



DOMÄNE
WACHAU



RIESLING SMARAGD®

RIED ACHLEITEN 1996



Origin & Terroir

Achleiten is a legendary vineyard in the Wachau village of Weissenkirchen. It is famous for wines with inimitable mineral character. Dry stone walls dating back to the 12th century, which mount the steep slopes with their silicate-rich soil, dominate this vineyard's landscape. In the upper terraces, gneiss is the prevailing subsoil, the lower terraces are dominated by dark, schistous amphibolites.

Grape Variety

Riesling has four important origins worldwide – Germany, Alsace, South Australia and the Wachau. Responsible for the distinctive stone fruit aroma are so called “monoterpenes” – aroma molecules which can also be found in Gewürztraminer or Muskateller. Riesling is never characterised by opulence and power but by elegance, acidity and mineral character.

Classification

Smaragd is the top category of Wachau wines. The name Smaragd was derived from the magnificent emerald green lizard that can be found basking in hot and sunny spots in the vineyards. Smaragd wines are dry, full-bodied and complex wines with plenty of finesse and great aging potential. Smaragd® is a registered trademark of Vinea Wachau Nobilis Districtus e.V.

Vinification

Riesling from Achleiten is characterised by low yields due to the poor soil in this vineyard. After multiple selections the grapes for Riesling Smaragd Achleiten were carefully hand-picked. After several hours of maceration and gentle pressing, the wine fermented and matured in big wooden casks. Late bottling and therefore the long contact with the fine lees provides more precise nuances and gives additionally great finesse.

Tasting Notes

Straw yellow with golden reflections; very distinctive on the nose with hints of tangerine, citrus and melon; on the palate powerful, mouth filling and charming with an elegant acidity and a salty minerality, fine tobacco spices, dried fruits. A beautiful and long lasting wine with great ageing potential.

Enjoyment

Riesling Achleiten is counted among the most age-worthy wines of the Wachau. It remains fresh and racy even after a many years. Well chilled at 10°C, the wine perfectly accompanies the sophisticated international cuisine, fish, roasts, pigeon and quail as well as mature cheeses.

- **92 points | PARKER**

Alcohol: 13.0% | **Acidity:** 8.8‰ | **RS:** 2.9g/l

GONZALEZ BYASS USA

1525 W HOMER ST, SUITE 301, CHICAGO, IL, 60642

info@gonzalezbyassusa.com

www.gonzalezbyassusa.com



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RIESLING SMARAGD ^{RIED} ACHLEITEN 2021

**Gneiss, weathered primary rock, meagre soil - synonymous for Achleiten.
A monumental Riesling from one of the most spectacular white wine terroirs.**

ORIGIN & TERROIR

Achleiten is a legendary vineyard in the Wachau village of Weissenkirchen. It is famous for wines with inimitable mineral character. Dry stone walls dating back to the 12th century. The silicate-rich soil dominates this vineyard's landscape. On the upper terraces, gneiss is the prevailing subsoil, the lower terraces are made of dark, schistous amphibolites.

VINTAGE 2021

A notably cold spring and a cool summer pushed back the growing calendar. Then came a picture-perfect autumn: glorious weather, filled with plentiful sunshine, dry days and cool nights – ideal conditions for the optimally ripened fruit that powers a truly grand vintage. This year will be remembered for its wines of good concentration and compelling elegance and finesse, combined with depth, tremendous momentum and tension on the palate and challenging acidity.

VINEYARD & CELLAR

Due to the meagre soil of the Achleiten vineyard, the cultivation of Riesling is characterized by reduced yields. The grapes for this Smaragd are harvested in several passages and according to strict selection criteria. After a few hours of maceration on the skins, grapes are gently pressed. After fermentation (partly spontaneously) in stainless steel tanks, the wine is aged in large wooden casks after initial time in steel tanks. Ageing on the fine lees provides precise nuances and additional depth.

CHARACTER & STYLE

Riesling of single vineyard Achleiten is characterized by reduced yields due to the shallow topsoil. It is very aromatic, juicy stone fruit aromas, such as apricot and a touch of vineyard peach. The gneiss soil of the Achleiten leads to a classy firm acidity. The term Smaragd stands for dry, dense, and complex wines of the Wachau; Apart from structure and depth, Smaragd wines also convince with great ageing potential. Well chilled, the wine goes well with asparagus with ham or classically with sauce hollandaise and of course with local fish (trout, char) from the grill. The wine also goes well with spicy Far Eastern dishes, for example, a Korean bulgogi (fried beef with soy sauce, ginger and garlic). Charming in its youth, after 3-5 years at the first peak, the Riesling from the Achleiten can also mature for 15 years or more.

2021: 96 Points | FALSTAFF 93 Points | JAMES SUCKLING 97 Points | A LA CARTE
94+ Points | PARKER 17 Points | J. ROBINSON

2020: 95 Points | 100% Blind Tasted 95 Points | A LA CARTE 93 Points | DECANTER
94 Points | FALSTAFF Europe No 1 - Worldwide No 3 | WORLD'S BEST VINEYARDS

2019: 98 Points | WINE ENTHUSIAST 96 Points | PARKER 96 Points | A LA CARTE
94 Points | JAMES SUCKLING 92 Points | WINE SPECTATOR

2018: 96 Points - TOP 100 Cellar Selections #27 | WINE ENTHUSIAST



Alcohol: 13,5 % | Acidity: 8 % | Residual Sugar: 2,9 g/l

0.375l | 0.75l | 1.5l | 3l



BAROQUE CELLAR PALACE



RIED ACHLEITEN



ROMAN HORVATH MW &
HEINZ FRISCHENGRUBER





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RIESLING SMARAGD ^{RIED} ACHLEITEN 2022

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VINTAGE 2022

A mild and dry winter was followed by a wet April. The moisture captured by the soil during that time helped carry the vines through the hot summer days. Unfortunately, the weather turned poorly in September. We found ourselves frequently fighting the rains, especially at the beginning of harvest. To our delight, the sun returned as the calendar switched to October, and the grapes enjoyed a slow, ideal ripening. The result: elegant and focused wines of energy and tension that captivate the palate with vibrant acidity, clarity, and concentration.

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2018: 96 Points - TOP 100 Cellar Selections #27 | WINE ENTHUSIAST



Alcohol: 13.5 % | Acidity: 7.3 g/l | Residual Sugar: 3.4 g/l

0.75l | 1.5l | 3l | 6l



BAROQUE CELLAR PALACE



RIED ACHLEITEN



ROMAN HORVATH MW &
HEINZ FRISCHENGROBER

