

Steiermark / Styria: Südsteiermark



Size & Location: 2,250 ha/5,535 acres. Southern Styria between the West and southeast Styria districts with the border of Slovenia on the south.

Important Villages: Gamlitz, Leibnitz, and Leutschach, Silberberg.

Soil Types: Sandstone, shale, clay and shell limestone. Grown on steep south-facing slopes.

Varietals & Style: Sauvignon Blanc has achieved top ranks in this region. Gewurztraminer, Chardonnay (Morillon), Riesling, Welschriesling, Weissburgunder (Pinot Blanc or Klevner) and Grauburgunder (Pinot Gris) also thrive.

Climate: Warm, humid Mediterranean climate with cool nights.

Important Facts

- **Steirische Klassik Association** - The best producers belong to this group.
- **Junker** - term used for young fruity wines that are bottled early, very similar to Beaujolais Nouveau.
- Top vineyard sites: Czamillonberg, Grassnitzberg, Kittenberg, Nussberg, Obegg, Sernauberg and Zieregg
- Wines have a naturally high acidity with delicate fruit flavors and finesse.
- There is a wine school located in Silberberg.
- **Producers of Note:** Alois Gross, Maitz, Eric and Walter Polz, Sattlerhof, Skoff, Tement, Domaine Muller, Tscheppe and Wohlmuth.