"The south-facing slopes of Monzoccolo in the Terlano DOC area are the location of steep and sunny vineyards at altitudes between 450 and 950 meters above sea-level, where a very exciting Pinot Bianco flourishes. This rich and highly complex wine is impressive for its minerality and considerable capacity for development and thus underscores the full potential of this grape variety."

Rudi Kofler

Wine

- Name: Vorberg
- DOC denomination: Alto Adige Terlano
- Variety: 100% Pinot Bianco
- History: first vintage 1993
- Vintage: 2016
- Bottles produced: 55,000
- Yield: 56 hl/ha
- Quality line: The selections

Production area

- Country: Alto Adige Terlano DOC
- Provenance Alto Adige
- Altitude: 250 - 900 m a. s. l.
- Slope: 5 - 70 %
- Orientation: South - Southwest

Wine character

- Color: sparkling straw yellow
- Smell: The multifaceted aroma of this wine derives from a combination of ripe fruit, including honeydew melon, white peach, pear and Golden Delicious apple, together with the aromas of quince jelly and dried fruit such as pear, orange and pineapple, on the one hand, and graphite notes and a hint of jasmine with a mineral touch on the other.
- Taste: The interplay of fruity aromatic and salty components is repeated on the palate, where the soft and creamy elements gain greater strength in a wine with a lingering, firmly mineral and spicy character on the aftertaste.

Simple pairings

Ideal in combination with a spicy fish soup, mussels in a pepper sauce and spaghetti allo scoglio as well as mussels au gratin, grilled ink fish and poached char; also one of the few good combinations with artichokes alla romana; excellent with mature Pecorino, a mature Parmesan and mostarda, and Tête de Moine.

Detailed pairings

Spiced lobster and grilled white Terlano asparagus with pancetta sauce and roasted pistachio nuts - Giancarlo Perbellini (Ristorante Perbellini)

Cellaring and tasting advice

- Storage advice: Cool storage at constant temperatures, high level of humidity, good ventilation and as little light as possible
- Cellar temperature: 10 - 15 °C
- Minimum maturity: 6 years
- Serving temperature: 12 - 14 °C
- Suggested glass: Burgundy glass
Selection
Vorberg 2016

Vintage: 2016
The 2016 wine-growing year was a challenging one. On some of the sites, the vegetation period began very early, between the end of March and the beginning of April. Fortunately the frost in the night of April 27 did not do any real damage to the vines. At the end of April and in May, the temperatures remained cool until the vines were already flowering. On the early-flowering sites, the vines started flowering on May 25. From May to August, precipitation was at above-average levels. A change in the weather in the middle of August was a great relief to the vintners. On September 6, we were able to begin the harvest, which was accompanied by perfect autumn weather and warm and dry days.

Harvest date
06 September 2016
Rainfall
815.8 mm
Hours of sunshine
1969
Temperature
12.2 °C

Wine making procedure
• Description: Manual harvest and selection of the grapes; gentle whole cluster pressing and clarification of the must by natural sedimentation; slow fermentation at a controlled temperature in big oak barrels (30 hl); malolactic fermentation and aging on the lees in traditional wooden barrels for 12 months.

Soil
The vineyards are located at between 250 and 900 meters above sea-level on a bed of striking red porphyry, an igneous rock with large mineral inclusions known as quartz porphyry in geological terminology. This terroir is home to salty wines with a fine tension to intrigue the palate plus outstanding longevity. The south-facing slopes receive maximum sunshine. Under these almost Mediterranean conditions, a wide range of grape varieties flourish, while in Terlano itself various Mediterranean plants like olive, pomegranate, cypress and almond trees are to be found. The warm days and cool nights of the ripening period are the key to a high sugar content, intensive aromatics and the typical Alpine freshness of the wines.
In addition to “Alto Adige DOC” as the geographic designation of origin for Alto Adige, the wines are additionally labeled “Terlano” in recognition of the specific climatic and geological character of the terroir. The term “Terlaner classico” is used for those grape varieties that grow in the traditional wine-growing area between Andriano, Nalles and Terlano.
Climate

The high peaks of the main Alpine chain protect South Tyrol from the Atlantic winds and cold northerlies, while the region benefits from the Mediterranean climate from the south. That explains the pronounced differences between day- and night-time temperatures, which are the key to full maturity and elegant wines.

To the south, a number of mountain massifs like the Adamello also have a protective function. As a result, annual precipitation is only about one-third of the average for the southern Alpine foothills, and the number of hours of sunshine is higher. The climatic conditions are not unlike those to be found in wine-growing areas like the Swiss Canton Valais.

When the sun rises behind the mountains east of Terlano on one of the year’s 300 sunny days, it is already high in the sky as the wine-growing area has a westerly to southwesterly exposure. The lower atmospheric density permits more direct solar irradiation with less diffuse sunlight. That increases the difference between the slopes on the sunny and shady sides of the valley.

Microclimate in Terlano
Continental climate (Cfa Köppen-Geiger)

- Annual sunshine hours: ø 2135
- Maximum temperatures: 38,2 °C
- Average temperatures: 12,9 °C
- Minimum temperatures: -10,7°C
- Annual precipitation: ø 558 mm
- Average global radiation: 150,1 W/m²
- Winds:
  - North foehn: cool and dry down-slope wind
  - Ora: valley wind system from the south, bringing in air from the Po Valley