



THE ERDENER TREPPCHEN VINEYARD

(The Little Staircase of Erden)

The Erdener Treppchen (pronounced AIR-din-er TREP-shen) vineyard is so steep that long ago stone steps (“Treppchen”) were built into the hillside to enable workers to reach the vines. The iron-rich, red slate soil produces wines that are muscular and complex, with an intense mineral finish. They are delicious to drink as young wines, but also benefit greatly from a few years in the bottle to develop fully.

ERDENER TREPPCHEN RIESLING SPÄTLESE

The Spätlese (“late harvest”) designation means the grapes get a week or two of extra hang time for higher ripeness and deeper flavors than Kabinett. This Spätlese, from a truly “grand cru” vineyard in the village of Erden is a fruit-driven Riesling that combines extraordinary concentration and length with a bracing minerality.

VINEYARD CLASSIFICATION:

Rated “First Vineyard” (“Erste Lage”) in the 1868 Prussian classification of the Mosel, and rated “Great First-Class Vineyard” in the *Wine Atlas of Germany* by Hugh Johnson & Stuart Pigott (1995).

PRAISE FROM THE PRESS:

“Fresh apricots and a hint of honey though still very fresh smelling. Sweet and essence of lemon and apricots on the palate. Quite viscous and intensely tangy finish. Lovely balance.” 17/20 — *JancisRobinson.com*

KEY POINTS:

- A limited-production, single-vineyard Riesling from Ernst Loosen, *Decanter* magazine’s 2005 Man of the Year.
- Extremely pure, unoaked flavors and low alcohol make it ideal for today’s fresher, more vibrant cuisine.