

# C R U

## Made in HK 香港製造 精釀啤酒



### Panel Tasting

古國尋香：希臘美酒  
Crave for the Ancient Taste of Greece

### Wine Special

Penfolds葡萄酒換塞診所  
Penfolds Re-corking Clinic

### Bar

環保由酒吧開始  
Inauguration Of Conscious Cocktails

# Pfalz and Horse

## 德國馬車遊Pfalz 世上第二大葡萄酒區

葡萄酒莊是愛酒人士旅程必到之處。有時，同行友人或伴侶未必如你那般對葡萄酒著迷，上乘之選，必須在暢遊葡萄酒莊之餘，安插些特別活動或體驗，讓同行者皆可眾樂樂。有幸一遊德國第二大葡萄酒產區Pfalz，參觀其享負盛名的葡萄酒莊，頃刻發現此地絕對值得推介，每年超過200多個大小葡萄酒節在Pfalz舉行，不論何時造訪，總有一個葡萄酒節正歡迎閣下光臨。此外，對運動愛好者而言，能夠騎着單車，遊走葡萄園，豈容錯過？重點推介，馬車暢遊葡萄園，日落之際，浪漫動人，一刻成就永遠。

Winery visit tops the checklist of wine lovers. Sometimes, your travelling partners (friends or family) may not be into wines as much as you do, but what about a decent tour with special activities and experience added on top of a winery trip? This time, I had the opportunity to visit Pfalz, the second largest wine region in Germany, for renowned wineries. Wineries aside, there are more than 200 wine festivals held in Pfalz each year. Whenever you visit this piece of land, you will gladly bump into a wine festival at your visit. As for outdoor activity lovers, cycling and hiking over vineyards are just intriguing experience. My highlighted recommendation is, of course, horse-drawn wagon ride along the vineyards, which is just intoxicatingly romantic.

# Drawn Wagon Ride





Contributor  
Cecilia Wong





## Pfalz—德國第二大葡萄酒區

Pfalz距離法蘭克福約1.5小時車程，剛巧到法蘭克福公幹或旅遊，不妨考慮到Pfalz葡萄酒區暢旅三兩天。Pfalz（音Vows）是「皇宮」的意思，亦叫Palatinate區，過千年前，羅馬帝國已經開始在此釀酒。Pfalz是德國第二大葡萄酒區，亦是全球種植最多Riesling葡萄的地方，毗鄰是法國Alsace。陽光充沛，氣候乾爽，往往遭誤會為劣質葡萄酒區，此言差矣。細嚐之下，葡萄質素高，而價格合理，亦教人心動。需知道，Riesling可謂千變萬化，有Dry、Semi-dry、Semi-sweet及Sweet之別；此葡萄酒區貴為Riesling之皇，過半出產為Dry及Semi-dry之列。除了Riesling之外，Spätburgunder（即Pinot Noir）、Grauburgunder（即Pinot Gris）、Weißburgunder（即Pinot Blanc）、Gewürztraminer及Dornfelder亦是Pfalz不可錯過的葡萄品種。

## 200葡萄酒節 源源送上

對於Pfalz居民的快樂指數，深信定必屢創新高！在Pfalz，每年逾200個葡萄酒節舉行，平均每星期達三到四個，真可稱得上「快活過神仙」！然而，一年之中，最有名的葡萄酒節，莫過於有「世上最長」葡萄酒節之稱的German Wine Route Experience，自1935年起，連綿85公里的葡萄酒節，於每年8月下旬的週末舉行，亦是歷史最悠久的葡萄酒公路節，每年吸引全球50到60萬旅客慕名而來。今趟旅程，於5月時份，參加到Pfalzer LagenArt葡萄酒節，這場於世界遺產Hambach城堡內舉行的一年一度試酒會，匯聚90個酒莊，呈獻達300款葡萄酒供嘉賓品嚐，更有幸會見Pfalz German Queen葡萄酒女皇，細聽「女皇陛下」為大家介紹的Pfalz美酒。Siegrist酒莊的Riesling GG 2015年（Grand Cru）尤其叫我印象深刻，年產量少於2000支，其層次複雜而優雅，散發香茅、礦物、白花及白桃果香，釀酒師Bruno Schimpf指，這產自頂級田的Riesling，縱使再窖藏10年，

依然風味無改，大放異彩。此外，由釀酒師Mathieu Kauffmann為首的Reichsrat Von Buhl酒莊，將德國有氣酒Sekt（香檳製法）推到更高層次，獨愛其2014年Reichsrat Von Buhl Riesling Sket Brut，氣泡綿密，帶白花、白桃、牛油麵包等味道，清新討好，若然盲飲之下，定必錯估為香檳呢！



## Pfalz – the Second Largest Wine Region of Germany

When it is only an 1.5-hour's drive from Frankfurt to Pfalz, it could be a nice destination for a 2 to 3 days short trip, if you are currently travelling or working in Frankfurt. Pfalz, pronounced as “Vows” means “Palace” in English, also known as “Palatinate Region”, and its winemaking history can be traced back to centuries ago that the Roman Empire firstly started its winemaking business in Pfalz. Nowadays, Pfalz is not only the second largest wine region in German, but also the largest Riesling cultivation region in the world, which adjoins Alsace, France. Pfalz is usually mistakenly known as a poor wine region for its adequate sunlight and dry climate, but it is not the whole story. Giving it a try, you can tell the quality grapes in reasonable price, which is just irresistible. Perhaps, if you have some basic understanding of Riesling, you should have heard of its categorization of dry, semi-dry, semi-sweet and sweet. Still, Pfalz is reputed as “the King of Riesling” for its remarkable production of dry and semi-dry Rieslings. Apart from that, Spätburgunder (Pinot Noir), Grauburgunder (Pinot Gris), Weißburgunder (Pinot Blanc), Gewürztraminer and Dornfelder are grape varieties that worth a shot.

## Over 200 Annual Wine Festivals

The Happy Planet Index of Pfalz must have reached a jealously high level, I guess, as there are more than 200 wine festivals taking place each and every year, which is approximately 3 to 4 festival per week. Amongst them, the German Wine Route Experience is the most popular one for its longest wine route of 85km, which is held annually ever since 1935. As the oldest wine festival in Germany, it is hosted at the last weekend of August attracting 500,000

to 600,000 participants each year. When I landed Pfalz in May, I had the opportunity to participate in Pfalzer LagenArt wine festival held in the UNESCO heritage Hambach Castle that featured 90 wine producers with 300 wines. Also, I was honored to meet the German Queen from Pfalz, and learn more about Pfalz wine from her introduction. One of the most memorable wine I have tried during the festival was Siegrist Riesling GG 2015 (Grand Cru) which was limited to less than 2000 bottles a year, for its complexity and elegance, with the notes of lemongrass, mineral, white flower and white peach. The winemaker of Siegrist Bruno Schimpf told me that; the taste of the bottle would be more diversified upon a 10-year aging. Another remarkable winery to visit is Reichsrat Von Buhl. Under the leadership of Chef de Caves Mathieu Kauffmann, the winery has been going towards a next level with the aim of boosting German Sekt (Sparkling wine made by champagne procedures). The Reichsrat Von Buhl Riesling Sekt Brut 2014 was an impressive one for its creamy bubbles and notes of white floral, peach and brioche. Run the blind tasting on this bottle, and you may tell it is champagne rather than sparkling wine!

## 馬車、單車、拾級而上

暢遊Pfalz葡萄園的方式豈止一種，乘坐馬車遊葡萄園，任由浪漫氣氛環抱，一邊看着美麗的葡萄園，另一邊品嚐着車上的葡萄美酒，何其舒爽！馬車之上，一嚐了Kirchner酒莊的葡萄酒，於莊主的講解下，了解酒莊的葡萄園及葡萄酒，Kirchner Saumagen Riesling 2015年是筆者的最愛，層次分明，口感優雅，帶白花、礦物、杏脯等味道。馬車過後，與三位酒莊莊主Gies-Düppel、Siener及Okonomierat Rebholz徒步而上葡萄園，親身感受當地的風土氣候，當然少不了淺嚐美酒，煞是興奮！



Rhodter Rosengarten，以400歲之齡冠絕全球，屬於Oberhofer酒莊的Gewürztraminer樹藤，400年來如一，每年生產著葡萄。問到女莊主Heidi，到底400歲的Gewürztraminer樹藤的味道會有什麼不同？她說，比新樹藤多點香料味道和層次。在葡萄園上試喝著Oberhofer Rhodter Gewürztraminer Spatlese Trocken 2014年，香氣四溢而十分清新，帶荔枝、玫瑰、蜜糖、香料等味，喝著有400歲的葡萄藤所種出的葡萄酒感覺十分神奇，尤如一場和長青老婆婆的對話，實在是個難忘體驗。

## 以白蘆筍作結

4月至6月期間到德國旅遊，剛好就是白蘆筍收成的季節，不容錯過！新鮮甜美的白蘆筍搭配Riesling，難免任由它的香艷味道蓋過；然而，在Von Winning酒莊的Leopood餐廳以美酒伴隨佳餚，由Von Winning的Pinot Blanc II 2015搭配白蘆筍，其草本、青蘋果、石榴、青檸等味道，昇華白蘆筍的美味，份外清甜。若你快將出發德國葡萄酒莊旅遊，萬勿錯過。✎



## Different Ways for Different Traces

There were many different ways of browsing vineyards in Pfalz, and I chose to get on a horse-drawn wagon ride. That was my first horse-drawn riding experience, which was nothing more than romantic. Enjoyable wine along with the magnificent view of the brilliant vineyards, what else should I ask for? Under the detailed explanation of wines and introduction of the vineyards given by the owner of Kirchner winery on the wagon, I tasted all the delightful wines along the way. Amongst all, I, particularly, enjoyed Kirchner Saumagen Riesling 2015 for its elegance and complexity with notes of white flower, mineral and apricot. Following winery owners Gies-Duppel, Siener and Okonomierat Rebholz, I got on the vineyard hiking to learn more about the terroirs and climate of this region. Tasting wines at different spots on the hill in front of the breathtaking views of the vineyards was an experience beyond compared. Geographically speaking, Pfalz was near to Alsace, and I wondered if there's difference on Rieslings produced in these 2 regions, and they said, Riesling in Pfalz gave a more stone fruit note, such as peach and apricot, thanks to its sandstone-based soil. Compared with traditional Alsace Riesling that carries a more okay style, the ones produced in Pfalz are relatively fruitier and direct. My favorite wine from this hiking would be Weingut Gies-Duppel Birkweiler Kastaniebusch Riesling GG 2011, for its peach, floral, spices, petrol and creamy notes, which could be aged for another 10 years and remain its high condition, according to the winery owner. If you enjoy cycling, browsing the vineyards with e-bike could not be a better idea. Along the journey, you would get to pass by Rhodter Rosengarten, the oldest vineyard in the word



with 400 years old vine that still grew grapes. Owned by Oberhofer winery, this 400-year-old vines was still growing Gewürztraminer each year. I asked the winery owner and winemaker Heidi if there was a difference in taste between the grapes grown by a 400 years old vine and new vines? She answered, 400-years-old vines gave a higher complexity and more spices than the new ones. I tasted Oberhofer Rhodter Gewürztraminer Spatlese Trocken 2014 and it was aromatic and fresh with notes of lychee, citrus, roses, honey and spices. Instead of drinking wine, I felt more like communicating with an old lady in person, and she told me her stories. This was without doubt a memorable experience.

## White Asparagus Season

If you happen to visit Germany from April to June, do not miss out in-season white asparagus. Perhaps, Riesling appears to spoil the white asparagus, but Von Winning's Pinot Blanc II 2015 seems to be a good match. It was a delight for me to enjoy a wonderful meal at Leopood of Von Winning winery. Von Winning's Pinot Blanc II 2015 managed to sublime the sweetness of white asparagus with its herbal, green apple, guava and lime notes. Look for a trip in Germany or Europe? Pfalz could be one brilliant choice! ✎