

AUSTRIAN WINE



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LEO HILLINGER

www.leo-hillinger.com



Falstaff

(top Austrian Wine magazine)

- 93 HILL 3 2005 CH/SB 10 Vol.%, Barrique, 8000, süß, €€€€€ Jois Neusiedlersee
- 92 HILL 1 2007 ZW/BF/ME/SY 14,5 Vol.%, Barrique, 30000, €€€€€ Jois Neusiedlersee
- 92 Hill Side 2008 SY/ZW/ME 13,5 Vol.%, 20000, €€€ Jois Neusiedlersee
- 91 Blaufränkisch Terroir 2007 14 Vol.%, Barrique, 8000, €€€€€ Jois Neusiedlersee
- 91 Blaufränkisch Leithaberg DAC 2008 13,5 Vol.%, 4000, €€€€ Jois Neusiedlersee



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Report # 25: The Wines of Austria

January 2011

Leo Hillinger

Leo Hillinger is a talented wine entrepreneur who took over a small wine retail business from his father in 1990 and converted it into one of Austria's finest wineries. Today, Leo Hillinger owns 46 hectares of vineyards and an attractive state-of-the-art winery in the hamlet of Jois near Lake Neusiedl. The Hillinger winery produces excellent reds and a top-quality Hill series sourced from a special vineyard in Rust. Importer: Klaus Wittauer/ Select Wines, Chantilly, VA

Hillinger 2009 Pinot Grigio Burgenland (\$13) 88

Made of 100% Grauburgunder (Pinot Grigio), this light straw bottling-Alsatian in character-is very aromatic showing ripe orchard fruit with a citrus zest. On the palate, it offers nice rich apple and pear with mineral notes and a long finish.

Hillinger 2008 Pinot Noir Eveline Burgenland (\$20) 89

The 2008 Eveline is a delicious entry level Pinot Noir, delicate and varietally correct. It reveals attractive raspberry and red berry fruit, with earth notes on the nose. On the palate there is an abundance of primary fruit, combined with spice and lingering acidity on the finish.

Hillinger 2005 Pinot Noir Terroir Burgenland 91 (\$55)

This medium dark ruby beauty shows smoke, earth, and cherry notes on the nose. Made of fruit from 114 and 777 Dijon clones and aged in 100 percent new oak, it offers a rich, almost opulent, attack with nicely integrated oak, earth, and dark red cherry fruit on the palate. **Quite delicious!**

Hillinger 2009 Zweigelt Burgerland (\$19) 90

Fresh and spicy, this young tank-fermented Zweigelt boasts a ruby purple color and black cherry fruit with chocolate notes on the nose. Fruit forward on the attack, it offers concentrated huckleberry and blackberry fruit with intensity of flavor and high acidity. Fruit sourced from vineyards in Jois.

Hillinger 2008 Blaufränkisch Burgenland (\$18) 89

Leo Hillinger's 2008 Blaufränkisch exhibits a medium dark ruby color and aromas of black pepper, earth, dark fruit and violets. It is fruit forward in character with flavors of blackberry, plum and chalky loam and finishes ripe and fruity. A smooth, full-bodied wine offering a most satisfying drinking experience.

Hillinger 2008 Blaufränkisch Leithaberg DAC (\$35) 92

The 2009 Blaufränkisch Leithaberg vineyard is a step above in quality compared to the regular Blaufränkisch. It is an elegant wine offering a medium ruby hue with blackberry, earth and violet fruit aromas. On the palate it is smooth and full-bodied with layers of red and black fruit flavors, vanilla notes, and a delicious long lasting finish. Aged on the lees for 8 months in new French barriques.

Hillinger 2007 Hill 1 Burgenland (\$65) 93

Hill 1 is a magnificent cuvée of 40% Zweigelt and 20% Blaufränkisch with 20% each of Merlot and Cabernet. Semi-opaque in hue, it offers spicy fruit on the nose with a rich and layered palate of black and blue fruit. Aged for 12 months in new French barriques, it exhibits nicely integrated oak followed by a silky mouth feel, soft round tannins and perfect balance. Blaufränkisch and Zweigelt from top sites in Rust, beautifully blended.