

The German Pinot Report

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Dear Reader,

We are very pleased with the high interest that our first volume of the German Pinot Report has received. In this issue we will discuss the history and current state of German Pinot.

The history of German Pinots can be traced back to Roman Kaiser Karl III who brought Pinot to the Lake Constance region in Baden in 884. In the 13th century it was planted in the Rheingau wine region of Germany. In the Middle Ages monastic orders established many of Germany's outstanding vineyards which set the standard for the high quality of German wines. In the 16th century Pinot is believed to have been planted in the Pfalz and in the Ahr in the 18th century.

The quality and style of German Pinots has changed over the years. Particularly over the last two decades German wineries have started producing wines of great structure and international style. Until recently, most of these wines were consumed in Germany and its neighboring countries with only small amounts making it to the US. In the coming years the US retail market will have more and more German Pinots on its shelves because of the great quality and value these wines have.

The target market of German Pinot wineries is no longer just local, and the wineries take that into consideration when making the wine. WG Oberbergen, a Baden Pinot winery, for example, has just started to employ the same techniques that French wineries use to vinify their Pinots. Their Pinot Noir Select is so international in style that it is very, very difficult to determine that this wine is German and not French.

This is a great time at which a quality product is so affordable and fun to enjoy.

We hope you enjoyed the second issue of the German Pinot Report. Please email us at PinotReport@ingeniumwines.com and send us some feedback. We would love to hear from you. If you would like to receive upcoming issues of The German Pinot Report please email us and write "subscribe" in the subject field.

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