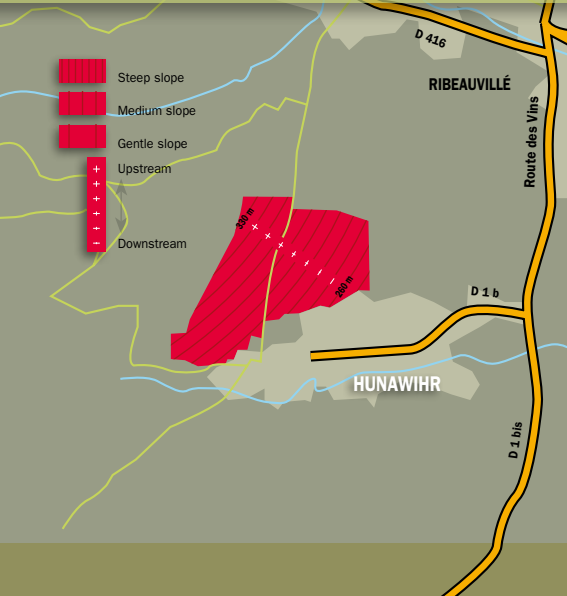


Vineyard
Locality

ROSACKER

HUNAWIHR



The Rosacker lies to the north of Hunawihr, a small village situated between Ribeauvillé and Riquewihr, at an altitude between 260 and 330 metres and exposed east-south-east. In the midst of the Ribeauvillé fracture zone and near to the Vosges main fault, this foothill consists of Upper Muschelkalk and Lettenkohle : Ceratites-limestone (*fossil ammonite*) almost entirely dolomitized, various coloured marls and compact dolomites. The soils are rich in nutrients with calcium and magnesium, clayey and heavy in texture, with limestone and dolomite pebbles. Yet the soil surface is locally aerated by a few siliceous screes of Vosges sandstone.

The 26,18 ha of the Rosacker vineyard are planted mainly with Riesling (50 %) and Gewurztraminer (30 %).

The Rosacker owes its name to the wild rose, which probably grew in abundance around the edge of the vineyard, but the name could also derive from its soil (*Acker*) so heavy that it needed horses (*Ross*) for ploughing. A tax levied on its wine was first mentioned in 1483, and a citizen of Ribeauvillé owned vineyards on the site in 1497.

When young, Riesling Alsace Grand Cru Rosacker has a very forward aroma, characteristically peppery, which rounds out as it ages to reveal the more mineral flavours which are proper to such calcareous marl soils. Gewurztraminer Grand Cru wines have an aroma of roses, sometimes violets, with a hint of pepper, and great finesse. On the palate, they show beautiful harmony and a long finish.