



DOMÄNE  
WACHAU

## RIED SINGERRIEDEL

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The Ried Singerriedel is not only one of the most impressive and famous sites of the Wachau, it is the paradigmatic representative of some of the best Rieslings in Austria. Located in the eastern part of Spitz an der Donau, Ried Pluris and the „Rote Tor“ (a protected historic gate arch from the medieval city wall) border it on the north side. Ried Axpoint is located to the west at the foot of the slope, while a ravine to the east separates it from the Vorderen Atzberg. The vineyard drops steeply to the south toward the Danube River. The vines climb from the southwest to the southeast from 215 to 303 metres a.s.l. (705-944ft) and enjoy around 1900 sunshine hours annually. The sun's warmth is stored in the shallow weathered soils and drystone walls and released into the vines in the evening. Ried singerriedel is climatically cool due to the influence of katabatic air that flows from the Jauerling (with 1000 metres a.s.l., the highest mountain on the Danube), which are moderated by the wind-protected exposition.

Viticulture has been documented in the Ried Singerriedel since the 15th century. The name stems from earlier owners of the site. The extremely steep slope gradient of up to 70% site has often been occasion for vintners to abandon their vineyard terraces. Recultivation of the site has advanced over the last three decades. Dry stone walls have been repaired and the often very narrow parcels have been densely replanted.

Paragneiss dominates the geology of the Singerriedel and is usually covered by a thin layer of very fine weathered soil comprised of silicate-rich cambisols. Precipitations covered with calcite are visible in the chasms and cracks. Paragneiss is a metamorphic rock that originated during the Variscan Orogeny without melting. It stems from sedimented rocks like marl, clay and sandstone and due to the differing base rocks, its mineral content (mica schist and quartzite) is quite variable. Paragneiss metamorphosed under lower pressure and lower temperatures than orthogneiss; it is assumed around 1000 bar and 600-700 °C. Paragneiss originated later and is more weathered. Light, meagre and sandy soils develop from paragneiss and are particularly shallow in the upper part of the Singerriedel. Spitzer or Wachau marble is also found in the core of the Singerriedel. This is a crystalline, coarse calcite rock with high granite content and is very hard. Its dark grey colour stems from graphite.

Riesling sets the tone in the 6.5-hectare vineyard area, while Grüner Veltliner is found at the foot of the slope. We cultivate a good third of the entire vineyard. Our focus here is clearly on Riesling, which makes up 90% of our Singerriedel-vines.

The grapes for our single-vineyard Riesling Smaragd are harvested completely botrytis-free. The resulting wines are very taut, cool and salty in their youth. They are concentrated and delineated and exhibit great aromatic depth and typical pronounced stone fruit aromas. Singerriedel wines possess tremendous ageing potential and develop a complex spectrum of smoky, delicately spicy and mineral notes over the years.

### Riesling Smaragd <sup>RIED</sup> SINGERRIEDEL



Our Singerriedel vintners:

Josef Bauer, Anton Grossinger, Klaus-Jürgen Grossinger, Werner Grossinger, Friedrich Rixinger, Herbert Stierschneider