

## 75th GERMAN WINEQUEEN



## Franken

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EVA BROCKMANN

DATE OF BIRTH: 27 JANUARY, 1999

PLACE OF RESIDENCE:

HAIBACH /  
LANDKREIS ASCHAFFENBURG

OCCUPATION:

WINEMAKER/ B.Sc. VITICULTURE AND  
OENOLOGY, GEISENHEIM UNIVERSITY OF  
APPLIED SCIENCES

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"For me, wine is enjoyment, cultural heritage, regionality and an attitude to life," says Eva Brockmann. She discovered her enthusiasm for wine and all the work associated with viticulture at the age of 16 during an internship at the Giegerich winery in Großwallstadt.

Since then, wine has been an integral part of the oenologist's life. The professional course was also set very quickly. After her apprenticeship as a winemaker in Sulzfeld, Eva Brockmann directly began her bachelor's degree in viticulture and oenology in Geisenheim. The fact that she was able to successfully complete her studies in July 2023 in parallel with her office as Regional Wine Queen of Franken, which involved around 350 appointments in a year, fills her with particular pride.

As a representative of Franconian winegrowers, the preservation and promotion of the cultural landscape of her home region is particularly close to her heart. With strong communication skills, she is also committed to new topics such as the qualitative development of alcohol-free wines which she believes to be an important trend for the industry. The 24-year-old's favourite wine is a Silvaner "Alte Reben" made from old vines from her time as an apprentice. Perhaps this is the wine she would put in her luggage for a meeting with Marc-Uwe Kling, whom she admires for his humorous view of society and capturing the zeitgeist. This inspiring young woman is appreciated by her friends for her reliability, humour and ability to listen and support them.

"It is not good if we chase our dreams and forget to live": Eva Brockmann tries to take this advice from J. K. Rowling to heart in her life. She is as enthusiastic about mountain hikes at lofty heights as she is about yoga and travel destinations in Scandinavia. Currently Oslo is the only Scandinavian capital not yet visited by the fluent English-speaking Franconian. She likes books by authors such as Benedict Wells "From the End of Solitude" and films such as "Charade" with Audrey Hepburn. If she had one wish, she would like to visit the restaurant "Le Bernardin" in New York City and follow the wine recommendations of sommelier world champion Aldo Sohm.

### **Elected German Wine Queen**

"The 75th German Wine Queen is Eva Brockmann and comes from Franconia!" The young woman was overjoyed when Monika Reule, Managing Director at the DWI, announced her name after the public vote. "It's indescribable, I'm at a loss for words," said the newly crowned wine majesty overwhelmed after her election. As German Wine Queen, she wants to actively contribute to further increasing the visibility and importance of German wine in the world. "For me, this is one of the most beautiful tasks and at the same time the most important that this office entails," emphasizes the expert. In doing so, she wants to clearly highlight the diversity and special features of the 13 German growing regions and embody them in such a way that each individual area feels well represented by her.



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JESSICA HIMMELSBACH

DATE OF BIRTH: 29 MARCH, 1995

PLACE OF RESIDENCE:

HEITERSHEIM

OCCUPATION:

WINEMAKER AT THE JULIUS  
ZOTZ WINERY; HEITERSHEIM

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"Even though I was allowed to help out in grandpa's vines as a small child, I did not grow up with viticulture," says Jessica Himmelsbach. She only found her way back to viticulture at the age of 21 when she was working a grape harvest. From that moment on, there were no second thoughts: she decided to become a vintner. Right from the beginning, it was important for her to be involved in the industry beyond her profession, taking the future into her own hands and actively shaping it. She is involved in the Bund Badischer Landjugend (a rural youth organisation in Baden) both in the winegrowing working group and on the state board. Due to this commitment, some of her hobbies have had to take a back seat for now. In earlier years, the versatile woman from Heitersheim, who describes herself as very musical, played both the flute and the oboe as well as being an enthusiastic classic and Latin dancer.

As Regional Wine Queen of Baden, it was important to her to convey to people how much work and heart and soul go into a bottle of wine. Equally important to her are topics such as the conscious consumption of alcohol or sustainability in viticulture: "The cultivation of fungus-resistant grape varieties is hopefully not just a short-lived trend, but a forward-looking change." It fills her with pride that she has entered the industry and acquired her expertise with initiative and keen interest. Jessica's grandfather is one of her great role models. She appreciates him for his determination, resilience, diligence and warmth.

Thanks to various stays abroad, the 28-year-old speaks very good English and confident Dutch. Whether growing her own fruit and vegetables at home, hiking, cycling or inline skating, on her days off, she heads out into nature. In the future, this ambitious young woman envisages even more thrills - a paragliding flight, bungee jumping or a demanding, multi-day hike in the mountains.

### **Elected German Wine Princess**

Jessica Himmelsbach from the wine-growing region of Baden is more than happy to be part of the newly elected trio of the 75th Wine Majesties as the German Wine Princess. The newly crowned German Wine Princess presented herself as extremely competent and sympathetic both in the preliminary round and during the big election gala.

As the 75th German Wine Princess, she represents the German wine industry at around 150 events at home and abroad. "The function of the German Wine Ambassadors has an immense charisma and offers endless possibilities, but also brings with it a lot of responsibility," explains Jessica Himmelsbach.

LEA BASSLER

DATE OF BIRTH: 5 APRIL 2000

PLACE OF RESIDENCE:  
BAD DÜRKHEIM

OCCUPATION:  
BUSINESSWOMAN FOR  
OFFICEMANAGEMENT; BAR AND WINE  
TASTING MANAGEMENT IN THE VINO THEK  
PFALZBENZIN, BAD DÜRKHEIM



Lea Bassler still remembers the smell in the wine cellar in her childhood days when she watched her father working as a cellar master and admired the large cellar with its high tanks and barrels.

Her passion for wine, however, only developed when she herself was old enough to try a glass or two of wine. As her fascination for viticulture and the diversity of grape varieties grew, the young woman quickly decided that she wanted to work professionally in this area. The local from Pfalz is a trained office administrator and worked in marketing and sales at the Jürgen Zimmermann winery in Wachenheim an der Weinstraße until September. In the future, she will manage the wine tastings and the bar at the Pfalzbenzin vinothek.

With her joy of communication, her sense of humour and her positive attitude to life, Lea Bassler effortlessly manages to ignite and radiate her passion. "It doesn't take me long to break the ice and get into conversation with people," is how she describes one of her great strengths, which she was able to further develop alongside her extensive wine knowledge during her time as local wine princess and regional wine queen. She sees a trend towards rosés and white wines with a strong character, which are more complex and powerful due to ageing in wood. As light accompaniments for balmy summer evenings, she prefers dry, fruity aromatic grape varieties such as Scheurebe or Muskateller. The 23-year-old likes to spoil her friends and family with menus she creates herself. When it comes to wine and sparkling wine recommendations to go with the dishes, you can rely entirely on the expertise of this enthusiast.

The woman from Dürkheim would love to have a chat with Günter Jauch, whom she appreciates not only as a presenter but also for his lateral entry into the wine industry. Hawaii is on her wish list as a distant destination, but first the fun-loving young woman would like to visit as many wine regions as possible in France, Spain or Italy.

### **Elected German Wine Princess**

Lea Bassler completes the trio of the 75th German Wine Majesties as the newly crowned German Wine Princess. Already in the pre-selection round, she convinced with her spontaneous, approachable manner, her fluent English and her profound knowledge of wine. As a German wine princess, Lea Bassler wants to be a mouthpiece for local wines with commitment, expertise and joie de vivre and at the same time communicate the challenges for the wine industry transparently. Above all, however, as part of the 75th Trio of Majesties, she wants to address the younger generation live and via social media channels in order to get them excited about German wines.