



DOMÄNE  
WACHAU

## RIED TRAUNTHAL

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Traunthal is a largely unknown ried (single vineyard) on the right side or southern bank of the Danube. It is located in the south-western Wachau, between Oberarnsdorf and St. Johann im Maurerthale.

The site encompasses nearly seven hectares of vineyards, of which roughly half are terraced and retained by dry stone walls. It climbs from 210 to 295 meters of elevation, with an average incline of 18° (32%). At its most extreme that steepness rises to 43° (93%), making it the steepest slope on the right side of the Danube, and one of the most difficult rieds to cultivate in the entire Wachau. At the western foot of the slope, Traunthal borders directly on Ried Altenweg, a flat vineyard that abuts the Danube.

Traunthal is one of the coolest single vineyards on the western border of the Wachau. There are many reasons for this: one is the western exposure, which receives less sun than other rieds in the region. Another is the forest that surrounds it completely. Finally, there is the cold air from the Jauerling, a 1000-meter peak, and the falling winds from Dunkelstein Forest, which are partially mitigated by the temperature regulation of the Danube but which nevertheless leave their mark as they pass through the parcels. All of these factors mean that grapes mature later in Ried Traunthal (with harvest typically coming in late October), and never at high alcohol levels. A set of conditions seemingly pre-destined for complex Federspiel wines.

The bedrock in Traunthal is formed from paragneiss, upon which a thick humus of sand has settled, especially in the lower parcels. Paragneiss stones are derived from sedimentary rocks such as marl, clay, and sandstone, with an enormously diverse mineral composition reflective of their various base stones. Paragneiss stone metamorphoses at as little as 1000 bar and 600-700°C, a considerably lower pressure and temperature than orthogneiss stone. As such, the paragneiss arose later and is more heavily weathered. Paragneiss breaks down into light, sandy soils with good water drainage and easy root access. It tends to warm quickly in spring.

Traunthal has long been dominated by Grüner Veltliner and Riesling. Where once plantings of the two leading Wachau grape varieties were roughly equal, Grüner Veltliner has taken the lead at 53%. Roughly 30 percent of the area under vine is currently planted to Riesling. The only other variety of note in Ried Traunthal is Zweigelt, planted in roughly 8 percent of the vineyards.

Our Grüner Veltliner Federspiel Ried Traunthal is a bold step into the unknown. Never before have we produced a single-site wine from this ried. In recent years, however, we were increasingly struck by the distinctiveness of the terroir and the quality of the fruit, which encouraged us to pursue a new single-site expression. Our Federspiel is structured, taut, dynamic, and invigorating. The aromas are clear, cool, and precise, and reminiscent of fresh stone fruit and meadow herbs. A delicate minerality and subtle spice tempt the palate. Its texture is slender and nuanced, with a long finish, both inviting and refreshing.

### Grüner Veltliner Federspiel <sup>RIED</sup> TRAUNTHAL



Our Traunthal vintners:

Erwin Hubmaier, Franz Hirnschall, Andrea Hautzenberger, Patricia Hick, Michaela Miedler, Jasmin König, Bruno Blauensteiner, Christian Lengsteiner, Renate Zeller, Philipp Zizala, Stefan Fasching