



FAMILY WINERY TEMENT

Their wines belong to the upper league – nationally and internationally. As pioneers of contemporary winemaking, the family winery knows precisely how to emphasize the diversity and uniqueness of their home, Southern Styria.

100 hectares of vineyards, 15 sites, eight grape varieties, two countries, one family.

Surrounded by the Zieregg vineyard, the winery offers an incredible view of vineyards and hills in Southern Styria and neighboring Slovenia. The family works on both sides of the border with about 100 hectares of vineyards. When Manfred Tement took over the winery from his father in 1976, it counted only three hectares.

"Initially, you think you can change things in the cellar. In the end, you have to learn that the only thing you can do is preserve what comes in from the vineyards." – Manfred Tement

Manfred Tement made the winery one of the most renowned wineries in Austria while simultaneously putting the wine region on the map internationally. He set new standards for the wines of Styria, above all for Sauvignon Blanc, which has been grown by the family since 1959 in iconic sites such as Zieregg (also Ciringa) and Grassnitzberg Riff. The grape has been the leading grape variety for the winery over the past four decades. Today about two-thirds of the vineyards are planted with it.

Two characters, one family

A vineyard situated very high on a steep slope oriented towards the South and embedded in the green hills of Southern Styria. The story of the family Tement started with the Zieregg on the Austrian side of the border, but it continued on the Slovenian parts.

By now, the sons Armin and Stefan and daughter-in-law Monika work hand in hand with the parents. Together they produce 98% white wine. Zweigelt and Pinot Noir complement the grape variety selection.

"To encourage my sons is important- it's the only way to find the road, where persistence goes hand in hand with change." – Manfred Tement





The family's history continues to be written with each harvest, but the love for wine and the mutual confession to unconditional quality stays the same. The grapes are harvested by hand at the perfect time, then spontaneously fermented. The vinification and additional storing in the cellar happen separately in small parts, each vineyard, and parcel for itself.

This shared understanding of wine also shows in the cooperation and solidarity the family shows for one another. They discuss, work hand in hand in the vineyards and cellar, and make decisions together.

"We act in concert. That's how and why we can dare new things from time to time." – Monika Tement

This requirement and the exceptional vineyard sites of Southern Styria together create wines full of character, agility, compactness, and precise depth. At the same time, it's the motor driving the family to reassess the potential of sites yearly and carve out the uniqueness of every single vineyard so that every wine can scream its unique heritage into the world.

"Producing inartificial wines is showcasing their rough edges. That offers a unique taste." -Armin Tement

The winery has been part of the Demeter association since 2022 and is also a respekt-BIODYN group member – for Armin and Stefan Tement, that was the next logical step after converting to organic farming. For the family, winemaking within a circular economy means more than biodiversity and sustainability. It's the biodynamic preservation of the natural balance at the winery, which is – with all the strict requirements – a challenging and meaningful task.

"We are not an island; we have our eyes and ears wide open. We think about how the world develops and what we can contribute to make it a better place." -Stefan Tement

There are even more future-oriented visions and ideas. One of the most significant changes recently was the beginning of extensive construction at the winery—building new storage to give the wines even more time to ripen.

About the diversity and beauty of the region

Additionally, the family enriches the region with two gastronomical companies and the Winzarei, with which Heidi Tement opens up the hilly area of vineyards for guests—a chance to experience the diversity and vast beauty of the Tements home.

The houses - situated on four different vineyards - showcase a distinctive characteristic, just as the unique sites they are built on.

"It's an invitation to dive into this region that gave us so much, which we would never want to leave. For generations, we have been living and working here. Not a day has gone by without us being grateful for our home." -Heidi Tement







Domaine Ciringa

Fosilni Breg is a mountain containing pure coralline limestone. On top of the meager subsoil, you can find a layer of marlstone rich in clay and loose brown soil (cambisol). In 2004 the family started to expand their idea of wine on the Slovenian side of their most famous site Zieregg. Since then, Domaine Ciringa has been part of the family. The vines planted there are a bit younger than on the Austrian side, but the south-western orientation and the higher portion of humus in the soil give the wine a distinctive note. With its puristic, earthy wines, Ciringa can look eye to eye with its bigger brother.

Facts

Foundation:	1959 by Josef and Edina Tement
Family:	Manfred Tement (Owner, Vineyards), Armin Tement (Cellarmaster, Vineyards), Stefan Tement (Cellarmaster, biodynamic agriculture), Monika Tement (Administration), Heidi Tement (Winzarei)
Vineyards:	80 ha on the Styrian and 20 ha on the Slovenian side
Iconic sites:	Zieregg, Grassnitzberg Riff and Ciringa
Most important grape variety:	Sauvignon Blanc
Vineyard Work:	Manual labor and harvest, biodynamic agriculture
Cellar Work:	Spontaneous fermentation and slow, individual storage and ripening on fine lees
Certification:	Biodynamic (Demeter & respekt-BIODYN)
Single vineyard sites Austria:	Ried Zieregg, Ried Zieregg Steilriegel, Ried Zieregg Kår, Ried Zieregg Kapelle, Ried Grassnitzberg Riff, Ried Wielitschberg, Ried Sulz, Ried Ottenberg Veitlhansl, Ried Rossberg K, Ried Steinbach Fürst, Ried Sernau König, Ried Hochkittenberg, Ried Kriewetz, Ried Sulz Brunnenhaus
Single vineyard sites Slovenia: Ried Ciringa	
Gastronomy:	Magnothek & Wirtshaus am Zieregg, Die Weinbank in Ehrenhausen
Accommodation:	Winzarei



Founding member of the Association of Styrian Terroir & Classic Wineries