

Weingut **Stadt Kreams**

History

Weingut Stadt Kreams finds itself in an extraordinary situation: the wine producer is in fact owned by a city. This creates the obligation to act as a role model for all wine estates in the region, while its business affairs are subject to the planning of the municipal administration. This represents a particular challenge for management & operations.

Historically, Weingut Stadt Kreams grew out of two sources: for one, from the properties of the what was known as the »Bürgerspitalstiftung«. Around 1210 AD, Duke Leopold VI donated the Bürgerspital zu Kreams – along with the associated Antoni church and two vineyards (one on the Lintobeln [today's Gebling] and one on the Vinitorum Mons [Weinzierlberg]) – to the Lilienfeld monastery.

The Dachsberg Foundation provided the second source. Jörg von Pottendorf, grandson of Ulrich von Dachsberg and Margarethe von Wallsee, donated numerous properties on their behalf, including vineyards in the neighbourhood of Kreams. This later endowment marks the point in time when the city of Kreams came into possession of vineyards.

Weingut Stadt Kreams is one of the oldest wine producers in Austria, in Europe and in the world. In 2020 the estate was named 'Winegrower of the Year' by Falstaff Magazine.

Over the course of its history, wines have been vinified at various locations in the historic town centre of Kreams. Today, the cellars & tasting room are located at the address *Stadtgraben 11*.

Weingut Stadt Kreams is a member of the winegrowers' association *Österreichische Traditionsweingüter*, a group committed to maintaining historic, noteworthy and particularly valuable vineyards in the Danube region, Carnuntum & Wien (Vienna).

The estate is managed by Fritz Miesbauer. He is supported in his endeavours by Franz-Josef Gansberger, Peter Rethaller, Peter Mandl, Jürgen Peter, Lisa Glassner, Lisa Tersch and Kathrin Bründlmayer-Szing.



Climate / Geology / Vineyards

All forty hectares of vineyards belonging to the estate are located within the city limits of Krems, north of the Danube in the northern half of the winegrowing region Kremstal.

The majority of the estate's holdings are planted to the leading varieties named in the Kremstal DAC statutes, Grüner Veltliner (75% of the area under vines) and Riesling (20%).

The city of Krems is situated at 210 metres above sea level and the vineyards are laid out between 220–380m. This provides Krems & environs with a transitional climate, combining Atlantic influences from the northwest with continental influences from the Pannonian climate to the east.

Comparatively dramatic fluctuations in temperature, combined with low annual precipitation (Ø545mm/year), make Krems an ideal location for viticulture. The vines particularly benefit from the nearby Danube River, which moderates extremes of temperature and ensures consistent air circulation.

The geologic underpinnings, which are very diverse, are unique to Krems. The rolling hills to the east & northeast of the city centre, formed from soils of loess, are absolutely perfect for fruit-forward wines vinified from the grape variety Grüner Veltliner.

High above the city in the north the soils are a bit leaner, with coarse gravels rising to the surface. This is where Grüner Veltliner begins to take on an attractive dynamic tension.

The grape variety Riesling is at home in the western part of Krems, in the city-district Stein. Mineral-driven, long-lived wines of grand format are grown on the steep terraced slopes, demanding a great deal of work and consummate craftsmanship. Slatey amphibolite, Gföhler gneiss and conglomerate constitute the meagre rock formations here, which can store a lot of heat but precious little water. In addition, these parcels enjoy the sun-blessed orientation (Ø1816 hours of sunshine during the vegetation cycle), which is conducive to enhanced ripening of the grapes.



At the heart of the estate's property are the storied vineyards Weinzierlberg, Wachtberg, Schreck & Grillenparz.

Ried	Weinzierlberg	Wachtberg 1.ÖTW	Schreck	Grillenparz 1.ÖTW
Grape Variety	Grüner Veltliner	Grüner Veltliner	Riesling	Riesling
Soil	Loess, Danube gravel	Danube gravel, paragneiss	Slate-rich amphibolite	Calcareous carbonate conglomerate, Gföhler gneiss, sandy gravel
Microclimate	Warm Pannonian climate, many hours of sunshine	Cool winds from the Waldviertel, dramatic temperature swings	Windy & dry, warmth stored in the stone walls of its terraces	Windy & dry, crystalline solid rock stores warmth well
Elevation	218-291 m	251–391 m	259-323 m	262-335 m
Inclination	Max. 4,7° / Ø 27°	Max. 36° / Ø 7,4°	Max. 38° / Ø 12°	Max. 31° / Ø 12°
Orientation	E-W	SO	SO	SO
Area / Cultivated by Stadt Krens	30 ha / 6.6 ha	30 ha / 1.5 ha	6 ha / 0.45 ha	7,8 ha / 3.3 ha
Origin of the name	1112 as 'Vinitorum Mons' = hillside behind the winegrowers' village	1137 as 'Wartberg' = lookout point, where guards could warn of approaching enemies	1360 as 'Schreckch' = a steep indentation in the landscape	1180 as »ad grillenporce« = home to a multitude of crickets

Wine Style

In addition to fine fruit, varietal typicity and clearly discernible character of origin, the literal wholesomeness of the wines is the most prominent feature of the Weingut Stadt Krens portfolio. Our wines should be enjoyable to drink, present themselves as the perfect accompaniment to pleasures of the table, and still exhibit nerve & vivacity, even after a few years of bottle aging.

This characterisation might sound obvious, but we live in times in which wines are becoming ever more powerful. Those wines might well dominate tastings & competitions, but they are far too seldom truly enjoyable to drink.

In order to do justice to our centuries of viticultural history, wines from Weingut Stadt Krens are vinified in a timeless fashion. A puristic way of viticulture & vinification has established itself. Hand-harvesting, careful selection of the best grapes and patient aging in stainless steel tanks and wooden casks with extended time on the fine lees – these are the influences at work in the creation of our wines.



Member estate of the Österreichischen Traditionsweingüter



The same level of quality cannot be assumed in all places where vines are planted. It is ancient wisdom that there are vineyards that consistently produce exceptional wines every year, while elsewhere nearby – with comparable care & vinification – only decent or middling wines may be obtained.

With this in mind, we have defined the quality of our wines across three levels of origin. These are, in ascending order of quality, *Gebietswein* (regional wine), *Ortswein* (village wine) and *Lagenwein* (from individual vineyards). These quality levels are legally prescribed in the wine law of the Kremstal DAC (Districtus Austriae Controllatus) statutes.

In addition, our wines bear the designations of the ÖTW vineyard classification – 1.ÖTW Lage and G.ÖTW Lage – on the label, which refer to the absolute top of the quality pyramid, the single-vineyard wines. Wines with these designations represent the pinnacle of our assortment.

The standards upon which this classification is based are:

- Member estates of the Österreichische Traditionsweingüter are either certified ‘Sustainable Austria’, earn the minimum standard EU organic seal ‘Organic grape production’, or its equivalent
- There is a ban on herbicides & insecticides in the cultivation of 1.ÖTW sites
- The maximum yield per hectare from 1.ÖTW sites is 60 hectolitres per hectare
- Grapes for wines from 1.ÖTW sites must be harvested by hand
- The grape must has to remain unadulterated in every respect and may not be concentrated
 - White wines from the 1.ÖTW vineyards are first released to the market in September of the year following the harvest



Recognition

We are particularly grateful for having been named Falstaff Winegrower of the Year for 2020.

Current ratings of our wines (July 2022)

95	2020 Ried Grillenparz 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Riesling
95	2020 Ried Schreck Kremstal DAC Riesling
94	2020 Ried Wachtberg 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
93	2020 Ried Weinzierlberg Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
92	2020 Stein Kremstal DAC Riesling Schieferterrassen
92+	2021 Krets Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
96	2020 Ried Schreck Kremstal DAC Riesling
95	2020 Ried Grillenparz 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Riesling
94	2020 Ried Wachtberg 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
93	2020 Ried Weinzierlberg Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner (DAC Cup Sieger!)
93	2021 Stein Kremstal DAC Riesling
92	2021 Stein Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
92	2021 Krets Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
91	2021 Kremstal DAC Riesling Steinterrassen
91	2021 Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
95	2016 Ried Schreck Kremstal DAC Riesling
95	2019 Ried Wachtberg 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
95	2019 Ried Grillenparz 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Riesling
90	2018 Ried Weinzierlberg Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
94+	2020 Ried Grillenparz 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Riesling
94	2019 Ried Schreck Kremstal DAC Riesling
93+	2020 Ried Wachtberg 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
88	2020 Krets Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
95	2019 Ried Grillenparz 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Riesling
95	2019 Ried Wachtberg 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
93	2018 Ried Schreck Kremstal DAC Riesling
91	2018 Stein Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
18,5	2020 Ried Schreck Kremstal DAC Riesling
17,5	2020 Ried Grillenparz 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Riesling
17,5	2020 Ried Wachtberg 1.ÖTW Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
17	2020 Stein Kremstal DAC Riesling Schieferterrassen
16,5	2020 Stein Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
16,5	2020 Ried Weinzierlberg Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner
16	2020 Kremstal DAC Riesling Steinterrassen
15,5	2020 Krets Kremstal DAC Grüner Veltliner

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