producer in Alsace. All Schlumberger wines are estate-grown. Seventy-five percent of the vines are planted on very steep, terraced slopes, requiring horses be used for fieldwork.

Le Clos Saint-Léger Riesling comes from a single parcel in the heart of the estate's Kitterlé Grand Cru. This parcel was planted in 1995 with Riesling on a terroir of volcanic-sandstone occupying a unique site in a small basin on an east-west axis, facing due south on a succession of several vertiginous terraces between 342 and 392 meters above sea level. The light, sandy soil held back by huge dry-stone walls means that yields are limited (20 to 25 hl/ha). Monitoring is carried out from the winter pruning of the vines through to the harvest.

### WINEMAKING

Hand-picked and carefully sorted, the grapes are then transported in crates to the winery in the early hours of the morning for slow pressing. After 12 hours of settling, the perfectly clear juice is fermented in stainless steel tanks, where the temperature is rigorously controlled. The wine was racked and then stored on the fine lees until bottling under neutral gas.

**97**  
POINTS  
JAMES SUCKLING.COM

Lovely maturing nose of ripe peach and candied citrus peel with toasty, herbal and licorice complexity. Rich and generous, but impeccably balanced on the silky palate, where the mineral freshness builds steadily as the finish extends and extends. The first vintage of this wine. Drink or hold.

**93**  
POINTS  
WINE ENTHUSIAST

This dry, broad-shouldered version has developed nicely over the years, revealing ample minerality with finely layered flavors of papaya, melon, star fruit and ground white pepper. The finish is long and inviting. It is powerful and heavy, but driven by piercing acidity that should help this go the distance.

**92+**  
POINTS  
Schlumberger  
WINE ADVOCATE

From a very early, rather cold vintage according to Séverine Schlumberger, the 2017 Riesling Le Clos Saint-Léger Grand Cru Monopole offers a clear, fresh, pure, subtle and finely mineral or stony bouquet representing the volcanic terroir of the Grand Cru Kitterlé. The wine shows very delicate and elegant Riesling fruit intermingled with crunchy stone aromas. On the palate, this is a pure, dense, straight and textural Riesling with good and refreshing phenolic grip that gives persistent tension. The structured finish is intense and long. This is an excellent wine from Schlumberger. 13.77% alcohol.

**VARIETALS:**  
100% Riesling

**92**  
POINTS  
Wine Spectator

Still tightly wound and coiled despite its age, this opens to reveal lemon, warm hay, fennel seed and paprika notes. Leesy on the palate, offering an oily texture and a lash of beeswax, with sweet spice details adding intrigue. Good length. Drink now through 2030.



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