

A10



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Update: Wineries

Winegrowing is the only agricultural sector to have entered into numerous successful alliances with contemporary architecture in recent years. New wineries from New Zealand to Portugal have been built, with star architects like Frank O. Gehry, Rafael Moneo, Herzog & de Meuron and Zaha Hadid contributing to spectacular flagship projects for major marketing-oriented winegrowers.

Even in the absence of such big names, winegrowing today no longer has much to do with rustic farms or dimly-lit cellars. While eastern Austria is especially well endowed, isolated examples can be found in all of Europe's winegrowing regions. In Germany, the Wine Architecture Prize has just been awarded for the second time, with the organizers naming architecture as one of the wine industry's most important marketing instruments.

A winegrower's decision to build is often motivated by a wish to invest in improved quality. Modernized production methods geared towards efficiency, quality and transparency call for new production facilities. Moreover, winegrowers have long since become part of the media-

fired culinary revolution that has in recent years become an established part of modern lifestyles. As a consequence, the new buildings devote almost as much space to reception and tasting rooms as they do to production.

For all their differences, the five examples shown here have one thing in common: beyond spectacle and image, they are all homes for wine and its producers that have been built in keeping with each winegrower's philosophy of quality and craft. In the case of extensions to existing complexes, the additions range from subtle to innovative, while the entirely new projects in mild climates and on fertile soil are marked by sensitive handling of the existing topography and cultural landscape. (ULRIKE HAELE)



↑ MOLTER-LINNEMANN ARCHITECTS, KRUGER-RUMPF VINEYARD, GERMANY
A listed courtyard house in Münster has been extended to include an adjacent stone house from the same period (1803), merging three elements into a harmonious ensemble: the new entrance area, the restored stone house and the rebuilt side wing. Respect for the old stones is palpable everywhere: interventions range from subtle to classical, and the materials chosen for the interior – copper, slate, oak – make deliberate links to the world of wine. The once narrow stairwell has become a high-ceilinged bar room, while access has been relocated to the courtyard where the white handrail supports running the full height of the staircase accentuate the connection to the new side wing. The white plaster of the new wing contrasts with the stone. The space saved inside the new wing is used as a small tasting room as well as providing a direct link to the vineyard's cellars.

www.molter-linnemann.de



← KONKRITBLU ARQUITECTURA, QUMRAN WINERY, SPAIN
Like a reclining figure, the new Qumran Winery lies on a hill in the middle of the gently rolling valley of the River Duero in Castile, grandly referred to as the 'Golden Mile' of winegrowing. The architects were at pains to be sensitive in their treatment of the surrounding cultural landscape: partly buried in the hill, partly extending its lines gently in the form of an elongated architectural volume. Fair-faced concrete inside and out underlines a purist and contemporary character, which also typifies the quality of the wine produced here to the latest oenological standards. The upper floor houses administrative and reception rooms, fitted with dark wood floors and panorama windows for optimal lighting, including outstanding views of the valley. In the hot months, horizontal metal slats provide shadow. During the harvest, grapes are delivered via the upper storey, from where they pass with no mechanical help to the processing area on the lower floor. There, too, carefully staged lines of sight offer views of the cellars and vineyards.

www.konkritblu.com



↑↓ PROPELLER Z, CLAU PREISINGER VINEYARD, AUSTRIA

This young winegrower commissioned a new building for biodynamic wine production, storage and tasting. Positioned parallel to the vines in the surrounding vineyards, the building is structured and defined by its dual functions of production and representation. Seen from afar, the building's twin materials and visibly inclined roofline set it apart and lend it significance. In true industrial style, the back section is a modular wooden construction. The concrete front section protrudes like a periscope, appearing to float above the frameless window panes of the reception area. The special quality of the surface structure only becomes visible close up: the diagonals of the hall's timber laths are seamlessly continued in the concrete section. The upper storey houses the tasting room with its generously proportioned terrace, framing the beautiful view and directing the gaze across the nearby village towards Lake Neusiedl.

www.propellerz.at



↓ ARCHITECTS.COLLECTIVE, SATTLER WINERY, AUSTRIA

Within the kind of densely built-up village typical of Austria's easternmost federal state, a small multi-purpose building has been added to an existing heterogeneous ensemble in Taidten. With its dark stone-grey exterior and white plastered interior, the central structure is rich in contrasts. The new winegrower's loft residence, including a barrel room, tasting room and office, interlinks living and working in more than just architectural terms. The barrel room on the ground floor has a rectangular floor plan, while the rooms on the storey above form an offset parallelogram. This twist is emphasized by a number of diagonal axes, creating interesting connections and views. The extra surfaces generated by the parallelogram are accessible from the first floor as terraces. The covered access to the roof gives the design a final spin, opening the house up in the only direction possible within its densely developed setting – upwards. This also means that the building is a striking landmark when seen from above.

www.architectscollective.net



↓ ANDREAS BURGHARDT, NIEPOORT WINERY, PORTUGAL

The history of winegrowing along the Tado River, part of the Alto Douro UNESCO World Heritage Site, goes back two thousand years. The hills and slopes have been terraced and rendered cultivable by thousands of kilometres of hand-built stone walls. Impressed by this idyllic cultural landscape, Andreas Burghardt took its special quality and elaborated on it in his design for the Niepoort winery. The building, which appears to grow proudly out of the hills, uses a small number of materials. The camouflage-like slate cladding references the make-up of the fertile soil and the colours of the surroundings; untreated steel frames the railings and covers the projecting terrace, the only element to rise above the crest of the hill. A few carefully positioned windows provide views out of the otherwise introverted giant. The rooms inside represent an intelligent architectural take on the production process: the grapes are delivered at the top level, where there is a roofed outdoor area for initial processing. The sorted grapes are then gently pulled down by gravity into the fermentation tanks and cellars on the lower storeys.

www.burghardt.co.at

