AUGUST KESSELER



AUGUST KESSELER, OWNER

August Kesseler was born in 1958 and raised in Assmannshausen, a famous place for Pinot Noir in the “old world” since Benedictine monks brought the wine clones from Clos de Vougeot in France and started winegrowing in the Rheingau.

As a child, he helped in the vineyard and in the wine cellar and familiarized himself with the work in the winery. In 1977, at the age of just 19 years old, he took over the winery after the early death of his parents. He gradually enlarged and improved the family business, transforming it into one of the best Pinot Noir producers in the wine industry.

From 1979-1983, he studied Oenology at the University of Geisenheim. Until the early 1990s, he devoted himself exclusively to Pinot Noir. Even today he is considered a red wine icon in Germany, a pioneer who helped German Pinot Noir regain its international reputation. August Kesseler is the only German member of the well-known IPNA, based in Oregon.

Today, the winery cultivates 82 acres of vines in the best locations of the Rheingau. It has become well-known beyond the borders of Germany, not only for its exceptional Pinot Noirs but also for its filigreed and complex Rieslings.

August learned how to work with Riesling in the early 1990s, when he was appointed managing director of Schloss Reinhartshausen estate, a formerly famous but sleepy winery with 225 acres of Riesling vines, which he brought back to the top echelon of the Rheingau in just a few years.

Early in 2017, he appointed Simon Batarseh and Daniel Steinle as his successors. Both now run as managing directors of the winery. August can now focus even more on winemaking and on the customers. His passion is working with young people. He appreciates the exchange between modernity and tradition, which is for him the best guarantor for sustainable success and innovation within a company.