

Discovering Alsatian terroirs through Rieslings

There is a small cemetery in the grand cru Hengst vineyard, where Olivier Humbrecht (of the famed Domaine Zind-Humbrecht) likes to go to drink some wine, enjoy the peaceful view of the valley and listen to voices from the past. "I know it sounds a little crazy," he says, "but when you're up there with a good bottle of wine, you're relaxed and you lie back on the ground, I swear you can almost hear the dead talking to you."

To discover true terroir in Alsace is to go beyond the obvious elements of soil and climate. It is to embrace the cultural, the mythical, and the mystical. Achieving a clear grasp of the terroir-driven nature of Alsace's mosaic of wines can be a lifelong undertaking. Indeed, many winemakers have spent their entire lives just getting to know the various terroirs in their own village - and Alsace has 120 villages!

Alsace is intensively cut by faults (major and minor). These fractures account for the bewildering diversity of soils, vineyard climates and site aspects, all crammed together in a very untidy package that defies clean delineations (a few meters often separate different rock and soil types).

Riesling is the most popular grape variety in Alsace. It is called **"the sponge of terroir"** for its ability, like Chardonnay in Burgundy, to capture what's in the soil and give it back into the wine, through acidity, minerality and aromas. Thanks to its transparent character and its many different styles, riesling is the most suited grape to comprehend Alsace's terroir variability.

We will discover together some of the most famous Alsatian terroirs by drinking Riesling cuvees from great winemakers such as Humbrecht, Weinbach, Boxler and Schaetzel.

A full course dinner prepared by our chef Dany Fec will complement the wines.

Date: Friday, **february 10th & Friday, **February 17th****

From **7:30pm**. Cost of the session: **Y11.000**

Please book in advance by phone or through our website. Number of seats for each session is limited.

Phone: 03 -6915-3857 **Email:** contact@creperie-mont-st-michel.com