Erwin SABATHI

Ried Pössnitzberg Chardonnay 2023

Große STK Ried, SüdsteiermarkDAC

Single Vineyard Pössnitzberg Chardonnay 2023

Grand Cru STK, SüdsteiermarkDAC



Grape variety:	**Sauvignon Blanc**
Vintage:	2023
Awards:	**95 FALSTAFF, 96+ A LA CARTE points**
Alcohol content:	13.0%vol
Total acid:	5.5g/l
Residual suggar:	1.1g/l
Vinification:	**harvested by hand, traditionally fermented with natural yeasts**
Maturation:	24 months in small oak barrels
Drinking maturity:	10 years and longer
Bottle closure:	nature cork/organic cork, sorted by hand
Certification:	**Organic**, Sustainable Austria
Categorisation:	**Große STK Ried (Grand Cru STK)** / SüdsteiermarkDAC
Wine-growing area/ single vineyard :	**Single Vineyard Pössnitzberg**
Local orientation:	a predominantly south-facing location forming a basin with eastern and western extensions and an inclination of up to 75% (the major part more than 50% of inclination)
Sea level:	400m–540m
Wine-growing region:	**Southern Styria**
Description of the wine:	intense bouquet, orange flowers and hop flowers, mint, spices and a hint of roasted hazelnuts; stony minerality with sensual fruit expression, very sensitive and weightless intensity, on the palate delicate juiciness with an animating drinking flow
Food recommendation:	beef-consommé, strong essences, pumpkin, porcini mushrooms, morels, truffle(-noodles), polenta, warm appetizers, shellfish and crustaceans (lobster), veal and beef, pan-fried goose liver; goes well with hearty dishes

GROSSE STK RIED

Categorisation: The Single Vineyard Pössnitzberg is predestined as a **great white wine terroir.** Due to the interaction of the soil structure and of the climatic factors this single vineyard is unique. These Chardonnay wines are very authentic. Our wines from Pössnitzberg, classified as "Große STK Ried" (Grand Cru STK), are delicately mineral, very salty on the palate and show a tight structure and high ageing potential. The harvest yield is limited to a maximum of 45 hectolitres. Grand Cru STK wines are allowed to be offered for sale at the earliest on the 1st of May after 18 months of maturation.

Wine-growing area/ single vineyard: Steepness and extremely chalky soils account for grand, deep terroir wines - laborious and intensive manual work provided. The Single Vineyard Pössnitzberg is the **most southern single vineyard in Styria** and is very important for our winery. In the fifties our grandfather Johann Sabathi recognised the potential of the site Pössnitzberg and acquired the first core of this precious vineyard. This extremely steep and rocky single vineyard benefits from partly very old vines and deep roots. Due to an inclination of 75% this vineyard needs to be cultivated almost by hand.

Climate: WThis vineyard is protected by warm winds on the one hand and the cool air stream from the western Koralpe on the other. **Significant temperature differences** result in an independent and unique aroma development.

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Soil: Pössnitzberg is located on the southern part of the "West Styrian Bay" of the Styrian Basin. In former times (in the Neogene), several 1000 meter thick marine sediments have been deposited there. These deposits, also called "Steirischer Schlier", are **clayey up to fine sandy, gray-green coloured marls including plant fossils** and sandstone interstratifications. These scarce and very chalky soils, called **"Opok" (chalky marl),** are characterised by a humous topsoil formed by weathering, which often does not exceed a height of 20 centimeters, and firm sedimentary rocks.

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