

## DRAUTZ-ABLE Heilbronn

**Region:** WÜRTTEMBERG  
**Vineyards:** Heilbronn (Wartberg, Stiftsberg), Neckarsulm (Scheuerberg), Laufen  
**Varietals:** Lemberger, Trollinger, Schwarzriesling (Pinot Meunier), Pinot Noir, Riesling  
**Owner:** the Drautz family  
**Winemaker:** Markus Drautz

**Remarks:** an old estate with a youngster at the helm, producing fine dry red wines, member of the prestigious VDP group

It happened back in 1496 when Emperor Maximilian had visited Heilbronn and granted Jodokus Drautz the right to seal. Perhaps influenced then by the good wine? More recently, Christel Drautz married Martin Able in 1960, also from a vintner's family in Heilbronn. Martin died unfortunately in 1968, and ownership was then shared between her and her brother Richard Drautz. The name Drautz-Able was thus formed, and since 2007 the estate is jointly managed by the young generation winemaker Markus Drautz and his mother Monika Drautz. Over the Centuries the labels of their wines have carried the family coat-of-arms, depicting two doves. Drautz coming from an old German word *Drudaz* with reference to peace, and the white dove as a symbol of peace.

By tradition, mostly dry red wines are produced in Württemberg. Trollinger, also known as Vernatsch in the South Tirol, and Lemberger as the main varietals. A high percentage is consumed locally. Trollinger was first planted in Germany by the Romans, and these reds are light in structure, combining well with fine cuisine. The more complex red Lemberger (Blaufränkisch) originated from Austria and was first cultivated in Württemberg toward the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. The wines have a fine tannin structure, low in acidity, with appealing berry and cherry fruit flavours.

The reds are mash fermented and kept in stainless steel, whereby the higher quality reds are matured in new and old barriques. The special Jodokus red cuvée is kept in barriques for at least 24 months. A small production of dessert whites from Auslese to Eiswein and TBA are also produced, and then marketed under the Jodokus banner, if created from a cuvée of different varietals.



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WÜRTTEMBERG

