

# POP STAR : Krug Champagne

*By Mark Russo for Angel's Share*

*Editors note: An Angel's Share Selection. AS ranks this as arguably the very best champagne in the world.*



*"Krug is the Champagne God gives his angels when they have been especially good"*

Established in 1843 the Krug family, now in its 6th generation, is still specializing in creating exceptional champagnes. Krug is the only Champagne House still fermenting all of its champagnes the age-old way-in small oak casks necessary for developing Krug's intense bouquet and complex flavors.

Krug actually matures its wines for 6 to 8 years before releasing them for sale, so when other champagne houses are releasing their 2004s, Krug is still rolling out their 1998 selections-a practice unparalleled in Champagne. It's more than just good champagne-Krug is definitely a lifestyle.



*Krug Grande Cuvée Multi-Vintage*  
*Rated 95 points Wine Spectator*

Krug Grande Cuvée is a symphony, a composition where the instruments all play together, complementing each other in total harmony," says winemaker Henri Krug. The flagship of the house is the Grande Cuvée. a stunning mosaic of flavors where the three champagne grapes, 20-25 growths and 6-10 different years, combine to give Krug Grande Cuvée its complexity, elegance and consistency year after year. To maintain this consistency Krug reserves a large selection of unblended still wines from previous vintages, blending them with the youngest crop to create a fully balanced taste. These "reserve" wines may represent between a third and a half of the cuvée. There is no formula or recipe for Krug Grande Cuvée. Each year the Krug family meets to re-create "their" Krug Grande Cuvée. This is done with careful attention to the most minute detail so after six years of aging the wine will be in perfect continuity with previous Krug.

The bouquet is wonderfully creamy, leading to a magical combination of weight and balance on the palate. The long, lingering finish is both nutty and toasty, ending with a final flourish of freshness, leaving one longing for more. AS loves this champagne, and also loves the fact that it's available in 750 bottles, magnums and even half-bottles, a choice which no other prestige cuvée offers.

