



Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium: Steep Slope Viticulture for 450 Years

Since 1561, viticulture has been practiced with the highest quality standards at Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium. Along 25 hectares of impressive steep slope sites of the Mosel and Saar valleys, Riesling grapes ripen to internationally recognized top quality.

Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium has holdings in the internationally renowned steep slate slopes of the Middle Mosel: Graacher Himmelreich, Graacher Domprobst, Bernkasteler Badstube, and Trittenheimer Apotheke. On the Saar, near Trier, they farm about 13 hectares in Falkensteiner Hofberg. In total, about a 25-hectare area under vines is planted exclusively to Riesling.

History

Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium Trier emerged from the Trier Jesuit College, which opened on February 3, 1561. The vineyard holdings came primarily from donations by Archbishop-Electors of Trier: Johann von der Leyen and Jacob III zu Eltz (1561-1581).

After 210 years, Pope Clement XIV dissolved the Jesuit Order in 1773. This also meant the end of the Jesuit College. Under Elector Clemens Wencelaus (1768-1794), it continued as "Electoral Gymnasium." Under French administration, the "Electoral Gymnasium" was first called "École central," or as "École secondaire," and continued as "Collège" in 1811.

By Napoleon's imperial decree, in 1805, the school received the former Jesuit assets, including buildings and vineyards. Later on, the possessions of the institution remained in Prussian times. The French "Collège" was called "Royal Prussian Gymnasium" and renamed "Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium" in 1896. Today, it is under this name an integral part of Trier. The cultivation of the vineyards was still instrumental in financing the school. One of the most famous pupils is the Trier-born Karl Marx. In 1835, he received his school diploma in today's Great Hall of the Bischöfliches Priesterseminar.

An Old Soul Newly Infused

Since 2004, Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium belongs to Bischöfliches Priesterseminar Trier, which is a part of Bischöfliche Weingüter Trier. Friedrich-Wilhelm Gymnasium GbR remains, however, an independent estate. Following this decision, it was decided to strengthen this traditional Trier brand. The appearance of Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium was completely revised in 2012, including its own portfolio structure and price list, as well as customized labels.



The history of the property was highlighted again. Since February 2013, the new website is online.

Wine and Viticulture

The complexity of the wines is reflected by nature: rugged landscapes on extremely steep slate slopes, on the one hand; overgrown foliage reliefs and rolling hills, on the other hand. These opposites come into perfect harmony resulting in a delicate Mosel Riesling. Fruity acidity and complex aromas combine to create a culinary delight.

The preservation of traditional techniques of sustainable viticulture, and the respect for nature have top priority in the production of our wines of Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium. Harvesting is done 80 percent by hand. Joachim Scherf and Klaus Backes share as vineyard managers the responsibility for the extensive vineyard holdings. The vineyard work is in the hands of our employees at wineries in Dhron and Wiltingen. The latter also serves as a press house during the harvest.

Strengthening Cooperation with Cumvino

The stylish Restaurant Cumvino is located in the heart of Trier in an old press house of Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium and bears the logo of the winery still. The winery team has redesigned the wine list of the restaurant in 2012 and has focused on the wines of the Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium. Cumvino is regularly involved in the events of the Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium and Bischöfliche Weingüter Trier. A special experience for every visitor is to start a wine tasting at the administrative offices of Bischöfliche Weingüter Trier, in the Gervasisustrasse, and walk underground in the cellar of both estates up to the restaurant several blocks away.

Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium



About Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium

Since 1561, Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium in Trier has prime vineyard holdings on the Mosel and Saar. The 25 hectares are exclusively planted to Riesling. The grapes are pressed either at Scharzhof on the Saar or at Duisburger Hof on the Ruwer. The wines are then matured in the heart of Trier in a vast vaulted cellar that goes back to Roman times.

For more information, please visit: www.friedrichwilhelmgymnasium.de

Press Contact

Anna Reimann

Head of Marketing and Sales

Tel.: +49 (0)651 145 760

a.reimann@friedrichwilhelmgymnasium.de

Carolin Strunz

Press Office

Tel.: +49 (0)178 55 82 444

c.strunz@friedrichwilhelmgymnasium.de

Weingut Friedrich-Wilhelm-Gymnasium GbR

c/o Bischöfliche Weingüter Trier | Gervasiusstraße 1 | 54290 Trier an der Mosel