

Young winegrowers 'harvest' enormous success

It seems as if the winegrowing tradition in Burgenland has been there forever and thus as old as the hills. That is a fact, were it not for the young winegrowers who are turning everything a little bit into a positive derangement with their new ideas, much dynamics and the power of the youth.

Markus Weiss, native inhabitant of Gols, is one of those young winemakers who claims the rebellion, the idealisation and the creative thinking as his trademark, and so is his way of life. Consequently, there is no other way than to give his wine creation – a blend from Zweigelt, Blaufränkisch and St. Laurent – his first name, "Markus".

Since Markus took over responsibility in the parental wine cellar in 2006, his parents Gerhard and Ingeborg have been able to focus their attention on the work in the vineyards. The whole family works and refines steadily together. The important aspect here is to use the microclimate and the soils of Gols with experience and to produce domestic varieties of wine. As a young winemaker – supported by his parents – Markus knows for sure how to harmonise tradition and modern era.

He sets new standards with passion and the necessary knowledge, which he could acquire during his studies at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna and at the University of California in Davis.

"Sometimes it is important to see things from a different perspective to be able to find back to your roots", so the tenor of Markus Weiss, who understands how to fill a young new generation of modern and sophisticated people with enthusiasm for wine.

"In the last years we have tried to plant our young vineyards more densely than it is customary in northern Burgenland – namely more than 5,000 grapevines per hectare instead of the usual 3,000. Thus, we can keep the yield per vine low, which concentrates the strength in the vines. The low growth of the vine trunks allows a better absorbance of the warmth of the soil. Furthermore, we have increased the humus content in the soil with compost to ensure the healthy growth of the grapevines, which eventually benefits both humans and nature."

Markus Weiss does not want to complicate wine unnecessarily, but wants to achieve the pleasure of wine tasting. Critical observers may see a standstill in that, whereas Markus sees improvement on his way to the desired perfection. However, as already mentioned at the beginning, one has to see things from a different perspective to be able to experience new things. Those who want to make this experience should abandon their old way of thinking, and believe us, it will broaden your horizons.