

# MONOCLE

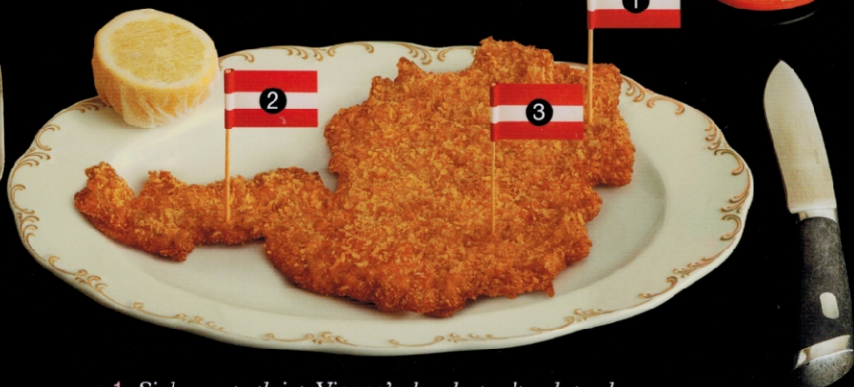
INSIDE: REBELS AND ROYALS A TASTY TORTE-OLOGY  
BIG BALLS THE WORLD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL CARPARK

**M** **A** to **F** **AFFAIRS:** Why the old empire still has friends **BUSINESS:** Power-mad Vorarlberg **CULTURE:** Radio makes a move  
**DESIGN:** Thonet to Neutra, die Meister der Designwelt **ENTERTAINING:** Buns and wine (aka heaven) **FASHION:** Nice brands

UK £7.75  
GER €12.40  
CHF 13.30  
DKK 129.95  
AUD \$16.00  
CAN \$19.00  
JPN ¥2,200.00  
USA \$14.95

Raindrops on Rosa Mosas,  
Whiskers on Wolfram,  
Bright colourful DJs and warm woollen Wolfords,  
Bruch-designed packages tied up with string...

These are a  
few of our  
favourite things!



1. Sink your teeth into Vienna's decadent cultural streak
2. Get a taste for Innsbruck
3. Savour every last crumb of Graz. Yum.

**M** **MOZART AND MORE** A guide to Salzburg that goes beyond its famous musical maestro **LINZ EFFECT** An industrial centre delivering a cultural punch **SEA CHANGE** A city that thinks it's in the Med **PLUS** Charming Austrian takehomes

(x) Vineyards in Wachau. Lower Austria is the country's largest wine-growing region



**Wine-maker: Christoph Neumeister**  
*A life tending vines on the family farm*



**WINES TO TRY:**  
*Straden Sauvignon Blanc, 2018*  
*Ried Silberberg Gelber Muskateller, 2017*

## E WINE/AUSTRIA Case studies

Austria's fresh, lower-alcohol wines are at last winning global acclaim. We meet five wine-makers across the nation and offer some suggestions on the best bottles to bring home.

By *Aimee Hartley*  
Photography *Gregor Hofbauer*

The roots of wine-making in Austria run deep: records documenting the country's first foray into production date back to 700BC. However, it's only in the past two decades that Austrian wine has become genuinely sought-after, due to a newfound appreciation of the subtleties of *Grüner Veltliner*, the nation's most plentiful grape, and a timely preference for the lighter, less alcoholic wines that the cooler temperatures here yield.

Wine-making here has had its ups and downs. Following a scandal in 1985, when some wine-makers were caught using chemicals found in

antifreeze to sweeten their products, Austria's vineyards became subject to regulations that are among the world's strictest. This has helped to establish a reputation for quality and a culture of using native, often organic varieties.

We meet five distinctive vintners in the wine regions of Lower Austria, Styria, Burgenland and Vienna. — (M)

"People in Vienna are sometimes a little bit rough on the outside but lovely inside. I think our wines are like that" – *Jutta Ambrositsch*

Bordering Slovenia, Styria is the most southerly of Austria's wine-making regions and one of the smallest. A different set of white grape varieties reign among its wild and hilly terrain: sauvignon blanc, muscat and chardonnay (known in Styria as "*Morillon*"), with a smattering of red counterparts.

Award-winning wine-maker Christoph Neumeister has been working among the vines since he was 10 years old. His grandfather began farming apples, corn, beans and horseradish alongside grapes here after the Second World War and the success of the Neumeister business is partly due to an understanding of the need to diversify beyond wine. The 300-year-old farmhouse was renovated by Neumeister's parents in the 1980s and became a restaurant, *Saziani Stub'n*, in 2000; it is led by acclaimed chef Harald Irka. They also have a small hotel nearby.

Neumeister makes wine that, in his own words, attempts to "lift you up and deeply satisfy you at the same time". It is often aromatic and lively in nature but always quaffable and refreshing.

[neumeister.cc](http://neumeister.cc)