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Versteckter Text

TASTINGS

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Mapping New Territory

**Austrian Reds Reward
Wine Drinkers With a
Sense of Adventure**

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Sometime before too long, you're going to walk into a wine store and see some or all of these words: Blaufränkisch, St. Laurent and Zweigelt. Do not be alarmed! It's just more evidence of the bounty of interesting, distinctive, world-wide wines ever more available to consumers.



WSJ wine columnists Dorothy J. Gaiter and John Brecher taste red wines from Austria. Kelsey Hubbard reports. (Feb. 8)

You've probably read pundits foaming at the mouth about how all wine is becoming "international" and tasting the same. Like so much conventional wisdom, this is hogwash. While it's true that far too many wines all over the world have substituted oak for fruit and simplicity for personality, those wines are quickly replaced these days by other wines that still offer new, different, interesting flavors. That doesn't mean everyone will like them, but they all help fill in the rainbow of tastes.

Exhibits B through Z today are Blaufränkisch, St. Laurent and Zweigelt. They are three prominent red wines from Austria. While Austria is best-known for its whites, and especially its signature grape, Grüner Veltliner, more reds are showing up on shelves these days, too. Blaufränkisch is the same grape known elsewhere as Lemberger; St. Laurent is related to Pinot Noir; and Zweigelt is a cross of the two that

