

## Wine Estates in Germany

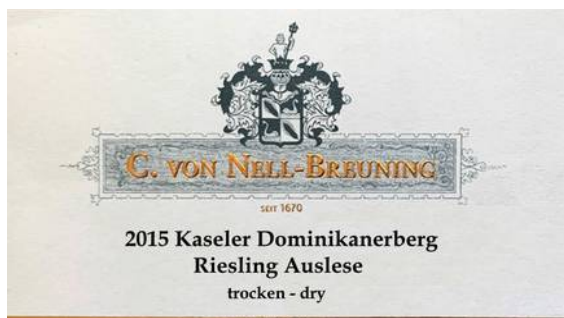
# DOMINIKANER WEINGUT C.von Nell-Breuning, Kasel (Ruwer)

Region:	RUWER (Mosel)
Vineyards:	Kasel (Dominikanerberg, Nies'chen, Kehrnagel)
Varietals:	Riesling
Owner:	Dr Carmen von Nell-Breuning
Winemaker:	Dr Carmen von Nell-Breuning
Remarks:	producing mineral-loaded, flinty yet delicate Ruwer wines, which combine well with fine cuisine

The history of the wine estate dates back to 1670, and the von Nells held important positions in the clerical world, as well as in the city of Trier. In 1785, Ludwig van Beethoven was a close friend of the family, and the daughter Eleonore became his first love.... perhaps his music was also influenced by their wines? Napoleon visited Trier in 1804 and stayed at the von Nell's residence, which perhaps also helped them to maintain the estate after secularization. Christoph von Nell managed the estate since 1970, and in 2013, his daughter Carmen took over at the helm, ably assisted by her parents.

The secluded Ruwer river valley near Trier is small and rural like the Saar, and also a tributary of the Mosel, but is also the home of other highly-rated estates such as Karthäuserhof, Maximin Grünhaus and Kesselstatt. The von Nell vineyards are steep, south-facing and composed of Devonian black & blue slate. The Dominikanerberg is a monopole site of the estate. Apart from the production of wine and sparkling Sekt, a neighbouring hotel and fine restaurant also belong to the estate, in a former monastery dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> Century.

Although part of the Mosel region, the macroclimate of the Ruwer side valley is cooler, with the cold air flowing down from the Hunsrück high hills, enabling a long hang-time for the grapes to extract the characteristics from the slate terroir. In former times Riesling had a hard time to ripen, but excelled in great vintages. Nowadays, the valley *profits* from Global warming. These Ruwer Riesling wines are mineral-loaded and terroir-driven, flinty yet also delicate and elegant, low in alcohol but with enormous maturing potential.



Kaseler Dominikanerberg



former label