



RIED STEINRIEGL

The Steinriegl vineyard is on the west side of Weissenkirchen nestled between the vineyards Ritzling and Pichlpoint to the south and southwest, Postaller to the west, and Seiber to the north. This vineyard's name offers an apt description: "stein" is the German word for "rock", while "riegl" stems from the Middle High German for an elevated rise. Located in a convex slope with a south to southwest exposition, the Steinriegl enjoys an average of around 2200 hours of sunshine per year. Although the site often becomes quite warm on summer days, the forest above ensures that it cools down significantly each night.

White coloured calc-silicate marble, a geological rarity in the Wachau, is found in several places in the subsoil of this vineyard. Paragneiss dominates the upper parcels while the terraces below have increasingly more paragneiss rubble. The crystalline marble that is responsible for the high calcium carbonate content in sections of the soil is found in abundance in the front part of the Steinriegl. The terrace rubble, which has high calcium carbonate content, stems from the Danube glaciation that preceded the four more famous glaciation stages, the Günz, Mindel, Riss, and Würm.

Paragneiss is a metamorphic rock that was formed during the Variscan Orogeny without being molten. Paragneiss stems from sedimentary rock like marl, clay, and sandstone. Due to differing parent rock, there are great variations in mineral content (mica schist, quartzite, and dark amphibolite). Paragneiss metamorphosed under less pressure and lower temperatures than orthogneiss - around 1000 bar and 600-700 °C. It also formed later and is more weathered. Light and sandy soils with good water drainage evolve from paragneiss. These soils warm quickly in spring and are easy for vine roots to penetrate.

Calc-silicate marble is a metamorphic rock that contains not only calcite, but also silicate minerals like mica, garnet, or quartz, which stem predominantly from marine sediments. It is the result of clayey-sandy, calcium carbonate-rich sediment being highly metamorphosed. It differs from paragneiss in its higher calc-silicate content, which also imparts colourful bands and speckles. Calc-silicate marble is very hard and resistant to weathering.

The Steinriegl vineyard encompasses around 21 hectares and is one of the larger vineyards in the Wachau. The foot of the slope lies at 218 metres (715 ft.) and rises steeply at a gradient of 75 % to 349 metres (1145 ft.). Domäne Wachau cultivates about 6 hectares of this vineyard, planted predominantly with Riesling and Grüner Veltliner. The Grüner Veltliner goes into one of our Terrassen interpretations. The Riesling is vinified to a highly mineral, taut and compact single-vineyard Federspiel. It elegantly unites a cool, delineated, chalky texture with delicate aromas of stone fruit and spring blossoms.

Riesling Federspiel ^{RIED} STEINRIEGL



Our Steinriegl vintners:

Heidemarie Bernhard, Ferdinand Denk, Angelika Mang, Heinrich Mang, Richard Ottmann, Anton Rosenberger, Monika Tauber