



# JURTSCHITSCH

## Kamptal, Austria

Weingut Jurtschitsch is one of the most prominent wineries in Austria. Having previously been run by the three brothers Edwin, Paul and Karl Jurtschitsch, the family-owned winery has now been in the hands of Alwin Jurtschitsch and his wife, Stefanie Hasselbach (of Gunderloch fame in the Rheinhessen) for more than ten years.

Alwin and Stef are leaders of the natural wine movement in the Kamptal. It's unique because they happen to have the oldest winery in the area, dating back to the sixteenth century. When Alwin and Stef started working in 2006, they insisted with Alwin's father and uncles on converting all the vineyards to organic viticulture. In the vineyards, they are continually improving how they work: replanting more densely, using whey to treat for mildew instead of using copper sulphate, and working with new pruning methods. All the vineyards are certified organic and protecting biodiversity has always been a priority.

Jurtschitsch aims for a classic style of Kamptal wines, but more like an old-style of classic, that was made by their grandparents. This means, emphasizing the cool climate of Austria and making wines with finesse that strike a balance of ripe fruit and fresh acidity. Stefanie Jurtschitsch manages the winemaking and she is making wines which let the vineyards and soils speak for themselves. They only use spontaneous fermentations and work without any additions, aside from minimal sulfur. The entry-level wines are made in stainless steel, but all the single vineyard Erste Lagen wines are aged in large oak foudres.

### Score

*"Quite an extreme style with serious tannins, but also a hint of butter-caramel. Behind all this is a lot of mineral concentration and also some weight. Difficult to know how this will develop. From organically grown grapes. Drink or hold."*

**94pt James Suckling, July 2021**



### Riesling Zobinger Heiligenstein Erste Lage Alte Reben 12/750ml

Heiligenstein, the most famous vineyard in the Kamptal, is legendary for Riesling. The terraced south and southwest facing slope has a unique geological history and it's unusual that soil this old is at the surface of the earth. The outcropping bedrock consists of a reddish-brown sandstone with a high feldspar content, coarse conglomerates, and minor siltstone. These sediments formed approximately 250-280 million years ago under arid conditions, in lakes, ponds, and ephemeral rivers. The rocks contain fossilized plants and gravel with clasts of volcanic rhyolite. Loess is only preserved in a few locations, within shallow depressions.

For the Alte Reben, the grapes are from the oldest vines and naturally have a very low yield. The grapes are selected by hand and brought to the winery in small crates, then they are gently pressed and macerated cold for a few hours before being fermented spontaneously and matured on the fine lees in 1,000 liter wooden casks. The deep roots in the meager rock result in a very elegant, tightly woven, tension-filled riesling, which particularly shows the beauty of this special site and the vintage.

### Technical Specifications

**Product Type:** White Wine

**Varietal:** Riesling

**Farming Type:** Organic