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## WINE-ROCK-N-ROLL | MÜLLER-CATOIR: TRENDS BY TRADITION

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**Tradition and elegance - two attributes with which the Müller-Catoir winery is often associated. Why? Because the business, including its imposing, listed building complex, is now in the ninth generation and has been family-owned since the middle of the 18th century. Because it is the complexity of the fine Rieslings that made the name internationally known. Because at Müller-Catoir they know how to turn the peculiarities of the terroir around Neustadt into exceptional wines. Anyone who looks between the radiance and the pomp also recognizes: The success of this long-established winery also lies in the basis, driven by a striving for perfectionism in every nuance.**

Yes, the Riesling. A song of praise can be sung. Because here Müller-Catoir simply masters the entire breadth of the quality keyboard. His Rieslings break a lance on every level for the locations around Neustadt and show one thing above all: The winery doesn't care about trends, but rather defines them itself. This is about unmistakable Rieslings, some of which differ significantly from the style of the rest. Differentiate Palatinate premium products. The winery differentiates itself from the Deidesheimer and Forster locations or the wines from the northern tip of the German Wine Route with apparently pure intent. Here nothing screams in the glass, here it never tickles the palate excessively and a note never seems too intrusive. On the contrary: downright minimalist, with great care and prudence, elegant Rieslings are produced, whose unmistakability breaks through in a multitude of nuances.

### Get to the local wines

But what exactly should be in the glass? Even just above the base, a whole series of local wines is convincing, giving a great overview of the winery. They are suitable as a stylistic test before trying the top wines. The Riesling Haardt, which is much more angular than many of the house's other Rieslings, stands out in particular. Fresh herbs, yellow fruits and a touch of the tropics are served on a mineral bed. This is a refreshing, aromatic and at the same time present taste experience.

Scheurebe and Pinot Blanc are just as strong at this level of local wines. Sure: the Riesling is the prime grape at Müller-Catoir, but in terms of breadth, the winery has a great white wine portfolio. The Scheurebe transports a lot of freshness and fruit. Here, too, there are tropical notes, first of all pineapple, paired with local gooseberries. The grapefruit provides the kick in the aroma. The combination is beautifully exotic and yet equally dry and fine. And it is precisely this delicacy and elegance that is the broad consensus of taste at the Neustadt flagship winery.

### And again and again this elegance

If you want to expand a strong local wine portfolio, you will also find a terrific Pinot Blanc at Müller-Catoir. One that follows the principle of the winery: It also looks fresh, slightly undercooled, is mineral, but still with great elegance. In addition, classic Pinot Blanc fruit: strong pear, a hint of apple, a pinch of peach, citrus. And then at the end there is the small, barely noticeable icing on the cake in the form of a prune that lies over the palate.

In general, local wines are ideal for building up a balanced portfolio of everyday wines that also have holiday potential. And if you are looking for something special, you will find beautiful single-site wines at Müller-Catoir anyway. To emphasize one thing: The Herrenletten Riesling likes to stand out from the range with its concentrated load of fruit, which is led by peach and mirabelle plum. A pinch of salt is mixed with it. And despite the clear fruit components, the wine is one thing above all: elegant. Just as tradition would like.

### **Müller-Catoir winery: the overview**

What distinguishes the winery: the special feeling for a completely unique wine style

What you should definitely try: The local wines and single vineyard Rieslings

What else there is to know: The grapes for the VDP wines are handpicked. In addition, the winery has been certified organic since the 2015 vintage.

The best wine: Herrenletten Riesling (wine decibel: 9/10)

The biggest surprise: Haardt Pinot Blanc (wine decibel: 9/10)

