



PIVNICA ČAJKOV

Wines from under the Sitno Volcano

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

Princess 2022 | Pesecká Leánka | White

Alice in Wonderland's breakfast wine

Princess in the glass, Amazon in the vineyard: Pesecká 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 gentle skin contact; the free-run juice then rests undisturbed on its lees, resulting in an extra fresh white with a 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 (the southern part with a 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. 1,8 kg/plant

Harvest & Winemaking

August 23–28 – the 2022 vintage was extremely hot, so the grapes needed to be picked early, to keep acidity and light body. 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 left on skins overnight. The free-run juice is then moved into stainless steel tanks (no press) and spontaneously fermented until the end of October. It remained on its fine lees in the same tank until the end of January 2023. No manipulation, racking, or batonnage in order to preserve the wine's freshness and slight natural CO₂ that emphasises the grape's typical fruit and liveliness. Unfined, unfiltered, no additives except for 25ppm of sulphur added at bottling. 11% ABV

Aromas, Flavours & Indulgent Pairings

Princess 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. Delicate fruity aromas remind you of having a picnic in the middle of an orchard in full spring. Fun light fizz and vivid acidity, ending on a richer vintage note of grandma's apricot tart, freshly taken out of the oven. (A perfect match for this wine by the way, when you're light on the sugar.) The ubiquitous “grilled fish, poultry and light veggie dishes or salads” also work miraculously here.