

FISCHER

C h r i s t i a n

The Thermal Region

Where the surf of the primeval ocean once ebbed and flowed across the land, a unique combination of micro-climate, limestone and fertile brown soil came into being

The Austrian Thermal Region extends from the southern city border of Vienna to the city of Wiener Neustadt and comprises 5700 acres of vineyards. Climate maps show the Thermal Region belonging to the Pannonian area and to the Hungarian lowland plain, whereby the Vienna Woods and the foothills of the Alps offer protection against cold winds from the north and northwest. The soil of the southern part of the region consists of limestone rich in gravel, which is perfectly suited for the production of red wines. The humid clay soil of the northern part creates excellent conditions for firm and elegant white wines. What makes this region so exceptional is the unique combination of climate and soil that makes it possible to grow both, robust red wines as well as superb white wines.

At 3500 acres the major part of the northerly vineyard acreage from Vienna to the well-known spa town of Baden is dedicated to white wine production. The southern part - particularly the areas around the villages of Sooß, Tattendorf and Teesdorf—is dominated by red wines. Here 940 acres are dedicated to the production of the most widely cultivated type of wine in the region, the Blauer Portugieser. The dominant type of white wine is Neuburger (865 acres), followed by Weißburgunder (500 acres) and Grüner Veltliner (470 acres). Local varieties Rotgipfler and Zierfandler cover an area of 450 acres and are limited to the area surrounding the little town of Gumpoldskirchen. Another 220 acres is devoted to the production of Riesling. The second most important type of red wine is Zweigelt (470 acres). Respectively 220 acres are allocated to the Blauburgunder and St. Laurent varieties. St. Laurent demonstrates excellent potential for becoming the leading red wine of the region.