



BERCKEM

2018 Domaine Marcel Deiss

Grapes Other Alsace varieties, Riesling

Colour White

Origin France, Alsace

Other Certified Organic, Bio-dynamic

ABV 14.5%

Tasting notes

Young vines, mix of all Alsace varieties, in Altenberg interspersed with fruit trees. Smells a tad oxidised to me. Doubtless this is a deliberate Deissism. Rather sweet and even a little heavy. Not for me. 14.5% Drinking range: 2020 - 2023 Rating: 15.5 Jancis Robinson OBE MW - www.JancisRobinson.com (Oct 2023)

The Berckem is without doubt the richest and sweetest of the recent new bottlings from Marcel Deiss. These are each designed to illustrate the best from each of the villages where they own vines. That being said with just 15gs/Ltr of residual sugar it isn't properly sweet. What you get is a spicy full and really quite sleek style, the fruit is a little more macerated with stewed pears and apple. Still good acid balance so it doesn't ever overwhelm and then a creamy honeyed tactile finish. Good with wash rind cheeses and fruit tarts or perhaps a Moroccan chicken tagine. L&S (Nov 2022)

Domaine Marcel Deiss

Domaine Deiss's wines are without doubt among the most exciting of the region. The domaine has long focused on field blends so as to produce wines which reflect the terroir on which they are grown more than the individual grape variety, and in doing so Deiss has forced changes on a region which was known only for varietal wines thirty years ago. For many years this consisted mostly of the 'Alsace' blend at the entry level, and then a series of wines from specific sites which Jean-Michel called his 'level of Premier Cru' wines.

Now, having expanded the vineyard area, they have introduced a series of 'village-level' wines which are produced in the same way - from sites with several varieties planted together which are picked and vinified together too. All of these are immensely impressive and worth experimenting with - they each have a definite and unique character, and are some of the most fascinating white wines in the world. Of course we have favourites, and ours are probably Zellenberg at the village level, and Engelgarten at the level of premier cru - but like Burgundy, the complexity is best embraced rather than trying to simplify - all these wines are worth trying, to find your own favourites and to understand the bigger picture: start here!

Deiss may be a contrary character himself, not always in tune with other producers in the area, but the quality in the wines really does speak for what he has achieved.

The wines from the original vineyards are all certified organic and biodynamic, but as the domaine has recently expanded from 27 hectares to 40, some of the new vineyards have not yet achieved certification. All the wines are suitable for vegetarians, but they are not certified for that.

170 Fulham Road, London SW10 9PR | Telephone 020 7244 0522 | sales@leaandsandeman.co.uk | www.leaandsandeman.co.uk