

2010 Vertigo 'TRKN' Riesling



Our Adelaide Hills 'dry' Riesling experience dates back over a decade. Peter Leske made fine, dry, crisp Riesling under the Nepenthe label for many years from 1998, and the wines received considerable critical acclaim (*which is hardly surprising given his earlier seven vintages with Jeff Grosset in the Clare Valley; Peter likes to think that he learnt something from the Master...!*).

Therefore, while the off-dry '25GR' was the style that we first chose for the Vertigo label, we could not resist too long making a bone-dry wine in the style for which South Australia is justifiably famous. And so the 'TRKN' was born in 2009.

Here is our 2010 example. It is again made from the same batch of fruit as the '25GR', but with subtle differences. Again, we chose to retain a small proportion of grape solids to provide some complexity and weight to the TRKN, and a slightly different fermentation regime is followed. But as its partner, the 25GR, the emphasis is on the pure fruit character and fine acid structure of the very cool, mature vineyard source.

The aromatics are quite different to the 25GR: whereas that wine shows distinct sweet, musky florals, the TRKN is all apple blossom and fresh lime juice (which is not the same as the much-loved "Bickford's lime" of many SA Rieslings, which hark from ever-so-slightly warmer climes). There are also hints of ginger and jasmine flowers.

It is undeniably a very fine, almost lean wine, but one with extraordinary length of flavour. The acid core is the dominant feature, but it is never hard or grippy, as bedevils some high acid whites. We think that it has the quintessential 'mineral' palate... despite our caution in using this over-used and poorly understood term. But it is completely appropriate here: the wine is mouth-watering, and reminiscent of citrus pith.

Again, we made very little TRKN, and remind people that it won't last long. Enjoy it as an *aperitif*, with good salty feta and olives, or fresh oysters. It'll handle a good chill, but don't overdo it, or it will take a while to show its best.

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➤ **Recommended retail: \$26.00**

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