

## Typical, Aromatic Gewürztraminer

**Hannes Bernard** of the Ritterhof Winery in Caldaro is completely satisfied with his 2015 Gewürztraminer grapes: "This was an ideal vintage for Alto Adige Gewürztraminer. Typical aromas, appealing tones of fruit, and a crispy consistency characterize the grapes. These are the optimal conditions for classic, great Gewürztraminers." For Bernard, the hot summer did not have a negative effect upon the aromatic quality of the grapes. "This year, we have to keep control of the somewhat higher alcohol levels, because then we can look forward to typical Gewürztraminers filled with character," the winemaker from Caldaro is convinced.

## Invitingly Fruity Schiava

**Bernhard Pichler** of the Messnerhof in St. Peter near Bolzano is very satisfied with the quality of the Schiava (Vernatsch) grapes: "This vintage is already fun with the crush. Healthy grapes, excellent sugar levels, and invitingly fruity aromas promise an accessible, full, and strong Schiava vintage for 2015." Diseases and pests in the vineyards, such as spotted wing drosophila which gave winegrowers a hard time in 2014, were not a topic in this dry, hot year. Incidentally, an interesting detail: this year, it was possible to begin the Schiava harvest at the same time at both lower and higher elevations. At the lower locations, the heat somewhat put the brakes on the ripeness of the grapes, while at the higher vineyards, on the other hand, it accelerated it.

## Lagrein with a Crisp Tannin Structure

The main harvest period for Alto Adige Lagrein in 2015 was the first week of October, and ideal harvest weather prevailed. "The grapes were really ripe, in a perfect state of health, with very good sugar levels and somewhat less acidity than in the year before," reported **Stephan Filippi**, winemaker at the Bolzano Winery. "The new wines are already presenting themselves as very intense, with powerful tones of color, an exciting interplay of aromas, and a mature, crisp tannin structure." The winemaker from Bolzano is very pleased: "The 2015 vintage will surely be a great one for Lagrein."

## 2015: An Outstanding Vintage

Max Niedermayr is certain: "The 2015 vintage will be an outstanding one in Alto Adige, and these wines are going to be a lot of fun." And there is another reason for satisfaction from 2015: with few exceptions, the harvest quantities are once again in line with the average over many years.

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