



## VINTAGE 2025: COOL, WILD, AND FULL OF POTENTIAL

*The 2025 vintage has offered just about all kinds of weather: an unusually warm and dry winter, a few frosty and hail-filled setbacks in spring, and an unusually cool yet humid summer. Sounds wild? It was. A vintage that's shaping up in the glass with cool freshness, fine flavours, and precise structure.*



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After the intense rainfall in autumn (200–250 mm during harvest) and devastating floods, winter turned out mild and dry. There was hardly any snow, and although daytime temperatures in January and February already hinted at spring, the nights remained consistently cold – around freezing. That did the vines good and prevented an overly early start to the growing season.

Right on cue for the beginning of spring on March 21<sup>st</sup>, the first almond blossoms appeared. Shortly after, the apricots followed – in full bloom by early April. At the same time, around 50 mm of rain fell, supplying the soil well with moisture. Ideal conditions for sowing cover crops. Budbreak began during Easter Week (April 14–20). With warm days and cool nights, it was a very classic start to the vegetation period.

May brought a small setback: in some frost-prone areas, such as Rührsdorf, temperatures dropped below zero, causing

local damage. Overall, however, spring was quite balanced – with regular rainfall that supported vine growth well. Flowering in mid-June proceeded swiftly and smoothly. Grüner Veltliner and Riesling finished flowering almost simultaneously.

June was hot, sunny, and almost textbook-like: temperatures up to 36 °C, lots of sunshine, and the first summer storms, including hail in Rossatz, Rührsdorf, and Dürnstein. July, on the other hand, was cool and wet – almost a little shock to the system. With around 85 mm of rain in the Wachau alone, it ranks among the four wettest Julys since records began. Good for water supply, but also a challenge for canopy management and plant protection. On July 11th, another hailstorm hit the Spitzer Graben, the most western and coolest subarea in Wachau. There was some local damage, but overall, it remained manageable.

The first two weeks of August brought another wave of summer heat. Then the





weather turned classic again: warm days, cool nights – perfect conditions for aroma and acidity retention. September began with late-summer weather and cooler nights – a brief “Indian summer” that suited the vines perfectly. The final ripening phase took place under stable conditions. The foundation was set.

The 2025 harvest once again demanded flexibility, timing, and precision from our vignerons. It kicked off on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The first week was stable – but from the end of September onward, the harvest was repeatedly interrupted by rainy days. Riesling, in particular, began showing early signs of botrytis. Our growers reacted quickly and selectively with great dedication. Grüner Veltliner, with its thicker skin, proved much more resilient and remained consistently healthy. Thanks to careful planning, selective hand-picking, and the tireless work of our teams right up to the end of October, we were able to bring the grapes into the cellar at the perfect moment. The last grapes were harvested on October 21<sup>st</sup> under sunny autumn skies.

2025 was diverse, demanding, and yet thoroughly positive. The combination of cool summer months, sufficient water supply, and selective hand harvest promises a balanced, clearly structured, and strongly terroir-driven vintage. This year's Grüner Veltliner presents itself as a bit leaner, with fine spice fresh acidity and super balance. The Rieslings appear slightly more compact yet juicy, with a lively acid structure.

If things continue as they currently look, 2025 can be summed up in just a few words: vibrant, cool wines with huge potential!



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