



Flavoured wine-based beverage  
Our own production

### ... VinMET\*- Coffee - ART ...

A fascinating new creation

Select barrique red wine  
aged in Franconian oak barrels  
gently simmered

with selected fresh honey and herbs  
delicate, delectable flavour  
with the finest Arabica coffee

No artificial flavourings, no preservatives, no added water

Pure indulgence - romantic feelings

**"HENNE GENSFLEISCH ZUR LADEN"**

JOHANNES GUTENBERG - GENIUS AND VISIONARY

Secret art and twilight hours

*Ennelin von der Iserin Thüre*

\* Sold only in decorative *Rustika* black bottles to protect contents from light - 0.5 litres

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*Henne* Gensfleisch was born in Mainz on the Gutenberg estate around the year 1400, the third child, after Friele and Else/Patze, to the patrician Friele Gensfleisch and his wife Else. An admission entry from the university in Erfurt for 1419/1420 suggests that a certain *Johannes de Alta Villa* studied grammar, rhetoric, dialectics and mathematics there and soon received his *Baccalaureus*. Only incomplete biographical details are available.

Henne's father died in 1419. In 1424, Henne Gensfleisch's name was changed to hide his patrician heritage, as patricians were not allowed to practise a trade. Thus, a short time later a certain Johannes Gutenberg was working as a talented goldsmith. The Gensfleisch family left Mainz in 1428, along with 117 other patrician families, in protest against the tax laws there. They moved to Eltville (Altavilla), Else's home, where she passed away in 1433.

Gutenberg lived in the parish of St Arbogast, just outside Strasbourg, from 1434 to 1444. There he met the love of his life, a burgher's daughter, *Ennelin von der Iserin Thüre*. However, from 1436 to 1437, Johannes found himself in a church court because Ennelin had accused him of breaking his promise to marry her. There is no record of the verdict in the case. It must have been during this time that Conrad Saspach, on Gutenberg's order, produced the first printing press. Entries in the Helbeling customs books, a tax register for the city of Strasbourg, indicate that Gutenberg's status at that time was that of independent master who did not belong to a guild.

Records tell of artistic, commercial and manual skills. As a goldsmith, Johannes was involved in a center for training and production that made 'pilgrimage mirrors' for the great pilgrimage to Aachen in 1440. Other documents mention a further business and the 'secret art' of Johann Gutenberg, which referred to a press in the manner of a wine press, printing materials and printing experiments. During his time in Strasbourg, Gutenberg became determined to print a bible, a typographical masterpiece, that could be made available to many thousands of people. He became restless and unsettled, driven by the idea of such an invention. In 1442 he took out a loan of 80 pounds of Strasbourg denarii from the St. Thomas Monastery. Gutenberg was never able to pay back his loans. The alloys he worked on cost a fortune, and he was often involved in court cases, even with the imperial court in Rottweil. His visions mesmerized him. In 1448 he returned to Mainz and took out another loan for 150 guilders, which he also invested in his printing invention. Before 1450 he already printed a *Poem of the world court* in German. His greatest mistake in all these years was, no doubt, that he never placed his name under his own works. That, among other things, was his undoing regarding his B42, or 42-line bible. In 1450 the lawyer Johannes Fust of Mainz lent Gutenberg 800 guilders, and two years later the same amount. Thus Gutenberg was able, with 15 assistants and after three years of work setting the type and printing on 6 presses, to complete the 42-line Latin bible in 1455. Of the 180 to 200 copies, 30 were on vellum and the rest on mould made paper. The first copies were offered at the Imperial Assembly in Frankfurt by a *vir mirabilis*, a wondrous man, perhaps by Gutenberg himself.

In the meantime, Fust demanded payment of 2020 guilders, the value of a street with 25 homes... We will never know whether the brilliant visionary Johannes Gutenberg ever married his sweetheart Ennelin—too little of his biography has been handed down to us.

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