

Ratings by Parker

Mai 2016 by Stephan Reinhard

Located in Sernau/Kranachberg (South Styria), Willi Sattler and his family produce some of Austria's finest Sauvignon Blancs and Chardonnays (Morillon), whereas his brother Hannes runs a first class hotel restaurant that makes the Sattlerhof a top destination in Styria for all gourmet food lovers. Sauvignon plays the main role in the 40 hectares of vines that are currently in conversion to organic farming. Grown on steep vineyards, either on shell limestone and marl (Pfarrweingarten), or sand, gravel and marl, the grapes are fermented and aged in stainless steel or small oak barrels. The wines from the Sattlerhof are nicely aromatic, but also deep and mineral, and provided with exceptional aging potential. Kranachberg, Grassnitzburg and the Pfarrweingarten monopole are exceptional vineyards, and are all classified "Grosse Lage," which means grand cru level - according to the regulations of the Steirische Terroir und Klassikweingüter (STK), which is the union of the leading wine producers in Southern Styria.

2012 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Kranachberg 92 points

"The 2012 Sauvignon Blanc Kranachberg is clear, coolish and spicy on the nose, very precise, intense and provided with herbal aromas and tropical fruits, such as figs and passion fruit. These flavors are intermixed with the oily extract of crushed stones. Full-bodied, round and intense on the very elegant, well structured and perfectly balanced palate, this 2012 is as mineral as it is juicy. It is less extreme in its purity than the corresponding Grassnitzburg. The Kranachberg is more sensual, fleshy and perfectly structured by its tannins. Give this wine another five years and enjoy it over another decade or even longer."

2011 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Kranachberg 94 points

"Cool, fresh and very precise, with stony and herbal but less tropical aromas (compared to 2012), the 2011 Sauvignon Blanc Kranachberg is more pure and terroir-driven on the nose. Again, there is this oily aroma from crushed stones! Fresh and mineral, very salty, precise and piquant on the palate, this is round and highly intense Kranachberg. The palate indicates a perfect ripeness and lots of passion fruit in the long aftertaste. This is a fantastic and energetic Kranachberg of great finesse and purity. Drink over the next 20 years."

2010 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Kranachberg 93 points

"The 2010 Sauvignon Blanc Kranachberg shows fresh, precise and concentrated fruit aromas of figs, passion fruits and grapefruits along with discreetly spicy and stony flavors - indicating a truly coolish vintage. Concentrated, fresh and piquant, this is a very elegant, precise and refined, fruit-driven Sauvignon with rhubarb and strawberry aromas in the aftertaste. It is well defined and salty, with the fruit completely integrated with the mineral components. This is a beauty today and at least in the next five, maybe ten years."

2007 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Kranachberg 94 points

"The 2014 Sauvignon Blanc Kranachberg is very clear, bright and complex on the intense and elegant nose, where a touch of cassis and passion fruit are displayed, intermingled with smoke and stony aromas. On the palate, this full-bodied and concentrated wine is highly elegant and precise, almost sweet in its richness and intensity. It is structured by firm tannins and a great finish. This wine should develop very well over the next 5-10 years."

2012 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Pfarrweingarten 91 points

"The 2012 Sauvignon Blanc Pfarrweingarten is from the Sattler family's monopole. It's the warmest of their single vineyard sites and the shell limestone soils do not just give outstanding Morillons (Chardonnay), but also excellent Sauvignons that gain complexity over the years in bottle. The 2012 Sauvignon Blanc Pfarrweingarten is super precise and almost aristocratic on the coolish nose, which reminds me of lemon juice on crushed stones. Round, pure and intense, this full-bodied wine is lovely, salty, well balanced and loaded with tension. The finish is very long and reveals a nice tannin grip. Very good aging potential."

2012 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Grassnitzburg 92 points

"Willi Sattler holds 1.3 hectares in the Grassnitzburg, whose shell limestone and chalky marl soils shine through in any ambitious wine of the cru that is classified as Grosse Lage by the STK producers. Sattler's 2012 Sauvignon Blanc Grassnitzburg is an amazing wine full of energy, salt and crispy freshness. Very pure in its flinty grapefruit and lime aromas on the nose, this is a full-bodied, pure, intense and very mineral Sauvignon has crisp white apple and chalky flavors; there is also a lingering salinity in the grippy and tension-filled finish - revealing excellent tannin structure and aging potential. Very promising, though still a bit too young to get all its talents."

2014 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Südsteiermark 87 points

"The 2014 Sauvignon Blanc Südsteiermark is a typical Sauvignon from a cool South Styrian vintage. Very clear and fresh fruit aromas of grapefruits, lemons and white peaches on the nose lead to a light, crisp and elegant, but also round and juicy palate. This stimulatingly dry Sauvignon drinks extremely well on a hot summer day. Very digestible."

2014 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Gamlitzer**88 points**

"From different vineyards in Gamlitz, but mostly the Kranachberg, the 2014 Sauvignon Blanc Gamlitzer displays a coolish, crisp, stony, fruit intense and spicy/mineral bouquet; it has typical Sauvignon aromas of limes, apples and cassis, along with notes of asparagus and leek. Round, intense and clear, with crispy gooseberry, red currant and lemon flavors, this is a juicy, peppery, well-concentrated and fruity wine with grip and an attractive salinity. Really stimulating."

2014 Sauvignon Blanc Sernauberg**89 points**

"From a steep, south-east facing "Erste STK Lage" vineyard planted with Sauvignon and Muscat on sandy soils, the 2014 Sauvignon Blanc Sernauberg offers an aromatic bouquet with floral and fruity flavors. Round and elegant on the palate, this is a juicy, very charming, medium to full-bodied wine with a good salinity in the finish."

2012 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Sernauberg**88 points**

"The 2012 Sauvignon Blanc Sernauberg is intense and ripe on the nose, and displays grapefruit and lemon aromas. Round, smooth and creamy textured, this is an intense and very elegant, persistent Sauvignon with power and structure. However, I find it a bit bitter and saturating in the finish."

2013 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Element**88+ points**

"Cultivated and made by Alexander Sattler, Willi's son and designated successor, the 2013 Sauvignon Blanc Element is sourced from 35-year-old vines in the Jägerberg, which the lower part of the Kranachberg grand cru where the vines root in gravelly-sandy soils. Fermented and aged in a 1,350-liter oak barrel, this is an aromatic, firmly structured yet refined wine with grip, good tension and attractive white peach flavors in the finish. It is a bit more tannic than the wines of his father and needs two or three years to develop its talents. The 2013 has been bottled in July 2014, and should be ready to drink now and over the next 8-10 years."

2012 Sattlerhof Morillon Pfarrweingarten**91+ points**

"From the shell limestone and marl soils of the very steep, south-facing "Grosse STK Lage," the 2012 Morillon Pfarrweingarten is fermented and matured on the lees for 18 months in 225- and 300-liter barrels (first and second filling). It displays a pretty Burgundian nose with clear and yeasty hazelnut, as well as bright fruit aromas intermixed with discreet vanilla, brittle flavors and chalky mineral notes. Very elegant and balanced on the palate, this full-bodied cru is pure and salty, lovely and fresh, but still young. It will reach its peak only in a couple of years."

2007 Sattlerhof Morillon Pfarrweingarten**94 points**

"Raised in small barrels, the 2007 Sauvignon Blanc Pfarrweingarten is deep, clear and fresh, and displays smoky peach aromas intermixed with lovely herbal and spicy/oaky flavors. Full-bodied, intense and powerful on the palate, but also straight and fresh, this is an elegant and stunningly finesse-full Pfarrweingarten; it has great tension and a lingering salinity. This is a great expression of a wine that Willi Sattler's names his personal 'picturebook Morillon from the Pfarrweingarten.'"

2007 Sattlerhof Weissburgunder Pfarrweingarten Fassreserve**93 points**

"Raised on its full lees in 300-liter barrels for seven years and bottled in August 2014, the 2007 Weissburgunder Pfarrweingarten Fassreserve opens very precise, extremely fresh and with lime and chalky flavors on the nose - almost like a Chablis. On the palate, this Pinot Blanc is very focused, lean, tight, salty and almost steely in its Chablis-like precision, freshness and firm mineral structure. The finish is long and well defined, displaying lots of lemon aromas and revealing a great mineral tension. This is an exciting grand cru from South Styria, and it tastes fascinatingly young and fresh. So no hurry here."

2007 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Privat**94 points**

"The Sauvignon Blanc Privat has been produced only twice so far, in 2007 and 2011 only. The 2007 Sauvignon Blanc Privat, bottled in July 2010, comes entirely from the Kranachberg Grosse Lage; it was fermented and aged in two new 225-liter barriques and one used 600-liter barrel. The wine shows bright and spicy fruit aromas of peaches and ground cherries, and indicates a perfect ripeness. Rich, intense and fully ripe on the palate, this full-bodied and firmly structured wine is elegant and very well balanced, revealing its grip and power only in the long and almost monstrous finish. This wine has great further aging potential."

2013 Sattlerhof Sauvignon Blanc Kranachberg Trockenbeerenauslese**94 points**

"'If possible, we produce TBA in every year,' says Willi Sattler, whose first Trockenbeerenauslese was made in 1979. 'If it is not possible or we don't like the result, it ends up as a Gölles vinegar.' The 2013 Sauvignon Blanc Kranachberg Trockenbeerenauslese is clear, intense and spicy on the nose, displaying a concentrated bouquet of pink grapefruits, honey, white champignons and perfectly dry botrytis berries. Very sweet, concentrated, piquant and salty on the palate, with lovely precise stone fruit aromas and a stimulating grip in the finish, this is an excellent though very sweet TBA with black bread and fig aromas in the long aftertaste."