Experiencing the hospitality of traditional wine makers

The family-owned vineyard Espenhof is more than a manufacturer of great wines, it also houses a restaurant and a hotel where the Espenschied family has created the ideal surroundings for fine dining and wine tasting.

TEXT: JESSICA HOLZHAUSEN

The wine estate Espenhof in Flonheim, near Frankfurt/Main, is a family-led enterprise with origins in the 17th century when an ancestor of today's owners settled in Flonheim. Today, Heike and Wilfried Espenschied lead a dedicated team of vintners, chefs and gastronomy specialists – among them their children Lena Marie and Nico.

Nico Espenschied decided to become a vintner shortly after finishing school – the decision came as a joyful surprise for his parents who had always guessed that Nico would search an academic career. Instead he learned wine making from the bottom up. Visiting Burgundy, California and the Burgenland, Nico developed something as important as knowledge: a gut for good wine and taste, which is crucial in his daily work. In 2015 he was named one of the best 100 young vintners by the German business magazine Handelsblatt. His wife Laura discovered her passion for winemaking in Perth, Australia, and met Nico when studying oenology. They now both have a little son.

Working with a dedicated family team has its benefits: all Espenhof products are made with heart and soul and in close proximity to nature – something mirrored for example in the wooden furniture in the Espenhof country hotel. The restaurant's head chef Tobias Datow creates dishes perfectly befitting Espenhof wines: seasonal menus of game or fish originating in regional traditions.

www.espenhof.de

SUBSCRIBE TO DISCOVER GERMANY

Sign up to a year's subscription and you will receive each new issue of Discover Germany through your letterbox.

The price for 12 issues is £40.00 (Outside UK £75.00)

Name:
Address:

Postcode________ Country
Phone________ Email
Occupation________ Nationality________ Age (optional)

☐ Tick here if you do not wish to receive newsletters from Scan Group.

Return with payment by cheque to: Scan Group, 15B Bell Yard Mews, Bermondsey Street, London SE1 3TY, United Kingdom or pay online at www.discovergermany.com