

# Justerini & Brooks

ESTABLISHED 1749



**DOMAINE WEINBACH**

SENSATIONAL 2022s



## INTRODUCTION

Founded in 1612, Domaine Weinbach is a staunchly traditional domaine whose exceptional holdings in and around the village of Kaysersberg are fermented with wild yeasts and aged in huge old wooden fuders. They are, though, incredibly forward-thinking when it comes to organic and biodynamic farming practices; ways to counter the increasing threat of drought; and their approach to closures and reduced sulphur usage during the vinification.

If they have made one major change, it is that they are intervening to stop the fermentation less often, allowing the wines to settle at a naturally balanced state with lower levels of residual sugar – enhancing a perception of salinity, while preserving all the nuanced breadth and droplet-like poise that has long characterised the Weinbach output.

The 2022 collection is testament to the fusing of both those worlds. The season began warm and early and, save for decent April showers and a welcome soak on Assumption Day, was dry throughout. This meant exemplary conditions for the grapes to ripen with no danger of the mildew that tormented Alsace vigneron in 2021. Owing to a slow down engendered by drought, by the end of the season the berries had managed to retain impressive natural acidities.

According to Eddy Leiber-Faller, the Pinot Gris were *“fresh and bright, with tartaric acid around 5.5g/l in the must, confirming the impression that despite the very dry summer, the 2022 vintage would still display freshness.”* Moreover, the later ripening Gewurztraminers from Altenbourg and Furstentum, picked in the first week of October, came in *“with juices of incredible aromatic complexity”* and the Rieslings averaged 7.5–8g/l natural acidity – high for a warm year and essential for long-term development. Eddy attributes their success to the fact that *“our yields for the vintage came up at 32hl/ha, within average, thanks to the good weather conditions in the spring with the absence of hail or frost damage. The exceptional sanitary quality of the grapes allowed us to harvest quickly. The sugar levels did not explode during the last stretch of the ripening cycle, and therefore the wines display a good balance, with lots of structure but reasonable alcohol levels and no residual sugar (except for the Gewurz), along with a very bright palate.”*

The 2022 range runs from the sunny, juicy and simple to the more introverted and sinewy. We were particularly taken by the quality and individuality of the Pinot Gris this year, as one can easily revel in their lines and texture. They are not billowy nor oily. Instead, the 2022s feel taut, complex and intense – on the more structured side – which leaves you running out of fingers for the number of stimulating food pairings they might provide. They are thirst, and hunger, inducing wines. The Rieslings speak to a deep, contoured, ageworthy truth, and will require a little more time in the cellar this year than in the previous few vintages, as they remain rather coiled – though long-time drinkers of Weinbach will know that cellaring is the best approach for the Schlossberg and Ste. Catherine anyway. The Gewurztraminer, as envisioned through three different lenses, makes for a captivating trio.

As always, this huge range comprises some of the finest and most delightful wines Alsace has to offer, with barely ever a misfire.

We invite you to peruse the full offer and submit orders by  
Friday 26th January 2024.

**MARK DEARING**  
BUYER, JUSTERINI & BROOKS.



## WHITES

### **SYLVANER, RESERVE, WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £120.00

A more golden-fruited style this year with a firm acid backbone and notes of waxed apple on the finish. An old vine parcel raised for 10 months in traditional, neutral fuder barrels.

### **PINOT BLANC, RESERVE, WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £120.00

Clean and crisp and bright, silty in style, easy and open offering plenty of simple pleasure. As ever, the blend for this cuvee is made up of 70% Auxerrois and 30% Pinot Blanc from old vines grown on silt, sand and gravel in the Clos des Capucins – a terroir that ripens early and provides great concentration and aromatic development. A lovely aperitif, or something to go with a light lunch.

### RIESLING, CUVÉE THÉO, WEINBACH

2022, 6X75CL £155.00

Attractive, juicy and exuberant in a bolder style, with a stylish golden and citrus hue, laced with spice, white berries and currants finishing with complex traces of blood orange and zest. Produced primarily from old vines in the Clos surrounding the estate as well as some declassified fruit from the steeper slopes.

### RIESLING, CUVÉE COLETTE, WEINBACH

2022, 6X75CL £215.00

Deeper in profile than the Theo, more yellow-fruited and balm-like with a contoured feel and ripe, integrated lines of acid and a faint bitter twist and grip on the finish. Produced from vines in the lower part of the Grand Cru Schlossberg, raised in traditional Alsatian fuder barrels.



**RIESLING, GRAND CRU,  
SCHLOSSBERG, WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £365.00

Paler than the Colette with more detail and nuance, more incisive fresh acidity, juicy, long and fine exuding citrus balm, heady white flowers and a dollop of honey to taste. Finishes long and dry with lots of extract and substance.

**RIESLING, GRAND CRU SCHLOSSBERG,  
STE CATHERINE, WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £525.00

Intense and stylish, there is more in reserve here, salt and stone, more mineral less giving quite firm but it's all class. Serious and long and complex, it will require time to reveal itself. The vines here are 60 years old, situated mid slope on a base of pure granite. They offer up the deepest and most noble vision of Riesling from this great site.

**PINOT GRIS, CLOS DES CAPUCINS, WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £155.00

Ripe lemons, white flowers and deeper orange peel notes vie with a core complete with rocks and spice. It carries along with a ripe yet crunchy acidity, offering up a sapid, spicy, really quite serious and impressive profile for what is ostensibly the “entry-level” Pinot Gris from Weinbach.

**PINOT GRIS, LES CARACOLES, WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £215.00

A high-energy Pinot Gris, the 2022 Caracoles exudes crackling spicy fruit with hints of licorice, earth and spice, allied to a tonic quinine-like bitter twist on the finish. Very impressive and with its salty-sapidity it presents itself as stylish and characterful.

Formerly known as Pinot Gris Cuvee Ste Catherine, Eddy Faller has updated the name to reflect its (now) single plot origin in the Schlossberg vineyard.

**PINOT GRIS, ALTENBOURG, WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £245.00

Saltier again but more earthbound this time, again with that lively ripe acidity and sapidity, the Altenbourg is not billowy but calm; opening up to reveal layers and layers of fruit and textural complexity. Altenbourg is a vineyard that sits just below

Furstentum, Grand Cru in all but name, producing wines that are slightly less full bodied than it's neighbour, yet with all the aromatic interest.

**GEWURZTRAMINER, LES TREILLES DU LOUP,  
WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £145.00

A succulently-styled, unforced and attractive Gewurztraminer.

It presents more structure than the 2021 did, with a faint, fashionable savouriness on the finish. It is otherwise blessed with a wash of yellow fruits such as sharon with supporting notes of quince and honey. Bold but beautifully balanced and not an exotic fruit bomb - there is complexity here. The source for this bottling is 40-50 year old vines in the "Wolfreben" lieu-dit, located in the Kaysersberg valley between the Clos des Capucins and the village of Kaysersberg. Thus Treilles du Loup, the Vines of the Wolf

**GEWURZTRAMINER, ALTENBOURG, WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £215.00

The Altenbourg has a more pronounced herbal-leafy-tropical lilt reminiscent of limeleaf and thai spices with freshly cut lemongrass and herbs. Bright and precise, the Altenbourg is noticeably juicy, pithy and trembling in feel with great intensity. Altenbourg is a vineyard that sits just below Furstentum, Grand Cru in all but name, producing wines that are slightly less full bodied than it's neighbour, yet with all the aromatic interest.

**GEWURZTRAMINER, GRAND CRU,  
FURSTENTUM, WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £370.00

The Furstentum 2022 is the most typically Gewurz in profile of the three, betraying a dried petal and lychee note atop ripe stone fruits, almond and candied lemons. Full bodied with some carrying sweetness, the Grand Cru Furstentum is made up of limestone-clay and sandstone, which produces wines of great aromatic complexity as well as elegance.

**PINOTS, GRAND CRU,  
FURSTENTUM, WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £370.00

Pressed fruits, lime and citrus with white flowers, hay and nut kernels, the Pinots blend of 80% Pinot Gris and 20% Pinot Blanc from the Grand Cru Furstentum displays an array of tropical fruits such as guava and mango and green papaya. It is very complex and subtle, building in stature and finesse as it opens up. Dry and stony on the finish there is a lot going on here. The Grand Cru Furstentum is made up of limestone-clay and sandstone and produces wines of great aromatic complexity as well as elegance.

## REDS

### **PINOT NOIR, CLOS DES CAPUCINS, WEINBACH**

2022, 6X75CL £215.00

Deep crimson in colour, the Pinot Noir from the Clos has a pleasing, pressed red and dark cherry, herb and floral tinge on the nose, initially all lightness and succulence. A light smokiness emerges along with bittersweet notes on the medium-bodied palate before a touch of oak and crunchy acidity on the finish. A newer addition to the range, the Pinot Noir hails from vines on heavier clay soils surrounding the estate.

### **PINOT NOIR, LA COLLINE DU CHATEAU, WEINBACH**

2021, 6X75CL £410.00

La Colline du Chateau is pale ruby in colour, finer pitched more saline and direct in profile. Pretty and floral and red fruited. Though high in acidity, the integration here is finer, yielding a wine with a nice linear shape. From vines in the great Schlossberg vineyard, it is named La Colline du Chateau owing to appellation rules which presently don't permit the mention of a Grand Cru site with Pinot Noir.

### **PINOT NOIR, ALTENBOURG, WEINBACH**

2021, 6X75CL £410.00

Attractive forest fruits and ripe strawberries, a touch of sandalwood and earth and leafy freshness, the Altenbourg is finely styled quite elegant with a nice sapidity and measured texture. Broader on the palate but also longer on the finish and probably the most immediately satisfying of the three Pinots with a kick of stone and iron and brittle redcurrant. From the single vineyard Altenbourg, the soils here are primarily marl and limestone, in contrast to the Schlossberg's granite. A blend of two plots, both southwest facing, one is 60 years old and the other is 20 years old, and was planted as a massale selection from Pommard's fabled Clos des Epenots.

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## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Our Standard Terms and Conditions apply -  
see [www.justerinis.com](http://www.justerinis.com) for details

All prices are per case In Bond. Duty and VAT will apply on delivery  
or when the wines are taken out of Bond at the prevailing rate.  
The Wines are currently abroad and are expected to ship in February 2024.

All Delivery Orders under £500 will be inclusive of VAT and subject to a  
delivery charge of £18 inclusive of VAT to mainland Great Britain.

Orders are for full cases only and no further discounts apply.

PLEASE DRINK RESPONSIBLY