



REICHSGRAF
— VON —
KESSELSTATT

Vintage Report 2021

Beginning of harvest: 11 October 2021
End of harvest: 5 November 2021
Average yield: 52 hl/ha

December 2020 and January 2021 were very mild and also quite wet, while February and March were warmer and drier than average.

The weather turned unseasonably cold in April and May, with temperatures almost 3 °C below the long-term average. Hence, bud burst was much later than usual – at the beginning of May on the Mosel, and around ten days later on the Saar and Ruwer. By the end of May, our vines were about three weeks behind where they were in 2020.

Conditions finally changed in June as temperatures rose, although thundery outbreaks and heavy rain also punctuated the warmer weather. Nevertheless, this led to an explosion of vegetation. At favourable sites such as our *monopole* Josephshöfer, flowering was over by early to mid-June – more or less in keeping with the previous year. Our later-ripening sites on the Ruwer saw a spell of cold weather that turned flowering into a protracted affair, leading to a poor fruit set in places.

Summer itself was unusually cold and much too wet in relative terms. Rainfall exceeded normal levels by 140 % in July and by 55 % in August. Such inclement growing conditions, which have become the exception to the rule these days, exposed our vines to considerable disease pressure.





REICHSGRAF
— VON —
KESSELSTATT



A late bud burst meant that we also started picking very late, on 5 October 2021, in rather cool, cloudy, showery conditions. Thanks to our meticulous work in the vineyards, we were able to hand-pick fruit with an average must weight of 80 degrees Oechsle – including a batch of Riesling from Juffer-Sonnenuhr at peak ripeness.

The 2021 crop is small in size but high in quality, currently translating into wines with crunchy, fresh acidity, low alcohol, and fine fruit notes.

We cannot wait to showcase this classic Riesling vintage in the very near future.

Morscheid, January 2022

