

WEINGUT LETH

Established in the early 1960s, Weingut Leth has become a renowned winery in Fels am Wagram in just three generations. The Leth family are members of the *Traditionsweinguter Österreich* (association of traditional wineries in Austria), and believe it is their obligation to express the characteristics of their region, their soils, their climate, their grape varieties and cellars in their wines. Franz Leth, Franz Jr. and the entire Leth family are committed to these ideals.

The Wagram region of Austria is home to Europe's most extensive loess soil formations. The region formed when glacial winds blew fine particles of agglomerated clay, sand and lime – loess - onto the prehistoric bedrock of the ancient course of the Danube river. The layers are up to 20 meters deep, and enable vine roots to delve deeply and absorb water and nutrients from the mineral-rich subsoils. Combined with the benevolent climate and wide temperature variation from day to night, perfect conditions combine to create unique terroir wines.

The Leth family strongly believe tradition trumps all else in making fine wines. They planted Austria's first "living grape museum" to preserve the native, ancient varieties of the Wagram and other parts of the world. Over 250 grape varieties are carefully tended. This is done to preserve the heritage of Austrian winemaking and ensure future generations understand, and have access to, native plant material.

The original vineyard was established by Franz and Barbara Leth. This tiny, mixed agriculture farm with just a half hectare vineyard slowly developed into one of the region's leading wineries. The Leths continuously acquired other vineyards in the Wagram's best locations. Now covering nearly 45 hectares, Weingut Leth sits atop one of the mightiest loess formations in Europe, spread across the best terrace locations.

This premium vineyard acquisition phase was ushered in as sons Franz and Erich took the reins. They undertook specialized training from vineyard schools in Klosterneuburg and Krems, and implemented significant improvements in the vineyards and cellar. They focused on choosing the right variety for the soil and microclimate of each parcel.

Today, the 3rd generation is in charge of winemaking at Leth. Franz Junior started making wines in 2006. He grew up in the vineyards alongside his parents and uncle, and says he cannot remember ever wanting to be anything other than a winegrower. Franz Junior's signature is on the estate

wines, and he nurtures them from vines to the cellar to the bottle.

The estate is heavily focused on Gruner Veltliner, Austria's iconic grape. Leth's best cru vineyards each express a different nuance in the Gruner wines they produce, and also host lively articulations of both Roter Veltliner and Riesling. The designation "Erste Lagen" signifies a first class site, vineyards that are recognized for their unique and exceptional terroir. Single vineyard wines from Scheiben, Brunthal, and Fumberg exhibit complexity, mineral characteristics and longevity. The Klassik line shows varietal character and aromas, highlighting fruit flavors and cleansing acidity.

For all the generations of the Leth family, the goal is to weave agricultural work in harmony with nature. They maintain and nurture the natural elements in their soil and climate, and believe this shines through every bottle of Leth wine.



WINES

- Gruner Veltliner Steinagrund
- Gruner Veltliner Brunthal
- Gruner Veltliner Scheiben
- Riesling Brunthal
- Riesling Klassik
- Roter Veltliner Fumberg
- Roter Veltliner Klassik