

## Other Varieties and Rosé Regions

Many other grape varieties are used to make rosé around the world. In Greece it's Agiorgitiko. In Bulgaria, they use the local varieties Melnik and Mavrud in addition to international varieties. In Austria, Zweigelt is often used. In the table to the right, we list top producers from Austria.

## Top Austrian Rosé Producers

PRODUCER	REGION
Anton Bauer (Zweigelt blend)	Wagram
Diwald (Zweigelt)	Wagram
Hugl (Zweigelt)	Niederösterreich
Landhaus	Niederösterreich
Loimer (Zweigelt)	Kamptal
Mittelbach (Zweigelt)	Niederösterreich
Paul Direeder (Zweigelt)	Niederösterreich
Steininger (Cabernet Sauvignon)	Niederösterreich

## Sparkling Rosé and Champagne

Anyplace that sparkling wine is made, sparkling rosé is also made, which means that today it is made all over the world—the northern hemisphere, the southern hemisphere, the Old World, the New World, and in almost every important wine producing country. Champagne and sparkling wines come from numerous grapes—almost all *vitis vinifera*—and are made using various techniques that contribute effervescence to the wine. Our focus here is on only those wines made using the *méthode champenoise*, which takes on different names in different countries and producing regions. A more complete listing of sparkling rosé and rosé Champagnes, and there are many of them, along with detailed tasting notes can be found in our Report #40 *Rosé Champagne and Sparkling Wines*.

Most high quality sparkling wine in Champagne, the New

World and selected European regions like Franciacorta and Penedès in Catalonia is made using the traditional Champagne varieties—Pinot Noir, Pinot Meunier, and Chardonnay. However, several regions of Europe also use indigenous varieties for their rosés. For example, Franciacorta uses Pinot Bianco; Spain's Cava mainly use red varieties like Trepat and Garnacha; and Cabernet Franc is used in the Loire Valley region of France. In general, Pinot Noir contributes the high toned red fruit one associates with rosé Champagne, but other varieties also produce pleasant, but different, characteristics.

### Sparkling Rosé Styles

Sparkling rosés made outside Champagne, either in other regions of France or in other countries, is usually more fruit forward, in part reflecting the warmer climates in which the grapes are grown. Almost every region makes luxury cuvées that spend extended time aging on the lees in bottle and offer a

more refined and nuanced drinking experience. Like still rosés, sparkling ones vary in color from light blush to pink orange and medium red.

Sparkling wine producers make both non-vintage and vintage wines. Non-vintage rosés are blends of different vintage years and of different lots, parcels or vineyards. Most are generally not complex or profound but are blended to be as crisp, refreshing and versatile as possible. Vintage sparkling rosés, especially the luxury cuvées, can be very fine wines indeed and compare with the best in the world.



### **Diwald 2017 Zweigelt Rosé Wagram 89**

Brilliant light pink. Ripe red berry aromas with a touch of spice. Bright almost spritz attack with pure fresh raspberry and strawberry and a solid core of vibrant acidity. Hand harvested organically grown Zweigelt; part whole bunch pressed, part macerated grapes followed by lees contact for 4 months. Alc 12.3% Importer: Shiverick Imports.

### **Huber NV Sparkling Rosé Traisental 90**

This Austrian Sparkling Rosé is an ideal wedding cake wine with freshness and sweetness. It reveals red cherry notes on a refined palate and has pure flavors. It is nicely balanced, lively, and charming. A blend of Zweigelt and Pinot Noir given 6 hours skin contact and 4 months on the lees. Importer: Broadbent Selections.

### **Huber 2017 Zweigelt Rosé Traisental (\$18) 89**

Light pink. Red berry and watermelon scents give way to a Juicy Fruit attack. Full in the mouth with a soft creamy texture and fruity flavors. Good acidity gives a nice lift on the finish. Direct pressed after 2 hours skin contact; harvested from sustainably certified grapes. Importer: Broadbent Selections.

### **Hugl Weine 2017 Zweigelt Rosé Niederösterreich (\$13) 89**

Medium reddish pink. Hints of cranberry and cherry on the nose. Spritzy on the attack but full in the mouth with fruity red berry and watermelon flavors that are held in check by round tannins. Excellent, low alcohol (12%) rosé! Importer: Kysela Pere et Fils, Ltd Winchester, VA.

### **Höpler 2017 Pannonica Rosé Burgenland 88**

Medium pink with bronze highlights. Spicy orange cranberry with strawberry nuances. Very dry on the palate with nice minerality and fine lingering notes of pomegranate and red berry. A blend of 40% Pinot Noir, 35% St. Laurent and 25% Blaufränkisch from estate vineyards located in the Leithaberg Hills near Lake Neusiedl. Christhof Höpler is winemaker. Importer: Regal Wine Imports.

### **Landhaus 2016 Mayer Zweigelt Rosé Niederösterreich (\$16) 89**

Sourced mostly from the Carnuntum region, this is a crisp, fresh rosé showing wild strawberries on the nose and a distinctive, vibrant palate of pomegranate and cranberry. Light, refreshing and perfect for summer lunches. 90% Zweigelt with smaller amounts of Pinot Noir and Merlot. Importer: MS Walker.

### **Loimer 2017 Rosé Kamptal Niederösterreich (\$17) 89**

The 2017 Loimer Rosé has a medium reddish pink color and a fresh fruity nose of ripe berry fruit. It exhibits bright acidity with good extract showing dark cherry and red berry. It also has excellent balance and a long finish. It is 80% Zweigelt and 20% Pinot Noir grown on loess and gravel soil from Fred Loimer's biodynamic vineyards located near Langenlois in the Kamptal; whole clusters are macerated on the skins for 48 hours and then fermented dry. Importer: Winebow Montvale, NJ.

### **Mittelbach 2017 Tegernseerhof Rosé Zweigelt Niederösterreich (\$16) 91**

Medium pink. The Mittelbach Rosé Zweigelt is outstanding. Bright red berry scents give way to a beautifully balanced wine packed with flavor but still dry and crisp. The long, lingering finish is the perfect ending to this exceptional rosé. Direct pressed. Importer: Select Wines - kwselection.

### **Paul Direder 2017 Zweigelt Rosé Niederösterreich 89**

Pale salmon pink. Showing excellent freshness on the nose, this easy drinking rosé comes in a larger than usual (one liter) format. It offers the requisite acidity and red berry flavors required for lots of drinking pleasure. Direct pressed. Importer: Select Wines - kwselection.

### **Steininger 2017 Cabernet Sauvignon Rosé Niederösterreich (\$18) 89**

The Steininger rosé is an exceptionally pretty wine revealing a subtle, floral bouquet that leads to a softly textured palate of red berries and a touch of citrus. A lovely wine meant for sipping and enjoying. Made from direct pressed fruit. Importer: Select Wines - kwselection.