

Wine growing in Austria

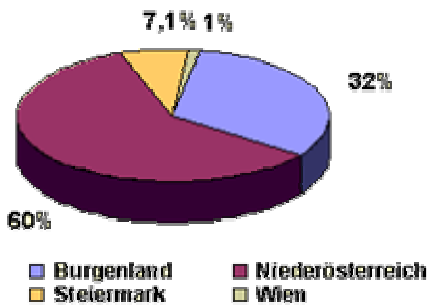
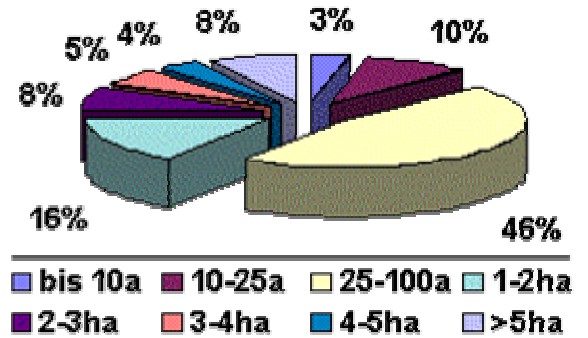
The wine growing in Austria is stamped on rustic and small wineries. The cultivation area have all together 50875 ha (47928 ha are used) and 35.000 company produce the wine, but just 30 percent from them is exclusive us for the wine growing. The biggest part of the Austrian wine growers making this as their extra earnings.

The current size of the companies its just 1.6 ha for extra earning wineries and for main business its 2.78 ha. In comparison with Italy or Spain, this is very low.

Big companies, which, allowed the industrial production of wines, are seldom and if, than as co- operation winery. The part of the wine growing on the entire agriculture is around 19,6%. This is also 220 million USD of the Austrian gross national product. From this standpoint its slight, but he stamp the culture and scenery of the Austrian wine growing.

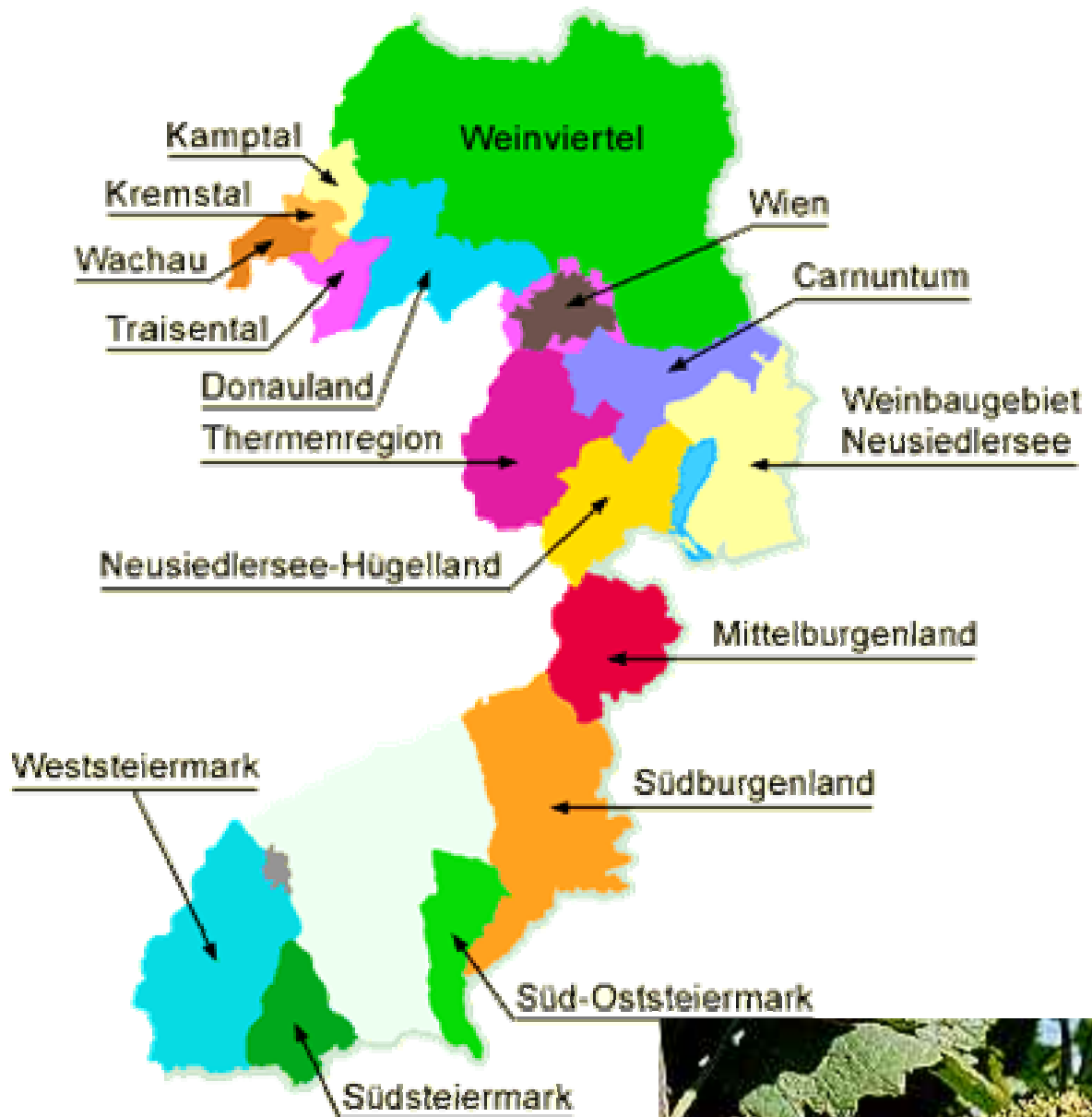
Wine cultivation area

	Producers		Cultivation Area		Ø- company Size
	Quantity	%	Hectare	%	Hectare
Up to 10 Ar	1186	3,30	74	0,13	0,06
10-25 Ar	3433	9,60	561	0,96	0,16
25-100 Ar	16577	46,22	8639	14,80	0,52
1-2 Hectare	5724	15,95	8023	13,75	1,40
2-3 Hectare	2869	8,00	6953	11,91	2,42
3-4 Hectare	1941	5,40	6680	11,45	3,44
4-5 Hectare	1325	3,70	5859	10,00	4,42
more than 5 Hectare	2814	7,80	21575	37,00	7,60



	Producers		Cultivation Area		Ø- company Size
	Quantity	%	Hectare	%	Hectare
Lower Austria	20181	56,26	33769	57,9	1,67
Burgenland	11342	31,62	20674	35,4	1,82
Steiermark	3950	11,01	3216	5,5	0,81
Vienna	377	1,05	690	1,2	1,83
others	19	0,05	14	0,02	0,74

The wine regions in Austria



Wachau

**1448 Hectare vines are on fruitful, but poor rocks
Basic sorts are the white wine sorts Green
Veltliner and Riesling. Neuburger, Fine burgundy
(Chardonnay) and White burgundy are Specialities
Red wine is seldom**



Right after the monastery Melk in the west starts or end the region Wachau. At the city of Krems and on the other side of the river Danube in village Mautern also all the signs show us the beginning or end from this famous wine-growing region. The countryside is attractive with steep and terraced wine growing, which let us imagine the hard work of the wine growers. The under insiders well known places like Spitz, Weißenkirchen, Joching and Loiben wait with lovely restored houses for their guests. Dürnstein with his attractive church and the ruin right over the town are always busy places for tourists, which could still keep his atmosphere. The best time for the visiting is the springtime. A visit on the ship museum remembers at the time, when the shipping on the river was still dangerous adventure. Today the most impulses for these regions are coming form "Vinea Wachau Nobilis Districtus". The best wines having worldwide reputations. The classification has three categories.

- Steinfelder is light and stimulating
- Federspiel is elegant and not so heavy
- Smaragd is full ripe and substantial

Valley of Krems

**2438 Hectare is the entire cultivation area. On the
rocks and loess, are Green Veltliner and Riesling
the basic sorts. Since few years the Chardonnay is
one of them too. One speciality is the red Veltliner.
Some of the wine growers understand also how to
make good red wines.**



In the wine growing region of the Krems valley, located on the east entrance from the region Wachau, where the river Krems cross the city with the same name, we find one of Austria nicest and oldest towns. The character reminds us still on the middle age. The gothic, the baroque and others left their attractive buildings in the town. The history is always together with the wine. In 1875 the first school for wine growers opened and until now the young blood still get their education in this school. The wine museum and the monastery give us insights into the eventful history and culture of this region. In the monastery cellar in the town, wine probes are always offered to the guests.

The wine growing in this region, by him got strong impetus in the last few years, through immense efforts of the leading companies. Since 1988, Krems is the place of the lower Austrian agriculture and wine trade fair. Well-known wine villages are Göttweig, Furth, Gedersdorf, Rohrendorf and Senftenberg.

Traisen valley

The Traisen valley includes the cultivation area from around 696 Hectare. Predominantly the vine growth on sandy and loamy soils. The main sort is the Green Veltliner, but the great variety of the wines is bigger. They have Welsch-Riesling, Rhine- Riesling, Chardonnay and the other traditional Austrian red vine sorts.



Through historical wine findings from the Bronze Age, we know that wine was cultivated, before the roman came already to this place. Green countryside's with attractive wine gardens are covered by the Alps

Wine villages like Inzersdorf, Getzersdorf and Reichersdorf are in located in the center of vineyards, where the Green Veltliner, White Burgundy and Blue Burgundy dominate the view. The home museum form Inzersdorf and the mighty renaissance castle of Walpersdorf are be evidence for the eventful history.

Already during the end of the 19. Century, the guests from Vienna enjoy their stay on this place. Especially the walking tours around the hills give fantastic views over the Traisen and Danube valley.

Right beside the river Traisen, is the location of the famous wine village Traismauer, which is well known through his good wines, but also for the cultural history of the village.

The Danube land

On 2814 hectare, with predominantly loess soils, the vine is cultivated. The main sort is the Green Veltliner. But also the Rhine-Riesling and White Burgundy are valuable. The speciality is the soft and spicy white wine – Frühroter Veltliner and the strengthened care for the red wine culture



The wine growing region Danube land has actually two districts, both locate near to the river. The first the Wagram, located between Vienna and Krems with mighty loess soils and villages like Kirchberg, Fels am Wagram, Feuersbrunn and Großriedenthal. The second one is located in the west from Vienna. The historical region around Klosterneuburg with the well-known monastery from 1114 and the famous wine cellar.

In the past the village was known for the pilgrimage. Today is the meeting for the new Austrian wine growers for education and studying of the Federal education and trial institution for wine and fruit growing. The library is very interested too; we can find their old writings from the former 19. Century. The soils are especially suitable for Green Veltliner and White Burgundy wines. Mostly the young wine growers are known for their new experimentation with the grapes. They create, for example the in Großriedenthal the - First alliance for nature close cultivation methods (VENA). As well as the region Wagram with the association "Kollegium Vinum Wachrain", offer high class vines with the "Wagramer Selection"

The wine quarter

The great Weinviertel (Wine quarter) has 18004-hectare vines. The soils is dominated through, loess, loam and rocks. Main sorts are Green Veltliner (with very marked aroma) and Welsch-Riesling. The specialities include the Rhine-Riesling, White Burgundy, Chardonnay, Traminer as well as the Blue Portuguese, Blauburger and Zweigelt. Especially the last one is getting well known in the last few years. Local vines are Matthias Corvinus, Falkensteiner Berggericht, Grüner Hahn, Rudolf von Habsburg, Feenhaube, and Urkristall etc.



The wine quarter is the biggest cultivation area in Austria with more than 18000 ha. It's also a well-known target for tourists and cultural discoveries. Many walking and biking ways go around little villages and castles. In the wine quarter, which is also called the Veltliner Land, many wine cellars are open or invite to stop and taste the wines. The center of the west part from the wine quarter is the town Retz, which is over 700 years old. The whole town is build up on waterproof layers of clay and the cellars are multi-staged. Guiding through the historical old town should be on the program for all tourists, especially with stop in one of the famous wine cellars.

Other places in the western part are Pulkau valley, Mailberg, Röschitz, the area around Hollabrunn and Hohenwarth.

The Pulkau valley in the south of the town Retz, goes along of the same name river and include the known red wine regions Haugsdorf and Jetzelsdorf.

The area of Mailberg is known through his noble wines and the castle Mailberg. From Eggenburg, a small middle-aged town, we can start for short visit in Röschitz. The loamy, sandy and loess soils result in very fruity white wines.

In the Schrattenthal beside the middle aged gothic chapel grow fantastic red and white wine under southern and micro climatically conditions. In the east part of the wine quarter, the famous centres are Poysdorf, Falkenstein, Mistelbach, Zistersdorf, Matzen, Wolkersdorf and Korneuburg.

Austria famous wine town Poysdorf, located on the south hillock of the Falkensteiner hill land, has the biggest cultivation area for the Green Veltliner. Together with Herrenbaumgarten (600 ha vineyards), Poysdorf is giving good basic wine for traditional Austrian sparkling champagnes.

The 900 years old wine village Falkenstein is located in the valley of the Mühlbach and it's covered through wooded mountains. The romantic cellar lane of Falkenstein invite to stay and to look for the culture of the houses.

Mistelbach, the economical and cultural centre of the east wine quarter.

Many wine cellars invite for the tasting and short stays.

The Matzener forest into 2 districts divides the Matzener hillock. The wine, which grow on the north side of the forest are refreshing and esprit. In the south part, of the wines having nice bouquets and strong aroma. The region around Wolkersdorf on the brink of the fertile Marchfeld and on the starting point of the wine quarter. The dry climate is the main prerequisites for the good growing of Green Veltliner, Welsch-Riesling, Blue Burgundy and Zweigelt

The area around the Town Korneuburg, near to the capital Vienna, is located amidst of the attractive countryside. Significant are the good bouquets and stimulating wines, especially the Green Veltliner is the most important one.

Thermenregion

2814 hectare on stone and poor, but also partly on heavy, loamy soils. Basic sorts are the White Burgundy, Neuburger, Zierfandler and Rotgipfler. One third of the area is for red sorts like Portugieser, Zweigelt, Blue Burgundy and Cabernet Sauvignon.



The thermal health resorts of the ancient world given the name to region today. Located in the south of Vienna, traditional it's also called as "Südbahn" from the locals. Especially the visitors from Vienna like to drink this wine and to join this place around the villages Gumpoldskirchen, Traiskirchen, Sooß, Guntramsdorf, Tattendorf, Pfaffstätten and Perchtoldsdorf. Since the 13. Century they are allowed to serve wine.

The climate is characterised through dry and very hot summers as well as cold winters, which bring sometime frost too. In the past the Thermenregion had to names: Gumpoldskirchen and Vöslau. The different kinds of soils and the geographical location remind us on the region Cote d'Or in France. The health resort Bad Vöslau was already well known in the 19. Century for his strong red wines.

In the meantime we have a new generation of wine growers, which work very hard on the quality image from this region. (Wine forum Thermenregion).

The speciality the Neuburger sort with alone 500 ha cultivation area, and the Zierfandler as well as the vine sort Rotgipfler are significant for the preparation of high-class quality wines. Home sorts are Gumpoldskirchner Königswein, Badener Lumpentürl and others.

Vienna

731-hectare wine growing is continuing around the region from the capital. Significant are the loam, loess, slate and gravel soils. Main sort is the Green Veltliner. Traminer, White Burgundy, Chardonnay and Riesling are completions. Red sorts like Zweigelt, Portugieser and Cabernet Sauvignon are seldom but also an enrichment



The wine growing is supposedly just the same age like the town. In the old settlement of "Vedunia" and the roman military camp "Vindobona" it gives already wine growing.

Demonstrable, the oldest wine gardens from Vienna are from 1132. In the late middle age, all urban area had their vineyards. The basis for the present wine culture was created through the ordinance from 1784, of the emperor Josef II. The content is that, the wine growers could fix their own prices and sale their own things together with homemade wines. With the growing of the town, it became less, but today it's getting better again through re-cultivation of the wine. Today it has 640 wine growers and 180 cellar with licenses to sale the high-class bottles. Visible expression of the high quality standards is the new line, which is called "Vienna Classic". This one was created through the local wine growers. The significant wine villages are in the area of the Kahlenbergs and Nussbergs: Heiligenstadt, Nussdorf, Sievering, Neustift am Walde and of course Grinzing. But also in the districts 16 (Ottakring), 23 (Mauer) and 10 (Oberlaa) we can find good cultivation areas with their vine sorts. The wines from the Bisamberg will pressed in the villages of Stammersdorf, Strebersdorf and Jedlersdorf

Neusiedlersee (Neusiedler-Lake)

10387 hectare on loess, black soil, gravel and sands. The basic white sorts are Welsch-Riesling and White Burgundy with the specialities Bouvier, Muskat Ottonel and Traminer. Red sorts are Zweigelt, St. Laurent, Blue fränkisch, Cabernet Sauvignon and Pinot noir) with the share of 15 percent on the entire cultivation



If you go from Vienna to the southeast, we can see already the changing of the countryside. The region is going to get flat and reminds us on the Hungarian Puszta. From Neusiedl on, starts the area on the east bank from the only steppe lake in Europe, which is cultivated with vine. It was not always like that. During the past in the wine gardens we could only find the area of Illmitz.

The wine growers use the significant climate through the warm and shallow lake. In many years it results in good wines with high-class standards, which win already many awards on international competitions. Other wine growers were fascinated too from this development and start also to plant more vine. Therefore the part of the red wine was rising too. The new generation of wine growers in the villages Gols (Austria biggest wine settlement), Illmitz, Weiden, Mönchhof, Halbturn, Frauenkirchen, Podersdorf and Apetlon had already success with their new ideas. It's not just the sweet wine, are now strong white and red wines also. Regional alliances like **Pannobile**, **Seewinkler Impressionen** and **Pannonischer Reigen** are forward looking institutions.

Neusiedlersee-Hügelland Neusiedler Lake- hillock

Loess, black soil, sand and loam are the base for 6264 hectare with sorts like Welsch-Riesling, White Burgundy, Neuburger, Zweigelt and Blue fränkisch. Significant specialties are Sauvignon blanc, Chardonnay and increased Cabernet Sauvignon.



They are like pearls on a necklace, the wine villages in the significant region of Neusiedlersee-Hügelland: Breitenbrunn, Purbach, Oggau, St. Margarethen, Donnerskirchen, Rust, Schützen, Mörbisch and a little bit more up country the capital of the Burgenland Eisenstadt with his mighty castle and the idyllic old town.

A special position has Rust. In the 17. Century the wine growers offered to the soldiers of emperor Leopold wine as tonic for the fight against the Turks and Hungarians. As gratitude for this the emperor loan the title "Freistadt" to the village in 1681. With the alliance of "Circle Ruster Ausbruch" some wine growers still take care for this significant, powerful and sweet wine. Cellar for the taste of the wines are available in Donnerskirchen, Purbach and in Rust. The wine academy is also located in the village of Rust. They are well known for their study programs and also the first German speaking education school for this type. In the village of Mörbisch, yearly sea festivals will be held and the wine growers from there, are the one, which create the famous wine for the Opera ball, from Vienna.

Mittelburgenland (Middle Burgenland)

Sandy and heavy are soils in that region with 2107 hectare. Privileged are vine sorts like Blue fränkisch and Zweigelt, Cabernet Sauvignon, as well as Welsch-Riesling and White Burgundy



The countryside is getting more woody and hilly if you came in the region on south from the Neusiedler lake Horitschon, Deutschkreutz, Neckenmarkt and Lutzmannsburg are the known places on that region. It was never easy for the wine growers, in the 17. Century the one from Horitschon was expropriated and got also a prohibition for planting grapes. But most of them just ignored also the destroying of many vineyards in the 19. century, through the war, couldn't stop them. The nickname „Blue fränkisch-Land“ tells us already, that the region is dominating through this vine sort. Deep and heavy soils with good storage capacity for the water reserves are the base for getting of high characteristic red wines, which will be privileged cultivated as tart and tannin strong wines. Some of best wine growers especially get profit through their old vineyards. Some of them are already up to 80 years old, having low produce but very high-class quality. Also lovely is the breeding with other traditional red vine sorts. This Cuvée is mostly fermented in small oak barrels (Barriques). They stamp the style of the typical Austrian red wine. White sorts are not so much important, with just around 30% of the whole cultivation area.

Südburgenland (South Burgenland)

Just 457 hectare is cultivated. Blue fränkisch, Zweigelt, Welsch-Riesling as well as the seldom-White wine –specialities like Muskat-Ottonel and White Burgundy are mostly on heavy and ferrous loam soils.



The smallest part of the Burgenland calls himself just Wine idyll. On he starts of the century the wine growers still was under the power of the Hungarian kingdom. Today the take care for the Austrian vine sorts, in a mild climate with intensive but not to strong sunbeams. The wine gardens are located in the romantic hilly around the town of Eisenberg. The biggest wine village is Rechnitz. The charming, small wine museum in Moschendorf should be visited too and also the wine cellar for tasting right next-door. Here they offer, with hidden labels, around 60 of the best high classed wines from this region for taste and sale. The blue fränkisch as the leading sort is here especially violet and soft tart. White wine can develop fruit and classy aromas. The local specialities are Uhdler, which still had the biggest cultivation area, several decades ago. Today it's a tourist attraction in the small village of Heiligenbrunn

Südsteiermark (South Steiermark)

1902 hectare are cultivated on shale, sand or chalk soils. Significant sorts are Welsch-Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay (which is called mostly Morillon on this place). The cultivation of red grapes is not so much important, even if they got good results into past.



The Steiermark region is also called the Toscana from Austria, because of the hilly countryside from Wine Street in the south of the Steiermark between the villages Berghausen and Leutschach as well as the street to Demmerkogel. But the comparison with the Toscana is not perfect, because the Steiermark has his own profile also. The biggest of the three districts from the Steiermark is the home of significant white wines from Sauvignon Blanc, Muskatteller, Chardonnay, White Burgundy and Welsch-Riesling. Some of the wine growers belong to the wine élite from Austria. They distinguish between the classic wine ripe in the wood or steel barrel and the strong vines, which ripe in Barriques. Good restaurants offer good grape juices together with roasted chestnuts especially in the autumn. The best wine villages are Gamlitz, Ehrenhausen, Spielfeld and Silberberg with his well-known wine school as well as Leutschach and Kitzreck with the lovely equipped wine museum.

Südoststeiermark (South-east Steiermark)

1205 hectare on volcanic or basalt soils as well as sandy, heavy loam. Main sorts are Welsch-Riesling, followed by White Burgundy and the Traminer from Klöch. Specialities are Ruländer, Riesling and Chardonnay (Morillon). Zweigelt, Blauburger, St. Laurent as well as the Blue Wildbacher are the red additions



Around 2500 wine growers making wine in the southeast of the Steiermark. The average cultivation area has around a half hectare. That means that many just used as their side job. The most wine is offered in one of the 300 wine cellars. Some wine growing islands like Weiz- and Hartberg in the north, Gleisdorf and the re cultivated areas of the historical Riegersburg near Fürstenfeld, Feldbach and Kapfenstein in the south part. Four wine streets are good for the orientation: Southeast Steiermark hilly land-wine street, Thermen land- Wine street, East Steiermark roman wine street as well as Klöcher wine street. The wine-growing region Klöch is close to Slovenia. Klöch and Traminer will always called together, because on the volcanic soils growth the Traminer, which is well known also outside of Austria. To keep this sort, they create the vine sort "Klöcher Traminer brand mark" for wine, which get good result form the commission. On the other hand we have variety of sorts too. White sorts, mostly with soft taste dominating the place.

Carnuntum

Sand, loam, loess and gravel are the dominating soils on the 995-hectare. Main sort is the Green Veltliner as well as other white wine sorts like Welsch-Riesling, White Burgundy and Chardonnay. Blue fränkisch, Zweigelt, Cabernet Sauvignon and St. Laurent are the significant red sorts.



The small region in the east of the capital Vienna, remind us with his name on a former roman camp on the Danube border near Bad Deutsch-Altenburg. Well known are the wine growing centres near to Prellenkirchen in the district Hainburg as well as the region Göttlesbrunn and Höflein in the district of Bruck on the river Leitha. A small island for the red wine are the south hills of the Spiterberg near to Hainburg.

Blue fränkisch and Portugieser having around 30% of the entire cultivation area. The cellar lane in Prellenkirchen, the wine growing museum and the wine street are evidences for the tradition. Also nice places for tourists are the archaeology park and the new museum Carnuntum in Bad Deutsch-Altenburg, which shows the old roman mosaics and potteries. For the growing of red sorts, the village of Göttlesbrunn is getting stronger on the market. The neighbourhood of the Neusiedler Lake is a good advantage for the wine growers especially for the sorts from the burgundy family and the Welsch-Riesling. We also still find here the "mixed cultivation", which means that more than one kind of vine is cultivated one place.

Kamptal (Kamp Valley)

4189 hectare on rocks, loam and loess. Significant are also the Green Veltliner and the Riesling. A good result is giving also the Chardonnay. Red wine sorts are the Zweigelt, Blue Burgundy, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot.



The name is coming from the river Kamp, and the centre of this is Austria's biggest wine town Langenlois. Many loess and loam on the hills is the base for the own vine culture, which is especially good for the Green Veltliner, the one from this region taste especially to pepper as well as the wine can get very old. This is also coming through the acids in the wine. The home museum in Langenlois shows us the history of the town and we also find that the region was populated continuous since the Stone Age.

In the "Ursin House" on the Kornplatz (square) we can find the information office. Around 60 wine growers offer more than 200 wines, sparkling champagnes and brandy's for tasting and buying. Other well-known places in the valley are Gobelsburg, Zöbing, Kammern and Straß. Since October 1998 Straß has his own wine cellar, with more than q60 different wines.

West Steiermark

Slate soils dominating the 480-hectare vineyards. The main sort is the Blue Wildbacher, which is only cultivated in the Steiermark. Other wine sorts are Welsch-Riesling, White Burgundy and Zweigelt.



The wine region of the West Steiermark is the classical land for the Schilcher. This fruity wine is also available in other regions, but he never get this kind of quality, like in the Steiermark between the villages Ligist and Eibiswald. The Schilcher is the light pressed rose wine from the Blue Wildbacher vine. He is a wine with salmon and onion coloured shade. The wine is tart, have strong acid and he is the speciality of the West Steiermark. Stainz, Deutschlandsberg, Schwanberg, Eibiswald, Groß- St.-Florian and Wies are the villages, where the Schilcher is the dominating wine. More and more wine growers limit the Schilcher and taking care of the good quality, therefore the wine is getting better and better. The wines can be tasted in the wine cellar of Schilcherstöckl in the village of Rassach near Stainz. With the in 1988 created brand mark in "Weißes Pferd"(White Horse) the classical Schilcher can be protected. An association is taking care for the wine too. Since a short sparkling champagnes, which are made of Schilcher are available also.