



## Schloss Johannisberg

# Sweet News!

## Auction Record Set for TBA from Schloss Johannisberg

At the latest annual VDP wine auctions in Germany, held on September 14, 20 and 22, 2013, a bottle of 2011 Schloss Johannisberg Trockenbeereauslese (TBA) set new highs for a current release, with a record hammer price of 1,040 € (U.S.\$1,405.00).

The 750ml bottle comes from a single cask, specifically “No. 173.” That cask is unique, as Schloss Johannisberg is one of very few estates in the world to make its own barrels from oak trees grown on the estate. With the 200-year-old wood and grapes originating in the same soil, the two enjoy a seamless affinity. Grapes were picked at a ripeness level of 180° Oechsle\* and fermented in the 330-liter barrel.

*Gault Millau* Germany heralded the wine as “best noble sweet wine of the vintage,” awarding it a nearly perfect score of 98 points.

*“Not only are we excited and proud, but the record price vindicates the major new improvements we have made and confirms that Schloss Johannisberg is back at the top of its game. From a business perspective, the record price proves that the sweet wine market is strong. There will always be interest in outstanding quality.”* – Christian Witte, Winemaker/GM, Schloss Johannisberg

Witte will present another one of the estate’s TBAs, also from the 2011 vintage, but fermented in stainless steel, at the New York Wine Experience this October.

Schloss Johannisberg QbA, Kabinett, Spätlese and Erstes Gewächs Rieslings are imported in the U.S. by MW Imports.

*Schloss Johannisberg in the Rheingau Valley is a national landmark in Germany. Heralded as the oldest documented Riesling vineyard (817 A.D.) in the world, the property is home to the first-ever vineyard dedicated exclusively to Riesling (1720) and pioneer of the first recorded Spätlese late-harvest wine in 1775. Today, the estate is privately-owned and produces Rieslings from QbA on up.*

*The Association of German Prädikat Wine Estates, commonly known by its German acronym, VDP, is a group of 200 of Germany’s top wineries. The annual auctions, attended by trade and consumers, occur over three days. This year they took place on September 14 in the Rheingau, on September 20 in the Mosel, and on September 22 in the Nahe.*

\* **Oechsle:** a hydrometer scale measuring density of grape must, which is an indication of grape ripeness and sugar content used in winemaking. Named for Ferdinand Oechsle (1774-1852), it is widely used in the German, Swiss and Luxembourg winemaking industries.



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