

Polz 2022 Sauvignon Blanc Klassik (Steiermark)

WineWise Code	APO-SBK22
Country	Austria
Region	Steiermark
Subregion	Südsteiermark
Color	White
Alcohol by Volume	12
Acidity	6.6
Residual Sugar	1.1
Closure	Screw-top
Annual cases produced	6500
Varieties	100% Sauvignon Blanc
Maceration Notes	10 hours
Destemming	Complete
Fermentation vessel	Stainless Steel
Fermentation duration	3 weeks
Aging method	Stainless Steel 100%
Aging duration (months)	6 months
Filtered?	Yes
Fining agents	None
Yeast	Cultured
Malolactic	No
Added Sulfur	Yes, 8 mg/L
Vineyard Name	Südsteiermark
Soil Type(s)	Calcareous, Gravel, Loam
Elevation (meters)	340-350
Vine age (years)	5-16
Vine Yields hl/ha	45
Farming practices	Sustainable
Grape Picking	Hand-harvested

WineWise Notes:

While Welschriesling is the most planted variety in Steiermark as a whole, Sauvignon has always been Polz's calling card, and was largely responsible both for their and the region's high reputation. This wine is a blend from their various holdings and showcases admirably the Styrian genius for recognizable but not overt Sauvignon expression. As such, it can hold its own against the its peers from the Loire and New Zealand.

Polz has grown to a quite considerable size over the years. The core estate in Spielfeld sits quite literally on the Slovenian border, and offers as dramatic a picture as can be imagined, with its intersecting patchwork of vineyards trained at different angles across the steep folds of this verdant landscape. Because rainfall is so heavy in this region, grass and other cover crops are allowed to freely grow in all the rows, both to encourage competition and to fix the soil against erosion. Styria has now joined the DAC system, which is going to bring with it some very interesting changes to how the wines are categorized and sold. Young Christoph Polz, who has been making the wines now for the last several years, seems exceptionally well qualified to face the many challenges this and other developments will present him with. He and his younger brother Erich have now taken over the direction of the estate.

Notes from the producer:

Our winery is situated in one of the best wine-growing locations in the Styria region of Austria. The geological nature of the soil, the many hours of sunshine and well-distributed rainfall are virtually ideal conditions for vinicultural purposes. However, the quality of the wine cannot be solely attributed to the favourable assistance of Mother Nature. Experience gathered over decades, the sustainability of thought and deed as well as uncompromisingly high quality standards are what turn a good harvest into a wine full of character. As such, our name Polz has stood for generations for a "terroir" that is cultivated almost exclusively by hand, thus enabling our produce to testify to our passionate commitment and loving attention to detail.

Erich & Walter took over in the mid 80's. In 1994 they were the founding members of STK. STK-Steirische Terroir & Klassik Weingüter- is a free association of today 12 estates that have committed themselves to our region-specific wine culture and to outstanding quality. The STK seal is a protected trademark and guarantees for Styrian wines of the highest quality level.

