

Lothar Kettern, Fio 2021 Riesling "Teppo"

WineWise Code	GLK-TEP21
Country	Germany
Region	Mosel
Color/Style	White
Destemming	None
Fermentation Vessel	Barrel
Aging Vessel	100% Cask
Aging Duration (months)	12-15 months
Filtered?	Yes
Fining Agents	None
Yeast Protocol	Spontaneous
Malolactic Conversion	Yes
Added Sulfur	Yes, 98 mg/L
Varieties	100% Riesling
Residual Sugar	2.1
ABV	12
Acidity	6.7
Closure	Natural Cork
Annual Production	2300 bottles
Certified Vegan	No
Other Wine Facts	2021 is a very classic Mosel vintage. A good balance between acidity, fruit and extract.
Primary Vineyard Name	From several parcels from the Piesporter Goldtröpfchen. This is one of the vineyards that produces the high-quality riesling wines in the world. The name refers to the quality and value of the wine, which is characterized by the site's south facing exposure and the special slate-soil terroir.
Soil Types	Schist
Elevation (meters)	100-180
Vine Age	30
Yields (hl/ha)	50
Harvest Method	Hand-harvested
Additional Harvest Notes	100% healthy grapes, more cooler year

WineWise Notes:

An object lesson in how to do "Natural Wine" right in the Mosel, in the sense that it declaims its origins much more powerfully than its technique. Classic green-tinged Mosel colour and a big smoky nose. The wine spent 36 months on the lees, giving it a beautiful silky balance. Filigree and focused, especially in the landmark 2021 vintage.

WineWise Notes on Producer:

Our favorite way to meet new producers is to have them recommended by our friends. So when Michi Moosbrugger of Schloss Gobelsburg said that he knew this "crazy guy in the Mosel" making great wines, our ears pricked up. The connection between them is famed Douro producer Dirk Neepoort, whose son Daniel lived with the Kettern family in Piesport for four vintages, followed now by his brother Marco. Together they have a project called Fio, making "Natural Wines" that challenge the old order and which we are now bringing in for the first time. Under the Kettern label, they offer the tried and true classics. In the 2020 Gault Millau Guide, Fio was anointed "Discovery of the Year" and both estates were promoted to 3.5 and 3 stars respectively. Schildknecht has also reviewed the wines most favorably, so we have a tiger by the tail, and you read about it here first!

The estate was founded in the 1950's by Lothar, but son Philipp has been in charge since 2009. To describe him as iconoclastic is an understatement. There is a paradox at work in Piesport which is that the easy-to-cultivate but inferior flatland vineyards on one side of the river cost much more than the fabled steep slopes of the Goldtröpfchen bowl on the other. But Philipp is a maniac for quality, so he traded almost all the land bought by his father for more challenging but infinitely more rewarding parcels in the Goldtröpfchen, including some in the great Falkenberg portion and other higher parts whose cooler micro-climates accord better with his aims.

In the last year, he has expanded into Leiwen, buying parcels in the great Josefsberg vineyard, as well as increasing his holdings in Piesport. He has converted the estate to something approaching organic viticulture, while pushing the envelope with Fio and its low-sulphur wines. He has also converted most of his production to dry and off-dry wines, while maintaining the noble tradition of classically sweet Mosels to the manner born. In short, he offers us something of everything – bone



Notes from the Producer:

A wonderful dry wine with a beautiful grip, is packed with citrus fruits and a really well integrated acid.



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