KNEWITZ

Sustainability Policy of Weingut Knewitz eGbR – Rheinhessen, Germany

1. Introduction

As a family-run winery in the heart of Rheinhessen, **Weingut Knewitz eGbR** is deeply connected to the region, its people, and the natural environment. For us, sustainability is not a trend but a long-term commitment. Our ambition is to combine ecological responsibility, economic resilience, and social fairness—creating wines that meet the highest quality standards while ensuring a viable future for generations to come.

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2. Sustainable Wine Production

2.1 Soil and Vineyard Management

- Preserving soil fertility through cover crops, compost, and gentle soil cultivation
- Avoiding synthetic herbicides
- Minimising chemical plant protection by favouring biological and mechanical methods
- Enhancing biodiversity through flowering strips, hedgerow maintenance, and habitats for beneficial insects

2.2 Resource Management

- Water-saving irrigation technologies and regular soil moisture monitoring
- Energy efficiency in the cellar and operations through modern equipment and heat recovery systems
- Use of renewable energy sources, particularly photovoltaic systems

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2.3 Cellar Practices

- Gentle grape processing to preserve natural aromas
- Reduced emissions through energy-efficient cooling and fermentation management
- Responsible use of cleaning agents and controlled wastewater cycles

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3. Sustainable Distribution and Packaging

3.1 Regional and Fair Value Chains

- Preference for regional partners, suppliers, and craftspeople to strengthen the local economy
- Transparent, long-term cooperation throughout the value chain

3.2 Environmentally Friendly Packaging

- Use of lightweight glass bottles
- Recycled and recyclable cardboard packaging
- Sustainable label materials
- Evaluation of alternative packaging concepts (e.g., bag-in-box solutions for gastronomy)

3.3 Climate-Conscious Shipping

- Offsetting unavoidable CO_2 emissions via certified climate protection programmes
- Consolidated shipping and efficiently planned logistics
- Minimisation of transport distances wherever possible

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4. Sustainable Human Resources Management

4.1 Fair Working Conditions

- Compliance with all legal standards and industry-specific recommendations for occupational safety and health
- Transparent employment contracts and fair remuneration for all employees

4.2 Training and Development

- Regular training on sustainability, viticulture, cellar techniques, and customer communication
- Support for individual qualifications and career development

4.3 Family-Friendly Structures and Team Culture

- Flexible working hours during peak vineyard and cellar periods
- Promotion of a respectful, appreciative team culture
- Long-term employee retention through a supportive work environment

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5. Commitment to the Region and Society

- Engagement in local initiatives, environmental and cultural projects
- Support for social programmes and events that strengthen the cultural landscape of Rheinhessen
- Transparent communication with customers about sustainable wine production

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6. Continuous Improvement

We regard sustainability as an ongoing process. Each year, we review our goals and measures, refining and expanding them as necessary. Continuous monitoring, internal audits, and feedback from customers and partners ensure transparency and accountability.

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7. Closing Statement

For **Weingut Knewitz eGbR**, sustainability is a fundamental principle guiding every decision—whether in the vineyard, the cellar, administration, or sales. Together, we strive to shape a future-oriented wine industry that harmonises nature, people, and enjoyment.

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