



# PIVNICA ČAJKOV

Wines from under the Sitno Volcano

Landscape of traditions and contrasts on the northern border of Central Europe

## Frankovka 2023 | Frankovka Modrá (Blaufränkisch) | Red

You like mysteries that much? – Yeah. You're a mystery. I like you – very much.

Frankovka is the most characteristic red variety of the old Habsburg monarchy, capable of incredible purity and authenticity. And also versatility, which is why, as a complement to our signature Empress, a structured and age-worthy Reserve wine, I also created this lighter and more youthful, "every-day" version.

Made with lighter extraction and less barrel aging, this Frankovka represents the perfect by-the-glass wine: beautiful fruit intensity, nice acidity and smooth tannins. My colleague Jano Záborský calls it wild beauty – not wild in a funky sense, just charmingly vivid, energetic and ethereal. A true Blue Velvet, ready to wrap you in its silky mystery and soft starry shine...



**Vineyard:** Stará Hora (northern part), Čajkov

**Total surface:** 2 Ha | **Altitude:** 300m ASL | **Aspect:** South | **Farming:** certified organic

**Soil:** Red rhyolite – crystallised magma, hard and erosion-resistant

**Year planted:** 2009 | **Density of plantation:** 5500 vines/ha | **Rootstock:** SO4

**Trellising system:** Vertical Shoot Positioned, single Guyot pruning | **Yield:** approx. 1kg/plant

### Harvest & Winemaking

End of September 2023. Harvested by hand into small crates (18-20 kg) in order to keep the grapes as intact as possible.

Part of the grapes (about 20%) are kept as whole bunches, put on the bottom of the vat and covered with destemmed berries that were gently crushed. Spontaneously primary fermented in these open-top vats, with gentle punch-downs for 12–13 days, then the free-run juice was racked into old barrels, where it finishes the fermentations and then ages on its fine lees in the stable temperature of our historical underground cellar, for nearly 2 years. Bottled in August 2025. Unfined, unfiltered, no additives except for 15ppm of sulphur added at bottling. 13% ABV

### Aromas, Flavours & Indulgent Pairings

Intense fruity notes of red and dark berries, a touch of sweet spice, lighter mellow tannins and nice acidity.

Pairing-wise, one could really enjoy it with a good home-made liver paté, or, more daringly, a not too sweet dessert such as mulberry dumplings. But in all honesty, the wine is just great without anything – just pour yourself a glass and enjoy it basking in the crisp, golden light of late summer (and beyond)...