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Eva Fricke Lorcher Schlossberg Riesling 2014

17

Usually the less dry of Eva Fricke's two grands crus, from 60-year-old vines on slate and quartzite with yields as low as 35 hl/ha. Broad and winning on the nose but quite fragile and delicate. Very refined with great energy and a light touch. This might be one of those wines in which people saw a stereotypically feminine touch. Masses of acidity. But this could probably be drunk as a particularly vivacious aperitif rather than demanding food. Admirable persistence. Drink 2016-2026.

Eva Fricke Lorcher Schlossberg Riesling Spätlese 2014

17

100% healthy grapes in 2014 (compared with Krone).

Racy and rich with some talcum powder notes and real finesse. The acidity is so high that the sweetness is only just perceptible. But this is less tense than the trocken version. Drink 2018-2026.

Eva Fricke Lorch Riesling trocken 2014

17

Lower Rheingau with slate and quartzite. Very different from the Kiedrich wine - more obviously mineral rather than fruit and veg. Excellent extract, structure and tension. This one should run and run. Very precise indeed. Exciting already but it will surely open out. Super-refreshing and juicy. Drink 2015-2021.

Eva Fricke Lorchhäuser Seligmacher Riesling 2014

17

This is Eva Fricke's premier cru and as such is cork-stoppered rather than the village wines that are screwcapped. Pale greenish straw with a deeper colour than the village wines. Very clean, delineated and already readable. Such purity but maybe not a very long-term wine. An admirable spread of fruit and flower flavours on the nose and palate. Neat finish. Great charm. Notable structure, almost chalkiness, on the finish. Drink 2016-2021.

Eva Fricke Lorcher Krone Riesling trocken 2014

16.5+

This is the driest of Eva Fricke's grands crus made from 15-year-old vines grown with yields of only about 35 hl/ha on rocky slate and quartzite. Quite a weight of intensity of fruit but pretty austere and uncompromising at the moment. Bone dry and with great integrity. But this demands patience. Lots to chew on and real pungency on the finish. A food wine. Drink 2018-2028.

Eva Fricke, Riesling trocken 2014

16.5

Notably intense, winning nose, already quite developed with real spice - pimento? - and structure on the palate. Most impressive quality for an estate Riesling. Great tingle on the finish. Drink 2015-2018.

Eva Fricke Kiedricher Riesling trocken 2014

16

Upper Rheingau with sandy loess, loam, quartzite and clay. Floral and blossomy on the nose. Mouth filling with marked acidity. Still quite youthful. Grapefruit-peel sensation. Drink 2016-2020.

Eva Fricke Lorch Off Dry Riesling 2014

16

This feinherb is labelled Off Dry in big letters on the front label. Broad and open with some blossom that on the nose almost recalls the Kiedrich trocken more than the Lorch trocken from this producer, but on the palate the acidity is quite marked. A tad sweet and sour. Drink 2016-2019.