

Weingut Meinhard Forstreiter

History:

The vineyard of 28 hectares/69 acres is situated in Krems-Hollenburg in the Kremstal, along the right bank of the Danube River, across from the Wachau. There has been wine production in and around Hollenburg since the Roman Empire.

The Forstreiter family has been making wine here since 1868, but it has been the current owner and cellar master, Meinhard Forstreiter, who has brought the vineyard to a new level of quality and reputation.

The single vineyards, Kogl, Tabor and Schiefer, produce the most outstanding and unique Grüners and Rieslings. Single vineyard Tabor, with 155 year old grape vines, is the home of Austria's oldest cultivated Gruner Veltliner vines and the Schiefer is the oldest vineyard of Hollenburg, dating back to 1364.

Soil:

Most of the wine grows close to the Danube on terraces facing south or east on conglomerate (a rock-like formation), with different layers of loess, clay and sandy soil. This "Hollenburger Konglomerat," was formed during the Ice Age, when gravel from the banks of the Danube was pressed together under enormous force. The unique soil formations and microclimate of this area produce exceptional fruity, spicy and peppery wines with lots of minerals.

Varietals:

Specializing in Grüner Veltliner, the German press has dubbed Forstreiter, "The Grüner Veltliner Pope". Additionally, he grows outstanding Rieslings and Gelber Muskateller, His remarkable red varietals include St. Laurent, Zweigelt, Pinot Noir and he is the only winemaker in Austria growing Zinfandel.

Vinification:

The vinification methods utilize the most advanced modern technology, using predominantly environmentally sound, sustainable methods. The grapes are pressed carefully by the whole cluster pressing method, and are then fermented under temperature-controlled and strictly sanitary conditions. This effort produces fruit-driven and elegant wines, clearly expressive of their variety. Meinhard Forstreiter produces almost exclusively dry wines, with the exception of very special vintages, when he also vinifies sweet wines.

Recent US press:

Wine Enthusiast July 2012

Grüner Veltliner Tabor DAC Reserve 93 points
Riesling Schiefer DAC Reserve 92 points
Grüner Veltliner Schiefer DAC Reserve 2010 91 points
Grüner Veltliner Schiefer 2011 DAC Reserve 90 points
Grüner Veltliner Kogl DAC 88 points
Donau Riesling DAC 2011 87 points

Wine Spectator May, 31st, 2011

Best Value of Austria

Grüner Veltliner Kogl Kremstal DAC 2009 90 points

Wine Spectator May, 31st, 2011

Grüner Veltliner Tabor Kremstal DAC Reserve 92 points
Grüner Veltliner Schiefer Kremstal DAC Reserve 90 points
Grüner Veltliner Grande Reserve 88 points
Grüner Veltliner Beerenauslese 90 Points

Wine Enthusiast March 2011

Riesling Schiefer Kremstal DAC Reserve 93 points
Grüner Veltliner Tabor Kremstal DAC Reserve 92 points
Grüner Veltliner Grande Reserve 93 points
Grüner Veltliner Kogl Kremstal DAC 88 points

Food & Wine Magazine Wine Guide 2011

Grüner Veltliner Schiefer 2008 3 Stars

Wine Spectator 2008 Top 100

Grüner Veltliner Schiefer 2006 92 points