



PIVNICA ČAJKOV

Wines from under the Sitno Volcano

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



Princess 2021 | Pesecká Leánka | White

Alice in Wonderland's breakfast wine

Princess in the glass, Amazon in the vineyard: Leánka (aka Fetească regală) is the true spirit animal (grape) of our region, a delicious yet reliable companion ready to make your day brighter come rain or come shine.

In this “morning version”, we use Leánka from the lower part of our beloved Stará Hora plot, where the soil is more fertile and hence perfect for a lighter style of wine. We treat its delicate grapes to a gentle skin contact; the free run juice then rests undisturbed on its lees, resulting in an extra fresh white with light bubbly lift. Like a Princess, *quoi*: a graceful little rascal that can be all dainty and cultured while already secretly plotting her next mischief and giggling about it. Take a sip and you're in on the joke with her, too...

Vineyard: Stará Hora (southern part with thicker layer of fertile topsoil), Čajkov

Total surface: 2 Ha | **Altitude:** 200m ASL | **Aspect:** South | **Farming:** certified organic

Soil: Red rhyolite (crystallised magma), tuff and erosion-born topsoil

Year planted: 2009 | **Density of plantation:** 5500 vines/ha | **Rootstock:** T5C

Trellising system: Vertical Shoot Positioned, single Guyot pruning | **Yield:** approx. 1,5 kg/plant

Harvest & Winemaking

Mid-September – the 2021 vintage had colder nights, meaning the grapes retained high acidity for longer than usual, resulting in a later harvest and richer colour and character.

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

The grapes are gently destemmed, crushed and then macerated skins for 3 days. The free run juice is then moved into stainless steel tanks (no press) and spontaneously fermented for ~3 weeks. It remains on its fine lees in the same tank for 6 months, no manipulation, racking or batonnage in order to preserve the wine's freshness and slight natural CO₂ that emphasises the grape's fruit and liveliness. Unfined, unfiltered, no additives except for 15ppm of sulphur added at bottling. 11,5% ABV

Aromas, Flavours & Indulgent Pairings

Delicate fruity aromas that remind you of snacking on homemade apricot pie during a picnic in the middle of an orchard in full spring bloom. Fun light fizz and vivid acidity, ending on mineral notes of its volcanic terroir – this wine is the embodiment of my belief that even easy-drinking, “breakfast style” wines shouldn't be basic, but rather show the region's DNA, albeit in a more light-headed way. The 2021 shows an extra depth due to its balanced vintage and later pick. Should you decide to drink it with something, take my grandfather's advice: walnuts & toasted sourdough + Princess are an awesome snack whenever you're a little hungry. The ubiquitous “grilled fish, poultry and light veggie dishes or salads” also work miraculously here.