

## Nachbil Winery

**Address:** 428 Pietii Street, Beltiug Vlg., Satu Mare County, Romania

**Phone:** +40 261 870 200

**GPS coordinates:** 47.5426205, 22.8428376



**Founded:** 1999

**Region:** Dealurile Sătmăruului

**DOC:** IG

**Area:** 20 Ha

**Annually bottled:** 70.000 L

**Owners:** Mihaly Lieb

**Wine expert:** Csilla Serli

Nachbil Winery is positioned on the high slopes of **Beltiug** village, located in **Northwestern Romania**, in the **GI (Geographical Indication) Dealurile Sătmăruului** area.

In **1999**, the **Brutler** family started the **Nachbil** project, as a result of returning to Romania after a long period spent in Germany. The grapevine area covers a total of **25 hectares**, in which they cultivate local and international varieties.



The idea of grapes cultivation and winery foundation came to the owners during a journey, and they established the company in 1999. The company has constantly evolved and has purchased more and more land, expanding the area from the initial 2,5 hectares to 15,5 hectares. However, this did not bring the development to a close, since the fields that had been cultivated and have been abandoned by now are still waiting to be exploited. Unfortunately, 25% of what had been planted in 2006 was lost to the frosts of the month of may, which needed to be replanted.

The broad grape variety composition of the vineyard consists of red grape varieties such as Pinot Noir, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Fetească Neagră, Blaufränkisch and Syrah, as well as of white grape varieties such as Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Rhine Riesling, *Gewürztraminer* and Feteasca Regală.

As an interesting fact we can mention that the selection of the grape varieties is a most successful one, since we had no experience with these varieties; the varieties that had been used in the past would not be much good any longer today, except for the white grape variety known as GRÜNSPITZ, whose recultivation was an important endeavor of the company.

The winery respects and cherishes the legacy of the forerunners, and this is the reason why it was important for the enterprise in 2002 to buy the once beautiful Károlyi wine cellar, which by that time had fallen into ruin, and restored it to its long lost glory.

The present is inconceivable without the past and could not live on without a clearly defined vision of the future, a vision on whose further development and expansion the whole team of the enterprise is working.



## The history

The viticulture in Belciug looks back on a multi-secular past, according to written evidence, though there are undocumented periods, and, according to a legend lost in the mists of time, the story starts in 1085. Pursuant to the stories told by the ancients, King Ladislaus the Saint, during a harsh battle that waged against the Pechenegs, rested at the border of the present-day settlement, where his soldiers brought him a wine-filled pumpkin. He wittily asked the soldiers what kind of pumpkin it was, and hence the name of Belciug (in Hungarian BÉltek - „bél" = interior, content, „tek" - variant of „tök" = pumpkin). In 1723 Count Károlyi Sándor buys the whole estate from the Prépostváry family. In these times the county of Satu Mare is referred to as the seat of Bacchus, to such an extent had the viticulture and the production of wine flourished. In 1730, upon the count's advice, Belciug was settled by Swabians from Oberschwaben(Germany), where they are granted vineyards for which they exempt from taxes for a period of two years.

The variety composition, too, has changed a lot along the centuries, what we know for sure is that earlier people cultivated Furmint, Bakator rouge, Riesling and Chasselas, as well as grapes that grow directly after the Filoxera plague.

The current variety composition is very diverse, as we can find here Riesling, Traminer, Chardonnay, Sauvignon, Pinot gris, as well as Cabernet sauvignon , Merlot, Blaufränkisch , Pinot noir and Syrah varieties.

### **Sightseeing**

Less than one hour drive you can find the wonderful city of Satu Mare.

One of the largest cities in northern Romania, Satu Mare comes with a multicultural history, an old center worth visiting and opportunities for trips in the surrounding areas.

Firemen's Tower



This is a symbol of Satu Mare, and at 45 meters high a perfect place to admire the city. It was built between 1903 and 1904 as an observation point for firemen, on the plans of architect Ferencz Dittler. Lajos Vajnay was its builder. The tower's walls are 80 cm thick at the base and 30 cm towards the top. Its decorative cupola is made of copper-covered wood. Visitors can reach the top of the tower by climbing the 154 metallic stairs set in a spiral.

There several castles and fortresses those reaching Satu Mare can visit in the surrounding area. In Carei, 36 km west of the city, the revamped Karolyi Castle welcomes visitors to several interiors reflecting the design of a local aristocratic residence towards the end of the 19th century. The tourists can see the ball room, a library, a collection of paintings and a permanent

exhibition on the history of local guilds, among others. Some 22 km south of Satu Mare, visitors can still see the remains of the Ardud medieval fortress, erected during the 15th century. In Medieșu Aurit, 23 km east of Satu Mare, there is the Lonyai Castle, a landmark of the Renaissance architecture in Transylvania.

In the former building of the Prefecture, built in 1936, the Satu Mare County Museum hosts collections exploring the prehistoric, Dacian and medieval eras. The museum's ethnography section presents the diverse local culture through items such as traditional peasant furniture, popular dress and jewelry, icons, textiles and ceramics. There is also a history section, with references to the local guilds, ancient books and documents. The museum's collection is largely based on a collection gathered by the local community starting with 1890. Another important museum in the city is the Arts Museum, located in the Vécsey House, a 19th century Neo-Gothic building. Its collection includes works by local artists of the 20th century.

### **Winemaker – Johann and Edgar Brutler**



The winery is a family business. The wines bear the mark of the winemakers **Johann** and **Edgar Brutler** – father and son. The **Brutlers** developed a winemaking style centered on exploiting the taste of the *terroir* and minimizing the technological impact on the wine. Edgar Brutler, the son of Johann Brutler, is responsible for the wine production. Through his studies oenology in Geisenheim and his travels through the world, he has acquired a sound knowledge with various methods.

**Grape Varieties:** Fetească Regală, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Gewürztraminer, Rhine Riesling, Silvaner, Pinot Noir, Blaufränkisch, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Fetească Neagră.



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