

Michael Apstein Nov 30, 2010

91 pts | Gustave Lorentz, Alsace Grand Cru (Alsace, France) Riesling Altenberg de Bergheim 2005

(\$50, Quintessential): The Grand Cru classification of vineyards occurred in Alsace roughly 50 years later than it did in Burgundy. But similar to Burgundy, Grand Cru in Alsace doesn't automatically mean the wine will be great.

The producer is still the most important element in determining quality. And Gustave Lorentz is a great producer.

Not flowery in the German style, this dry Riesling has weight and substance. A lush texture, nuances of peach and a long spiced finish add to its allure. It's not a wine to sip before dinner, but it would be terrific with holiday turkey.