

**NV Riefle-Landmann Domaine
Riefle Crémant d'Alsace Blanc de
Blancs Brut**

Based entirely on 2013, the NV Riefle Crémant d'Alsace Blanc de Blancs Brut is an assemblage of 50% Auxerrois and 50% Chardonnay that displays a clear and delicate bouquet of ripe white fruits, as well as some floral aromas. Dry, fresh and well structured on the palate, this is an expressively fruity Crémant of which 25,000 bottles are produced every year.

Domaine Riefle-Landmann is the new name of the former Domaine Riefle, which is located in a beautiful old winemaker's house that was built in Pfaffenheim, Southern Alsace, in 1609. That's because the Riefle family took over the vineyards from the vigneron and bon vivant Seppi Landmann, a living legend who started his late winemaking career in 1982 without owning a winery. Landmann had rented a cellar in Soultzmatt where he produced some remarkably good, if not mythic wines beyond all traditions (Cuvée Sophie Marceau, Cuvée Erotische, Hors La Loi, Vallée Noble, Grand Cru Zinnkoepfle...). His personal brand still exists (otherwise he would not have sold his vineyards) so that's why the renamed Domaine Riefle-Landmann markets its wines under two different signatures: the well established Domaine Riefle and the Seppi Landmann brand.

The family, today represented by the young b...

- Stephan Reinhardt (October, 2015)

**2013 Riefle-Landmann Seppi
Landmann Pinot Gris Vallee Noble**

The 2013 Seppi Landmann Pinot Gris Vallée Noble has a very clear and herbal nose that leads to a full-bodied, very elegant, dry and mineral, well structured palate with grip and a good, though still slightly bitter finish. This wine is long and quite complex.

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**2013 Riefle-Landmann Seppi
Landmann Riesling Steinstuck**

Herbal, flinty, and very stony aromas on the nose already indicate the great purity and tension-filled character of the 2013 Seppi Landmann Riesling Steinstuck. Medium-bodied, salty, firm and fresh on the palate, this Riesling shows a prominent acidity and lots of lemon flavors, but is still very young and will benefit from further bottle aging.

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**2013 Riefle-Landmann Seppi
Landmann Gewurztraminer Grand
Cru Zinnkoepfle**

Very clear, deep and fresh, on the nose opens the excellent 2013 Seppi Landmann Gewurztraminer Grand Cru Zinnkoepflé, displaying citrus and ripe apricot flavors, along with floral aromas and the purity and piquancy of crushed stones. Fresh (if not buoyant), intense, very elegant and full of finesse on the first palate, this is a remarkably aromatic, invitingly fresh and vibrant Gewurztraminer: full-bodied but tight, very mineral, complex and with a long and salty, tension-filled finish. Due to its tight mineral character and nervy acidity, this well balanced cru tastes more dry than it really is: sweeter than medium-dry but not as sweet as a moelleux. The wine will gain even more balance and elegance over some years of bottle age, but even as a baby it is highly recommended as one of the finest and most tension-filled Gewurztraminers of the southern Alsace in 2013.

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**2013 Riefle-Landmann Seppi
Landmann Grand Cru Zinnkoepfle**

The 2013 Seppi Landmann Grand Cru Zinnkoepflé is a dry blend of 45% Gewurztraminer, Pinot Gris, Riesling and a bit of Sylvaner. The grapes were already assembled on the press, but it is the Gewurztraminer that dominates the still somewhat reductive bouquet at this early stage, but in a very delicate, transparent and elegant way. Very aromatic and slightly sweet on the palate, this mineral driven wine reveals a very floral finish but is still very closed.

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**2013 Riefle-Landmann Seppi
Landmann Sylvaner Cuvée Z**

Very untamed but full of herbs on the nose starts the 2013 Seppi Landmann Sylvaner Cuvée Z, which comes from the oldest parcel the Rieflé family owns in the Grand Cru Zinnkoepflé. It is a dry and powerful wine with a full and rich yet firmly structured body. Still very closed at the moment, this Sylvaner reveals a grip and good tension in the piquant finish. Promising.

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**2013 Riefle-Landmann Seppi
Landmann Pinot Gris Grand Cru
Zinnkoepfle**

The 2013 Seppi Landmann Pinot Gris Grand Cru Zinnkoepfle displays a delicate and fresh, lovely aromatic bouquet of great purity. Juicy, intense and highly elegant on the palate, this full-bodied, dense and nobly textured Pinot reveals a stunning balance (31 grams per liter of residual sugar), great tension-filled expression, as well as a lovely salinity in the piquant and aromatic finish. An excellent medium-sweet wine for the next 10 years!

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**2013 Riefle-Landmann Domaine
Riefle Pinot Gris Côte de Rouffach**

Very ripe and over-ripe fruit aromas along with herbal flavors on the nose of the 2013 Domaine Riefle Pinot Gris Côte de Rouffach lead to a dry, full-bodied, rich and powerful palate that gets its intensity also from some grams of unfermented sugar, as well as the concentrated and creamy texture. Though there is also some minerality, I find this attempt quite saturating at the moment, but this could change with more years of bottle age.

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**2013 Riefle-Landmann Domaine
Riefle Riesling Bihl**

The 2013 Domaine Riefle Riesling Bihl is a bone dry wine from a very shallow limestone soil that can cause a stop of the ripening process due to stress. Paul's grandfather hated this lieu-dit east of Pfaffenheim because the yields were always low. Ripeness can stop due to drought stress. It is very pure and lemon-fresh on the nose, which also displays some hazelnut flavors. Full-bodied, concentrated, intense, powerful and very long on the palate, this is a rich and tension-filled Riesling with structuring acidity and a very salty finish. Very expressive and with good aging potential. From limestone soils, it is rich with ripe apples and quinces, and is more meaty/fleshy; very salty in the finish. Great expression, powerful and with potential.

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**2012 Riefle-Landmann Domaine
Rieflé Riesling Grand Cru Steinert**

The most prominent single vineyard of the former Domaine Rieflé is the Grand Cru Steinert, which overlooks the village of Pfaffenheim where the family holds 65 ares. It is based on an oolitic limestone massif that is scarcely covered by topsoil in several places. Whereas Riesling is planted on the uppermost part of the cru, Pinot Gris likes it halfway down on the flattest parts.

The 2012 Domaine Rieflé Riesling Grand Cru Steinert opens with pleasant herbal and lemony aromas along with yellow stone fruit flavors and a touch of honey and caramel. It is dull-bodied, intense and juicy, with white nectarines and some dried and candied fruit flavors on the palate. This dry, very mineral and firmly structured Riesling is still tart, slightly bitter and grasped by its tannins, but this is nothing but a good sign for an excellent aging potential and further development.

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**2014 Riefle-Landmann Domaine
Rieflé Grand Cru Steinert**

Bottled only four weeks before I tasted it in mid June 2015, the 2014 Domaine Rieflé Grand Cru Steinert blends 60% Riesling with 40% Pinot Gris, so it is an authentic representative of the real existing cru, which is planted with both varieties. Their musts were blended and fermented in half-sized barriques. Lovely and pure in its lemon aromas and herbal flavors, and enriched with a slightly toasty note on the nose, this is a very clear, elegant, still creamy (yeasty) textured Riesling; it has lots of ripe white and yellow peach, and nectarine aromas, as well as good tannin structure. Still closed but very promising.

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**2014 Riefle-Landmann Domaine
Rieflé Pinot Gris Grand Cru
Steinert**

Smoky aromas of toasted ham, ripe pears, savoriness and oregano on the nose of the 2014 Domaine Rieflé Pinot Gris Grand Cru Steinert lead to a rich, clear and very elegant, still smooth and fruit intense palate; there is nice acidity and a good grip in the finish. Fermented and aged in two demi-muids from which it had been racked 5 days before I tasted it, this tank sample is still dominated by the winemaking (and bâtonnage) process, but very promising since there is no single gram of residual sugar that often makes up a lesser wine.

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**2012 Riefle-Landmann Pinot Gris
Grand Cru Zinnkoepfle Vendange
Tardive Seppi Landmann**

Golden-yellow in color and deep and intense on the nose, the 2012 Pinot Gris Grand Cru Zinnkoepflé Vendange Tardive Seppi Landmann opens with a very clear, fresh and aromatic bouquet of ripe stone fruits, white pepper, tobacco and crushed stones. Rich, round and nobly sweet on the palate, this is a highly elegant, minerally-piquant and luscious VT with an excellent structure, fine tannins and a lingering salty acidity. Bottled with 11.5% alcohol and a lot of tension, this outstanding cru is perfectly balanced and still young, but so lovely to also enjoy today. Highly recommended.

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**2012 Riefle-Landmann Seppi
Landmann Gewurztraminer Grand
Cru Zinnkoepfle Vendange
Tardive**

The 2012 Seppi Landmann Gewurztraminer Grand Cru Zinnkoepflé Vendange Tardive is lovely, clear and fresh on the nose, displaying flavors of paprika, lime juice and passion fruit. Highly elegant, very juicy and gently sweet, well balanced, piquant and with finesse, this full-bodied and intense yet not heavy VT reveals a lingering mineral aftertaste, which is a kind of reprise of all the aromas from the nose.

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**2012 Riefle-Landmann Seppi
Landmann Pinot Gris Grand Cru
Zinnkoepfle Vendange Tardive**

I tasted the 2012 Seppi Landmann Pinot Gris Grand Cru Zinnkoepflé Vendange Tardive at a too warm temperature, since the first sample was corked and no other was chilled. The 11.5% alcohol wine is intense and spicy on the deep and noble flavored nose, very lush, elegant and sweet on the rich palate (103 grams per liter of residual sugar), but also tightly structured and minerally piquant in the tension-filled finish that displays tropical (pineapple) aromas and a lingering, stimulating, salty aftertaste. An excellent sweet wine of which a stunning 42,000 bottles had been produced!

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**2013 Riefle-Landmann Domaine
Rieflé Pinot Noir Côte de Rouffach**

The bright-colored 2013 Domaine Rieflé Pinot Noir Côte de Rouffach offers candied cherries and lemon fresh flavors on a slightly reductive nose followed by a very delicate, fresh and fruity palate. A good, light to medium-bodied Pinot Noir.

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