With tasting notes and a price guide, this wine guide provides a region-by-region critique of individual vineyards and wines. The scope is large, taking into account both the known estates of the Mosel and other little-known vineyards.

My Personal Review:
I enjoy owning this book. My favorite wine is Riesling and favorite terroir is Germany, especially Mosel-Saar-Ruwer. This book has that covered. Granted, some of the vintage information is three years old. However, the reputations of the wineries has not changed that much. Vintages matter more in Germany and most European areas and much less so in places like California. However, much of that information can be applied equally to all German wineries, so looking online for general vintage information will do just as well -- the relative ratings in the book will still apply, so they are still helpful. I also dislike using German currency, even though it is a German book that was translated (and translated exceptionally well, I might add). I would have preferred seeing prices in US currency for different price ranges. A couple of (very short) sections seem to be a marketing campaign for German wines (perhaps that is how it is seen in the industry, as I would suspect, so that would be acceptable). This only amounts to a handful of pages, so not that bothersome. There are good miniature tutorials on German terminology, wine labels, grapes, Pradikat and other classifications. There are 30 color photographs of different vineyard owners/managers. There are several different sections listing the best estates, along with the author's favorite picks from different wines. The following sections are covered, with many estates from each section:

Ahr
Baden
Franken
Hessische Bergstrasse
Mittelrhein
Mosel-Saar-Ruwer
Nahe
Pfalz
Rheingau
Rheinhessen
Saale-Unstrut
Sachsen

Wurttemberg

Each section has a description of that area as well as a scaled map. Immediately after that is a brief list of names broken down into their rating. For example, Mosel-Saar-Ruwer has 6 five-grape, 15 four-grape, 22 three-grape, 20 two-grape and 5 one-grape ratings. There are an additional 26 "other notable producers" that do not have detailed pages for those estates. Each rated estate has a full page (or more) with great information about each. Besides access information (owner, address, phone, fax, directions, hours, history, etc.), there is a box about recent productions. This includes the vineyard area (in hectares), annual production (in bottles), top site, soil types, grape varieties (by percentage), average yield (hl/ha) and best vintages of that time. After that is a commentary on the vineyard as well as ratings of some 10 to 20 wines. After that is a black-and-white photo of the vineyard label, which is greatly helpful when looking for the wines at a wine shop. At the back of the book are sections on the best sparkling wines, Marc and Fine, information bureaus and wine glasses. Overall, it is an excellent and useful tool for German wines. Well worth the price, which is hardly more than a single bottle from most of the good wines of this region. Definitely a book to own and know.

For More 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price:
German Wine Guide by Joel Payne - 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!