

WINEMAKER OF THE WINEMAKERS

 $-\!\!\!-$ From the best ones for the top one $-\!\!\!-$

2021

1550

IN 2021 THE BEST 50 WINEMAKERS OF THE CARPATHIAN BASIN VOTE INTO THE IMMORTALS THE 15TH WINEMAKER.



PROLOGUE

People say that a prize turns truly great and precious not because of those who award it, but rather because of those who are nominated for it and who receive it! This is the element where the uniqueness and specialness of the Winemaker of the Winemakers prize is manifested, as the nominees themselves decide about the final winner. The initiative that started in 2007 has come to an important stage, because this year celebrates the 15th anniversary of the winemakers' selecting the winner from among themselves. Nowadays it is not easy to be a winemaker. The world that we have to live in now is not about polishing a nearly perfect artwork since winemakers cannot meet their vitalizing medium, the enthusiastic community of wine lovers. We all strive for survival but even in this fight we should never forget that wine, viniculture and winemaking is a segment of the world that we desire to get back to. In the Ministry of Agriculture we are aware of it and therefore we have provided major subsidies to get through the difficulties of 2020.

Despite the hardships we should turn to the future with hope – and we can see that this is what winemakers do, too. In addition to the crisis management measures the agricultural administration also provides a significant amount of subsidies each in the magnitude of billions for modernizing plantations, investing into winemaking, promoting wine and within that making the wine regions more known to people.

At the same time working closely together with the representatives of producers we established legal regulations of wine on a new fundament making sure that the producers need to spend the least possible time with administration. There is a tremendous interest at the tender applications; winemakers also have trust in the future and in successful recovery. There is one reason to be extremely happy about: the sector recognised that even in the hardest times they have to do something for their own success, and they raised earmarked funds to make sure that the future biological and market fundaments are laid down.

While thanking for the persevering work of the winemakers may I wish that they continue to carry out valuable activities in the future with their dedicated enthusiasm!

DR. ISTVÁN NAGY

Minister of Agriculture



WINEMAKER OF THE WINEMAKERS 15

The Winemaker of the Winemakers is a prize of high prestige, awarded by the best to the very best. The prize was established by Pál Rókusfalvy in Etyek in 2007 for the best 50 winemakers of the Carpathian Basin. Though the 15 years that have passed since its foundation cannot be called a historical perspective yet, the recognition has come a long way since then and its genuineness and timeless values are unquestionable.

BUT WHAT IS THE ESSENCE OF THE WINEMAKER OF THE WINEMAKERS. WHERE IS ITS VALUE, PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION AND CREDIBILITY IMPLIED? WHO CAN BECOME THE WINEMAKER OF THE WINEMAKERS?

The most important rule is that instead of organizations or an external jury the winemakers themselves appoint and choose the winner. By definition the Winemaker of the Winemakers can be the person who has achieved outstanding professional results and is nominated for the best 50 winemakers by the winners of the previous years. These 50 nominees have the voting right to choose the winner by two rounds of voting. This recognition has no financial reward attached and one get the award once in a lifetime.

BUT WHO ARE THOSE WHO HAVE THEIR PLACES IN THE HALL OF FAME. WHO ARE THE WINEMAKERS OF THE WINEMAKERS? ON THE NEXT PAGES THEY WILL BE INTRODUCED BUT HERE IS THE LIST OF THE NAMES:

It is important to note that in addition to awarding the highest professional recognition the Winemaker of the Winemakers is also in the forefront in social responsibility. Each year the Friend of the Winemakers, a special civil prize is also awarded, the Promenade of Stars is being developed as an efficient touristic tool in order to promote culture and the country image and they also finance the Future Winemaker Scholarship with the goal to help young talents to learn abroad and gain international experience.

VINUM PRAEMIUM FOUNDATION AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Apart from having a simple appointing and election procedure another guarantee of the genuineness of the prize is that the founder "stepped back" not to have any influence whatsoever on the awarding of the recognition and entrusted the Vinum Praemium Foundation to have the control over the prize.

This foundation is in charge of overseeing the process of putting up candidates and the voting process, the orderly procedure and documentation, the operation of the Future Winemaker Scholarship (from the application procedure, signing contracts for scholarships, reporting through financing), and of course, responsible for the regular legal and financial operations. The Board of Trustees of the Foundation is composed of experts who do not only possess proper technical expertise but also comprehend and feel the significance of the goals and tasks of the grape and wine sector.

CHAIRMAN OF THE **BOARD OF TRUSTEES** OF THE FOUNDATION



DR. BENCE PRÓNAY

Lawyer, internationally renown expert lawyer who among other fields is an outstanding expert of wine law. Apart from being the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Vinum Praemium Foundation he is the co-organizer of the Wine Conference launched in 2013 and that of the Sparkling Wine Conference convened in 2019 for the first time.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE FOUNDATION



BALÁZS CSAPODY

One of the most dominant persons in Hungarian gastronomy who has world of wine and gastronomy as a result of his organizational and practitioner role in catering



KÁROLY GERENDAI

Organizer of culture, businessman - He is the founder of Sziget an international outlook on the Festival, and we can say that Costes, the first Michelin star restaurant in Hungary, also belongs to his name, just like Costes Downtown which has a star as well. The developement of the Hungarian gastronomy is very dear to his heart, that is why he organized "Gourmet Festival" and was the main patron of "Pannon" Bormustra".







THE FUTURE WINEMAKER

The Future Winemaker Scholarship Program is probably the most important societal activity of the Vinum Praemium Foundation in charge of the Winemaker of the Winemakers. Its objective is to provide an opportunity for talented and hard working students specializing in viticulture and viniculture to get access to local and international experience. Applicants shall submit one single dissertation based on certain criteria and the winner selected by the technical committee will get a 1 million HUF scholarship for a 6 months long internship abroad and for a harvest in Hungary. So far 4 young students have won this scholarship, already two of them have been back from their internships abroad one had the chance to get a taste of harvesting work in California in the Napa Valley, the other student in New-Zeeland.



Sándor László Tóth in Napa Valley. Sándor László Tóth

The winner of the Future Winemaker scholarship program:

Szonja Novák taking over her Future Winemaker scholarship.

The winner of the Future Winemaker scholarship program:

Dorottya Homoky taking over her scholarship and on her internship in New-Zeeland

FRIEND OF THE WINEMAKERS

Good wine needs no bush as the proverb says and surely everyone can feel the truth implied in it. However, it is also easy to recognize the value of being active in representing a cultural value order truthfully which simultaneously can rise the prestige of outstanding results.

The special prize of the Friend of Winemakers is awarded every year by the 50 best Hungarian winemakers to one person who represents the interests of the winemakers on an exceptional level. In addition to the recognition, the 50 winemakers also donate the winner one bottle of wine each as a gift and a key to their wine cellars symbolizing that the doors of the winemakers' cellars shall always stay open for the Friends of the Winemakers.





LÁSZLÓ ALKONYI

FRIEND OF THE WINEMAKERS 2015
Poetic style writer on wines,
winemaker

HELGA GÁL

FRIEND OF THE WINEMAKERS 2016 Hungary's grand ambassador of wines

DR. ANDRÁS CSIZMADIA

FRIEND OF THE WINEMAKERS 2017 College docent, founder and lecturer of BorSchola, writer specializing on wines



PROF. DR. TAMÁS FREUND

FRIEND OF THE WINEMAKERS 2012
Brain researcher, connoisseur and collector of Hungarian wines



FRIEND OF THE WINEMAKERS 2013
Ambassador of traditional gastronomy and Hungarian wines



FRIEND OF THE WINEMAKERS 2014
DipWSET., honorary associate professor,
co-founder of the College for Wines



FRIEND OF THE WINEMAKERS 2018
Master of Wine, expert
on Central-Europe and Tokaj

PÁL KOVÁCS

FRIEND OF THE WINEMAKERS 2019
Recognized writer specializing on wines,
publisher and copyright owner of
Debreceni Borozó



EDIT SZABÓ

FRIEND OF THE WINEMAKERS 2020 Popular writer specializing on wines, founder and editor-in chief of Borsmenta





THE LIST OF THE WINNERS OF THE WINEMAKERS





ZOLTÁN DEMETER

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region

NAME OF THE WINERY – Demeter Zoltán Winery – Tokaj

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1996 by Zoltán Demeter.

SIZE OF THE PRODUCTION AREA – 7 hectares

SOIL – volcanic and loess

TERROIRS – Szerelmi, Kakas, Veres, Hold-völgy, Ősz-hegy, Lapis, Boda, Betsek, Új-hegy

GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Muscat Blanc

PHILOSOPHY

In the flea-market when I take a lamp in my hand, I start wondering why that master made the casing for 200 years although for him only 30 years remained? Why doesn't the world operate with the same attitude nowadays? I cannot imagine living my life in a newly built place and among newly manufactured objects. I have old things around me that can fill me up with their intellectuality. So that the movements that I make - although being ephemeral just like when music starts playing, or when we take a dance step or taste a sip of wine - should have a similar impact that only those artefacts can do which were put together by people living long time ago, thus justifying the importance of our existence here.





DR. GYÖRGY LŐRINCZ

WINE REGION – Eger wine region

NAME OF WINERY – St. Andrea Vineyards and Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1997 by dr. György Lórincz.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 49 hectares

SOIL - Generally rhyolite tuff of volcanic origin, deep brown hard soil rich in clay. On Nagy-Eged-mountain on a triassic limestone from the sea a gault base yellowish-white sediments, the nummulites are deposed. The cover soil is shallow rendzina soil.

TERROIRS – Nagy-Eged-hegy, Nagy-Eged, Kis-Eged, Boldogságos, Hangács, Kovászó, Magyalos, Pap-plot, Ferenc-hegy

GRAPE VARIETIES – Hárslevelű, Chardonnay, Furmint, Welschriesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Gris, Pinot Blanc, Viognier, Rhine Riesling, Pinot Noir, Blue Frankish, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Kadarka, Syrah, Turan, Nebbiolo

PHILOSOPHY

We are keen to produce Eger wines, Stars of Eger and Bull's Blood of Eger.



2009 WINEMAKER OF TH WINEMAKERS

ISTVÁN SZEPSY

WINE REGION - Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Szepsy Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 1987 by István Szepsy.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 56 hectares

SOIL - rhyolite tuff, yellow and red clay, quartzy rhyolite, broken tuff, slump zeolite, andesite tuff, quartz, loess, dacite tuff

TERROIRS - Betsek, Birsalmás, Danczka, Király, Kővágó, Nyúlászó, Percze, Sarkad, Szent Tamás, Urbán, Úrágya, Dorgó, Herceg, Hold-valley, Újhegy, Bányász, Bohomáj, Csonka, Hasznos, Lapis, Szepsy, Nyulas, Thurzó

GRAPE VARIETES - Furmint, Hárslevelű, Muscat Blanc

PHILOSOPHY

We aim to produce the best quality grapes on the most complex terroirs with no compromise whatsoever.





OTTÓ LÉGLI

WINE REGION - Balatonboglár wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Légli Vineyards and Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 1989 by Ottó Légli.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 33 hectares

SOIL - loess on soil producing rock, brown forest soil

TERROIRS - Landord, Gesztenyés, Banyászó, János-hegy

Grape varieties: Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Welschriesling, Rhine Riesling, Furmint, Pinot Noir

PHILOSOPHY

LÉGLI Vineyards and Winery was established in 1989 by Ottó Légli on his 0.5 hectar area inherited from his parents endeavuring to contribute with his wines based on local features with individual characteristics to the enrichment of the wine region and to its increasing recognition. The family estate by now boasts of having a 33 hectares large wine plantation. The LÉGLI terroirs are located typically 160 – 270 meters above sea level in Balatonboglár and Szőlősgyörök villages. The largest areas that are designated as individual names of terroirs that we put on our labels are: János-hegy, Landord, Banyászó, Gesztenyés. On the terrain of varied surfaces that originated on a loess soil with high lime and clay content mature, full-flavoured and harmonic wines are grown. Our goal is to make our wines to be the purest possible expression of the fullest harmony created from natural values, such as fruity flavours and acids, elegance and conscious and responsible human work.





IMRE KALÓ

WINE REGION - Eger wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Imre Kaló Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 1988 by Imre Kaló

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 20 hectares

SOIL - brown forest soil, rhyolite tuff, dacite tuff fundamental rock, brown forest soil with clay spots washed in

TERROIRS - Ispánberki, Mácsalma, Vén hegy, Gyűr, Pazsag

GRAPE VARIETIES - Irsai Olivér, Riesling-Szilváni, Welschriesling, Leányka, Green Veltliner, Chardonnay, Pinot Gris, Sauvignon Blanc, Turan, Merlot, Blue Frankish, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Syrah, Kadarka

PHILOSOPHY

Key word is naturalness. Maintaining something ancient and original, continue and revive it. Reaching back to the roots, apply God's technology which is in harmony with nature. This is our credo.



IMRE GYÖRGYKOVÁCS

WINE REGION - Nagy-Somló wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Györgykovács small winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 1987 by Imre Györgykovács.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 0.5 hectare

SOIL - basalt rubble loess adobe and volcanic tuff debris

TERROIR - Apátsági vineyard

GRAPE VARIETIES - Welschriesling

PHILOSPOHY

Our philosophy is that one can and one should make wine only from ripe and healthy grapes with the least nevessary intervention. The goal is to retain freshness, taste and aroma of the grapes in our wines, and to produce the best possible wines by respecting traditions, by paying maximum attention and adhering to hygienic regulations. In our small winery we follow traditional methods so we only work with wooden barrels and fermentation always takes place spontaneously. As an honour for developing winemaking and viniculture and for the role he played in making Hungarian wines recognized internationally in August 2007 Imre Györgykovács was awarded with a Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Hungarian Republic.





JÓZSEF SZENTESI

WINE REGION – Etyek-Budai wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Szentesi Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1998 by József Szentesi.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 16 hectares

SOIL – granite

GRAPE VARIETIES – Rheine Riesling, Zengő, Blue Frankish, Kadarka, Csóka, Pinot Noir, Black

Muscat, Tihany Blue

PHILOSOPHY

Revival of old varieties – the mission of the Szentesi Winery is always higher standards on a higher level.





STÉPHANIE BERECZ

WINE REGION - Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Tokaj Kikelet Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 2002 by Stéphanie Berecz and Zsolt Berecz

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 7 hectares

SOIL - loess on volcanic rock

TEROIRS - Lónyai, Kassai, Váti, Farkas, Lestár, Lantos

GRAPE VARIETIES - Furmint, Hárslevelű

PHILOSOPHY

We aim to ensure that the quality level of sweet and dry Tokaj wines is rated to be among the highest in international standards in the world. That is why in vine cultivation we do a lot of work by hand, we apply stringent yield control till the harvest, we aim to spray less even then with contact agents and we protect the soil with little earth work only. Nature, soil and the grapes are important for us and the condition of the vine is the basis of the tasty fruit. Spontaneous fermentation and aging take place in the barrel. The time of the harvest and the blending practice play a major role in our winery: We aspire for balance, fruitiness and that the characteristic features of our vineyard come to the surface.



WINEMAKER OF THE WINEMAKERS

DR. LÁSZLÓ BUSSAY †

WINE REGON - Zala wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Bussay Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 1989 by dr. László Bussay, he owned it

till 2014 when he passed away.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 5 hectares

SOIL - soil with river sediment, with clay and loess spots washed in

TERROIRS - Kövecs-hegy, Izsó-völgy

GRAPE VARIETIES - Welschriesling, Rheine Riesling, Pinot Gris, Tramini, Pinot Noir, Csóka

Grape, Laska Grape, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot

PHILOSPOH

According to Dr. Dorottya Bussay the credo of his father is: "If I boast with a wine, that should be owing to the vineyard, which I can be a servant of for a short time".



WINEMAKER OF THE WINEMAKERS

ANDRÁS BACSÓ

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Tokaj-Oremus Vineyards and Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 1993, András Bacsó was the chief winemaker from the beginning till 2020 when he resigned.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 100 hectares

SOIL - In the vineyards volcanic rock, mostly tuff and debris deposits compose the soil. The subsequent disintegration of these layers generates a surface rich in clay minerals, zeolites and fine silica.

TERROIRS - Oremus, Mandulás, Kútpadka, Serédy-Vay, Szentvér, Budaházi, Petrács, Cziróka, Gyapáros

GRAPE VARIETES - Furmint, Hárslevelű, Zéta, Kövérszőlő, Gohér

PHILOSOPHY

Uniqueness, excellent quality, natural noble wines.





ISTVÁN JÁSDI

WINE REGION - Balatonfüred-Csopak wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Jásdi Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 1998 by István Jásdi.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 17 hectares

SOIL - Pemian red sandstone, marl dolomite, loess

TERROIRS - Lőczedomb, Siralomvágó, Bene, Nagykút

GRAPE VARIETIES - Welschriesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Furmint, Cserszegi Fűszeres,

Chardonnay, Cabernet Franc, Blue Frankish

PHILOSOPHY

The professional motto of Jásdi Winery can be summarized by the following bon mot: "You mustn't make those wines in Csopak that you could make anywhere else".



JÁNOS KONYÁRI †

WINE REGION - Balatonboglár wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Konyári Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 2000 by Dániel Konyári and János Konyári

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 32 hectares

SOIL - loessial, clayey

TERROIRS - Kishegy, Öreg- vagy Szár-hegy, János-hegy, Sínai-hegy, Rádi-hegy, Bánom-hegy

GRAPE VARIETIES - Zenit, Sauvignon Blanc, Welschriesling, Chardonnay, Semilon, Green

Veltliner, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Blue Frankish, Malbec

PHILOSOPHY

János Konyári started working for the Balatonboglár State Estate in 1974 as a oenologist and after the change of the regime together with Vencel Garamvári they founded St. Donatus Winery. He founded the Konyári Winery with his son and started operations in 2000. As a winegrower János visited Australia and South-Africa and he was the first winemaker in Hungary to apply barrique-barrel fermentation. He was awarded the well deserved Winemaker of the Winemakers prize in 2018, sadly awarded as a postumous prize.





MIHÁLY FIGULA

WINE REGION - Balatonfüred-Csopak wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Figula Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded by Mihály Figula sr. in 1993, and since 2008
it is operated by Mihály Figula jr.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 30 hectares

SOIL - triassic, limestone, marl, dolomite, Permian red sandstone

TERROIRS - Sáfránkert, Száka, Lőcze, Gella, Bordoma, Öreghegy, Sóskút

GRAPE VARITIES - Welschriesling, Zenit, Pinot Gris, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Muscat

Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Blue Frankish

PHILOSOPHY

To attain the highest quality the family pursues and supervises all the processes from grape cultivation through wine bottling. On one hand we respect traditions but in addition we also use the latest technical and technological solutions in our activities. As a result of our meticulous and rigorous professional work we have achieved significant recognitions with our wines at numerous Hungarian and international competitions, among others in Bordeaux, Brussels and Paris. For us the most important aspect in wine making is to highlight the characteristics of the terroir. In our selections there are light, fruity, youthful, full bodied and late harvest wines as well as the ones with long maturation, which naturally divide our viticulture technology. We focus on creating a unique style in viticulture that is complemented by the potential of the terroir and is expressed in exceptional quality.





KÁROLY ÁTS

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Áts Winery
YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The family winery was founded in 2012 by Károly Áts, who had been working for what is called today Grand Tokaj since 1988 as oenologist, and since 2013 as chief oenologist.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 3.5 hectares

SOIL – andesite of volcanic origin, zeolite, terra rossa and hard clay soil

TERROIRS – St. Tamás, Suba, Dancka, Birsalmás

GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Muscat Blanc

PHILOSOPHY

We would like to present Mád, Tokaj and the Tokaj wines all condensed in one bottle. The multicolour Furmint as an estate wine from various terroirs or, focussing on one single terroir, St. Tamás. Or the sweet wines made from botrytised grapes either as the fresh, lively Cuvée or as Szamorodni or as Aszú. We strive for perfection and we wish to enhance the reputation of the wine region and to bring joy to the consumers through a glass of wine.





THE BEST 50 WINEMAKERS
IN THE CARPATHIAN BASIN
IN 2021





JÁNOS ÁRVAY

WINE REGION – Ttokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Árvay Family Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2008 by János Árvay in Rátka.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 17 hectares

SOIL – volcanic origin, with geyser activities

TERROIRS – Isten-hegy, Padi-hegy, Úrágya, Középhegy, Meggyes

GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Sauvignon Blanc, Muscat Blanc

PHILOSOPHY

Árvay family makes wine at the Tokaj wine region in a small picturesque Swabian city in Rátka. János Árvay received 450 vine-stocks from his father-in-law as a wedding gift. All through the years the little gift parcel grew into a 17 hectares estate. Angelika Árvay can owe her first wine to Junibor, because as an economist and as President of the Association she would have liked others to taste her wine. This is how Angi Muscat Blanc was born followed by Édesem. Szabolcs is a wine technologist, in 2009 he also made his own wine, is Szabi Furmint at Középhegy vineyard, and for his 2015 wedding he blended a sweet wine. János Árvay has more than 40 years of experience in wine making. His philosophy is that wine making starts on the terroir and with healthy fruit. As a hobby he collects wonderful volcanic stones on the terroir which are not only beautiful but are also "smuggled" into the Árvay wines giving them beauty, mineralness, uniqueness and excitement. Family members make important decisions together and everyday life and work couldn't go smoothly without Mrs. Kata Árvay.





ISTVÁN BALASSA

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Balassa Wine

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2005 by István Balassa oenologist.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 17 hectares

SOIL – volcanic

TERROIRS – 12 vineyards, 49 parcels: Donát, Thurzó, Mézes Mály, Kakas, Király, Hangács, Dorgó, Betsek, Bomboly, Nyulászó, Szent Tamás

GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Rheine Riesling, Chardonnay

PHILOSOPHY

The endless pursuit of quality.





GÉZA BALLA

WINE REGION - Ménesi wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Balla Géza Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 2005 by Géza Balla - at that time named as Wineprincess.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 124 hectares

SOIL - brown forest soil, with rocky subsoil

Terroirs - Ópálosi, Gyoroki, Kovászi

GRAPE VARIETIES - Magyarádi White, Királyleányka, Sauvignon Blanc, Furmint, Kadarka, Feketeleányka, Merlot, Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Blue Frankish

PHILOSOPHY

In the winery we mix traditional methods with modern technologies, keeping in view the philosophy that we don't add anything to the wine and we don't take away anything from it either.





SAROLTA BÁRDOS

WINE REGION - Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Tokaj Nobilis

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 2000 by Sarolta Bárdos.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 7 hectares

SOIL - rhyolite, rhyolite tuff

TERROIRS - Barakonyi, Csirke-mál

GRAPE VARIETIES - Furmint, Hárslevelű, Muscat Blanc, Kövérszőlő

PHILOSOPHY

Making good wine in Tokaj is not an option but an obligation. We must respect the past 800 years of the wine region and with our everyday work we create the opportunity for the next generation to live and work here. Therefore it is not enough to make "only" good wines: the terroirs should be cultivated in the most considerate and sustainable way and the cultural heritage and our built heritage should be also taken good care of. I like working so that I look for the balance and harmony in the grapes and wines while keeping an eye on the details and refining the quality of the wines in every vintage.





KÁROLY BARTA

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Barta Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The estate was founded by the Barta family in 2003.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 13.5 hectares

SOIL – rocky, volcanic rhyolite tuff, including zeolite and red clayn

TERROIRS – Öreg Király, Kővágó

GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Muscat Blanc, Red Grape

PHILOSOPHY

If grapes are cultivated in a nature friendly way the wine should be also made as close to nature as possible and in a traditional way.

Our goal is to preserve this special area in its most original shape for future generations. It is important to show that the wines reflect the unique characteristics of their special environment. The soil, the vineyard's location, the weather conditions of the given vintage and the personality of our colleagues are all embodied in an individual and unrepeatable batch.





JÓZSEF BOCK

WINE REGION - Villány wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Bock Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 1981 by József Bock.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 80 hectares

SOIL - limestone, loess, clay

TERROIRS - Ördögárok, Jammertál, Fekete-hegy, Bocor, Makár, Kopár-szőlő

GRAPE VARIETIES - Portugieser, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Blue Frankish,

Kadarka, Hárslevelű, Sauvignon Blanc, Welschriesling

PHILOSOPHY

The Bock family has been involved in grape production and wine making since 1850 in the Villány wine region. The love of wine and the craft of wine making went down from father to son in 9 generations. At the beginning of his career József Bock harvested only from a 0.5 hectare area but now he processes the grape production of 150 hectares (80 hectares own and 70 hectares integrated area).





JUDIT BODÓ

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Bott Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded by József and Judit Bodó in 2006.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 9 hectares

SOIL – loess, rhyolite, diatomite

TERROIRS – Teleki, Előhegy, Határi, Kulcsár, Csontos

GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Muscat

PHILOSOPHY

We do not care for "the top". We desire stability and strive for balance. For us this means the everyday presence in the vineyards and in the cellar. The recognition, conservation and transfer of our values play a key role in our lives. Our current experience is sufficient for vine cultivation on 5 terroirs of different soils, on 9 hectares of vine growing area. We also consider organic production important for our own needs. Our wines are kept in oak barrels without the addition of yeast. We love living like that.





JÁNOS BOLYKI

WINE REGION – Eger wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Bolyki Vineyards and Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded by János Bolyki in 2003.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 27 hectares

SOIL – limestone, dolomite, clay shale, rhyolite tuff, gravel and marsh sediment

TERROIRS – Sík-hegy, Kistibrik, Marinka, Fertő

GRAPE VARIETIES – Blue Frankish, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Pinot Noir, Királyleányka, Hárslevelű,

Sauvignon Blanc

PHILOSOPHY

"Every cellar is just a cellar - neither good nor bad. Stone and stone, tuff and brick and the like. The good cellar is good because it makes good wine. More precisely, as good as it should be for the wine in it. What is beyond, the wrought iron, the wood carving and stuff like that are just like adding sugar to honey. In Bolyki Winery we have nothing of the above, but there is everything necessary that a good wine needs to feel super comfortably in it."





FRIGYES BOTT

WINE REGION - Garam valley

NAME OF WINERY - Bott Frigyes

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded by Frigyes Bott in 2003.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 10 hectares

SOIL - volcanic, chalky

TERROIRS - Faricka

GRAPE VARIETIES - Blue Frankish, Pinot Noir, Kadarka, Hárslevelű, Furmint, Rhine Riesling, Welschriesling, Pinot Blanc

PHILOSOPHY

We set the aim that based on our current expertise through our wines made with the minimum necessary interventions we promote the exceptional characteristics of the Muzsla terroir. The nature similar, traditional wine is nothing else but the aggregate of many straightforward tiny moments - in the vineyards and in the cellar alike. Great emphasis is laid on the traditional varieties of our wine region, like Furmint, Hárslevelű, Welschriesling, Blue Frankish and Kadarka. Among international varieties we focus on Rheine Riesling and Pinot Noir.





MARCELL BUKOLYI

WINE REGION - Eger wine region

NAME OF WINERY - Bukolyi Marcell Wine Farm

YEAR OF FOUNDATION - The winery was founded in 2016, but its founders have been active in winemaking for 15 years.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 14 hectares

SOIL - limestone-calcareous marl, volcanic tuff-black erubase

TERROIRS - Nagy-Eged, Steinhauser

GRAPE VARIETIES - Blue Frankish, Hárslevelű, Syrah, Rhine Riesling, Pinot Noir, Furmint, Cabernet Franc, Tramini

PHILOSOPHY

The characteristics of our family wine estate are special and its location is unique. We live and manage the winery on the number one terroir of the Eger wine region, on the southern slopes of Nagy-Eged. We are the only winery in the wine region to produce 100% chemical free certified organice wines. Ours is a truly family winery - me and my wife Lilla look after the plantations, we make the wines by engaging into all the physical and intellectual work phases that it takes. We aspire to present truly the real characteristics of our vineyards through our wines and we allow to surface the real impact of the terroir. We stand for making wine in a considerate and clean way, from ripe grapes with no additives.





KRISZTINA CSETVEI

WINE REGION – Mór wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Csetvei Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – Krisztina Csetvei founded the winery in 2011 in Mór.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 4,5 hectares

SOIL – chalky, clay, loessial, volcanic

TERROIRS – Vérhegy, Vajal, St. Ilona, Séd

GRAPE VARIETIES – Ezerjó, Green Veltliner, Welschriesling, Chardonnay, Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir,

Blue Frankish, Welschriesling, Juhfark

PHILOSOPHY

I set as an aim to make the Mór wine region and the Ezerjó variety popular. For the past 3 years we have been cultivating our vineyard having an organic approach. With the minimum intervention I would like to make wines that are nice, elegant and express the terroir. In addition to Mór, Somló is a real treat. The two smallest wine regions with the two miraculous varieties: Ezerjó and Juhfark.





TAMÁS DÚZSI

WINE REGION – Szekszárd wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Dúzsi Tamás Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1994 by Tamás Dúzsi and the family has been involved in wine production since 1850.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 40 hectares

SOIL – yellow loess soil, brown chernozem

TERROIRS – Sióagárd-Lányvár, Zomba-berek-feletti, Gesztenyés, Nagybödő, Görögszó

GRAPE VARIETIES – Blue Frankish, Merlot, Kadarka, Pinot Noir, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sa-uvignon, Welschriesling, Ezefürtű, Zweigelt

PHILOSOPHY

We wish to present wines to the consumers in their sheer naturalness. We believe in clean, natural, fruity taste. Also in our rosé wines we tend to preserve the natural aroma typical for the variety. We are of the opinion that wine is a fruit juice prepared by alcoholic fermentation. We make Dúzsi wines in this spirit. Naturalness, fit to drink. This is the philosophy of our winery.





JÁNOS ESZTERBAUER

WINE REGION – Szekszárd wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Eszterbauer Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The history of the viniculturist Eszterbauer family can be traced back to 1746 in the archives data of Szekszárd. This winery has been operating since 2001 and it is managed by János Eszterbauer.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 34 hectares

SOIL – Ioess

TERROIRS – Görögszó, Bodzás, Alsónána, Porkolábvölgy

GRAPE VARIETIES – Blue Frankish, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Kadarka, Rhine Riesling, Muscat Ottonel

PHILOSOPHY

According to the data of the archives of Szekszárd, my paternal and maternal ancestors had been producing grapes and making wine from the middle of the 18th century in the Szekszárd Wine Region. We feel that it is our duty to continue the traditions and we would like to be among those generations that can take advantage of this great heritage. The next generation that we care for are my two daughters Ildikó and Kata who also work in our winery, and with my four grandchildren hopefully the distant future is also taken care of. Our slogan is: "The spirit of our ancestors is in the bottles."





FRANZ WENINGER

WINE REGION – Sopron wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Weninger Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1997 by Franz Weninger.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 25 hectares

SOIL – gneiss, mica slate

TERROIRS – Steiner, Frettner

GRAPE VARIETIES – Blue Frankish, Syrah, Pinot Noir, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon,

Merlot, Zweigelt, White Burgundy, Furmint

PHILOSOPHY

Respecting the vine, the people and the nature. I consider people as part of nature and when growing grapes and making wine I try to give back everything to nature, so that the circle should be full.





JÁNOS FRITTMANN

WINE REGION – Kunság wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Frittmann Brothers

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded by the Frittmann family in 1987.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 60 hectares

GRAPE VARIETIES – Irsai Olivér, Cserszegi Fűszeres, Generosa, Ezerjó, Sauvignon Blanc,
Rheine Riesling, Blue Frankish, Pinot Noir, Nero, Kadarka, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon

PHILOSOPHY

The role of the oenologist is to create the best possible wine from the gift of each harvest. It has always been our primary goal to make wines from the highest quality and best varieties of the region. The greater part of our white and rosé wines are made by reductive technology therefore they are fruity and fresh. But in our selection you can find aged white and red wines as well. We pay special attention to Ezerjó, the flagship wine of our town. In addition I think that is is particularly important to restore the shattered prestige of our town.





TIBOR GÁL JR.

WINE REGION – Eger wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Gál Tibor Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded by Tibor Gál in 1992, and since 2005 it is managed by Tibor Gál Jr.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 30 hectares

SOIL – rhyolite tuff with clay spots washed in

TERROIRS – Síkhegy, Pajados, Nagy-Eged, Áfrika, Tornyos

GRAPE VARIETIES – Blue Frankish, Kadarka, Pinot Noir, Syrah, Viognier, Pinot Gris

PHILOSOPHY

Through more than a quarter of a century's work we have reliazed that the most important wine of the winery and of the wine region should be Bull's Blood. From Bull's Blood we can make the most reliable and unique wines. The next decades will be about the meticulous presentation and research of Bull's Blood. I would like to see that the name Tibor Gál is amalgamated with the rebirth of Bull's Blood.





ATTILA GERE

WINE REGION – Villány wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Gere Attila Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1991 by Attila Gere.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 75 hectares

SOIL – loess, limestone

TERROIRS – Kopár, Ördögárok, Csillagvölgy, Konkoly

GRAPE VARIETIES – Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Portugieser, Pinot Noir,

Syrah, Medoc Noir, Tempranillo, Blue Frankish, Fekete Járdovány

PHILOSOPHY

Grapes have been linked to mankind for thousands of years and and the wine made from it is still an organic part of our lives. It can define the mood of our everyday life. We oenologists dedicate our lives to making always greater and tastier wines based on the opportunities that nature provides. My initial drive was that if we produce very moderately without burdening a vine-stock it will easily crush out 6-7 bunches. If this energy doesn't have to go down into every cluster but instead it is reinvested in the stock itself, the relisience of the vine will be grater so there will be no need for chemicals at all.





ZOLTÁN HEIMANN

WINE REGION – Szekszárd wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Heimann Family Estate

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1758, Zoltán Heimann took in his hands the revival of the family winery in 1990.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 25 hectares

SOIL – dominantly loess

TERROIRS – Iván-völgy, Porkoláb-völgy, Baranya-völgy, Csötönyi-völgy, Bati kereszt, Bödő

GRAPE VARIETIES – Kadarka, Blue Frankish, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Sagrantino, Tannat, Viognier

PHILOSOPHY

Our family was among the first to restart wine growing and viticulture in a small plant in the heart of the Szekszárd wine region on top of Iván-valley. Currently we grow vine on 25 hectares, a part of it is organic production. Our vision is to make sure that with our work and wines we reach out locally and internationally to consumers whose priority is quality. We have never been and never will be interested in mass production.





ATTILA HOMONNA

GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Blue Frankish

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region, Balatonfüred-Csopak wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Homonna Vineyard

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1999 by Attila Homonna.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 4,5 hectares

SOIL – Tokaj wine region: perlite base rock, rhyolite and rhyolite tuff; Balatonfüred-Csopak wine region: Permian sandstone

TERROIRS – Tokaj wine region: Meszes, Határi, Rány, Peres; Balatonfüred-Csopak wine region: Hampasz

PHILOSOPHY

On both wine regions we aspire to keep the traditions and we are involved in varieties of historical significance in the Carpathian Basin. In Tokaj we focus on Furmint and Hárslevelű, at Lake Balaton on Blue Frankish varieties. We lay great emphasis on sustainability both in viniculture and viticulture. Our vine is cultivated organically, we work according to the biodynamic calendar. We don't use absorbable agents, and we only work with preparations that are permitted in organic and biodynamic ampelology. All our wines ferment spontaneously with a minimum use of sulphur and the least necessary interventions. We focus on the true expression of the terroir and vintage in each and every bottle.

In Tokaj we were among the first ones to make wine with accent on acids in dry wines. We are grateful for the numerous international recognitions and also that we have our wines on several prestigious wine lists of wine bars and 3 Michelin-star restaurants.





JÓZSEF HORVÁTH RÁSPI

WINE REGION – Sopron wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Ráspi Vineyard

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The history of the winery goes back to 100 years, and since 2003 it is managed by József Horváth Ráspi.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 21 hectares

SOIL – limestone, mica slate, gneiss embedded in limestone

TERROIRS – Újhegy, Kopár, Kereszthegy

GRAPE VARIETIES – Blue Frankish, Zweigelt, Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Csóka, Furmint, Syrah, Kadarka

PHILOSOPHY

"In vino veritas" has the meaning for me that whoever drinks our wine doesn't only drink wine but also meets the truth that reflects the characteristics of our soil, climate and doesn't necessarily follow the latest fashion. I simply make everything in its natural beauty and aroma by keeping the harmony that nature has created. We harvest from minimum 30 and maximum 100 year old vine-stocks with drastic yield control, without additives, auxiliary ingredients and yeast, and the grapes come from the best slopes of rocky soils. Our wines are made by God, by nature herself and we can only make sure that the vine is healthy, isn't overburdened and we select the place where it should grow. We take care of the oxidation and the fermentation temperature, but in the end of the day everything will happen naturally.





ISTVÁN IPACS SZABÓ

WINE REGION – Villány wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Ipacs Szabó Estate

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – Since 1999 István Ipacs Szabó is the chief oenologist of Vylyan. He founded his own estate in 2009.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 1,8 hectares

SOIL – clayey loess

TERROIRS – Kövesföld, Közép-völgy

GRAPE VARIETIES – Cabernet Franc, Blue Frankish

PHILOSOPHY

Grape and wine teach you how to think, work, struggle, hope and accept. Accept the loss, the despair, the good, the magnificent and to live to see the miracle. In the gospel wine is the fruit of the produce of the vine-stocks and human work, the endless simplicity and immeasurable greatness itself. As I can live it day by day, for me this means an infinite journey between heaven and the earth.





GÁBOR KARNER

WINE REGION – Mátra wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Karner Wines

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1999 by Gábor Karner.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 6,5 hectares

SOIL – volcanic base rock, red clay with brown adobe clay

TERROIRS – Tavaszföld, Vitézföld

GRAPE VARIETIES – Welschriesling, Blue Frankish, Rhine Riesling

PHILOSOPHY

The story started 20 years ago when I began making wine from all kinds of grapes growing in the garden, followed by some years when I purchased grapes elsewhere. All I wanted was to drink some good wine. Then to make my wine even better, from 2004 I started planting vine-stocks. My aim is to express in the wine the unique magnificence of the terroir. I could reach this by spontaneous wine making, without fining and filtering still using some sulphur. Since 2017 we have been producing organic wines that don't contain any additives or auxiliary ingredients. With my daughter who joined the company in 2018 we aspire to bring to life true and honest wines and live our life in nature with the vine.





GÁBOR KISS

WINE REGION – Villány wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Kiss Gábor Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2001 by Gábor Kiss.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 11 hectares

SOIL – clayey, loessal, brown forest soil rich in limestone

TERROIRS – Boczor, Gesztenyés

GRAPE VARIETIES – Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Blue Frankish, Rheine Riesling

PHILOSOPHY

Good and genuine! Precision and punctuality! Neat and tidy!





DÁNIEL KONYÁRI

WINE REGION — Balatonboglár wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Konyári Vineyard

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2000 by Dániel Konyári and János Konyári. SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 32 hectares

SOIL – loessal, clayey

TERROIRS – Kishegy, Öreg- vagy Szár-hegy, János-hegy, Sínai-hegy, Rádi-hegy, Bánom-hegy GRAPE VARIETIES – Zenit, Sauvignon Blanc, Welschriesling, Chardonnay, Semilon, Green Velt-liner, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Blue Frankish, Malbec

PHILOSOPHY

We don't produce ideologies that go along with our wines nor do we want to be prophetic. All we want is to make wine to our best knowledge in a fair way. Respecting grape and nature is fundamental as we can only produce from the vintage of the year. We endeavor to bring out the maximum from the terroir and the variety.





TAMÁS KOVÁCS

WINE REGION – Balatonfüred-Csopak wine region

NAME OF WINERY – St. Donat Wine Mansion

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded by Tamás Kovács in 1994.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 15 hectares

SOIL – sandstone, marl, basalt

TERROIRS – Slikker, Nagykút, Szitahegy, Berekhát, Sáfránkert, Kishegy, Hegyalja, Bene, Ráta, Lapi, Farkasverem, Cserhegy, Töttös

GRAPE VARIETIES – Welschriesling, Furmint, Blue Frankish

PHILOSOPHY

Balaton is such a timeless region in the world where people have been living and enjoying life in harmony with nature for thousands of years. This was on our minds as well in 1994 when we established the fundaments of the wine mansion in Csopak at Szitahegy. The winery and the bistro which is open all through the year walk hand in hand and head in the same direction: we aim to put the best drink in the glasses and best food on the plates. Today we cultivate vine on nearly 16 hectares pursuing ecological farming and produce wine with the least necessary intervention, often bottling it without fining and filtering in order to maintain the most of what nature has given to us.





ZSÓFIA LAPOSA

WINE REGION – Badacsony wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Laposa Wine Estate

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The family owned winery in the Badacsonyi wine region was founded in 1992 by József Laposa and Zsófia Laposa used to be the chief oenologist.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 30 hectares

SOIL – on basalt base rock Pannon sand and Pannon clay

GRAPE VARIETIES – Welschriesling, Pinot Gris, Kéknyelű, Furmint, Rheine Riesling

PHILOSOPHY

Wine is wonderful because if we listen it will tell us where, how, when and who created it. For me this is the mix of artistic freedom, a child's astonishement and engineering precision. When I make wine I am integrated into the undulating circulation of creation. I take over the conductor's stick and with due humbleness I create synchrony among the sounds so that by forming a unity I could transfer this ancient tune of nature to the people. As vintages are unique and unrepeatable, time and again I'll have the opportunity to create and to develop infinitely. After every harvest I am having more and more questions and I'll make sure that doubt continues to accompany me on my way.





GÉZA LÉGLI

WINE REGION – Balatonboglár wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Kislaki Wine Manufacture

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2005 by Géza Légli.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 19,1 hectares

SOIL – loess, loamy soil

TERROIRS – Jánoshegy, Matacs, Vitéz, Landord, Lakitető, Bókavölgy

GRAPE VARIETIES – Welschriesling, Chardonnay, Rheine Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Blue Frankish,

Merlot, Cabernet Franc

PHILOSOPHY

We produce vine 3 kilometers away from Lake Balaton at Szőlőskislak on the slopes of this small village with an expressive name on a 19.1 hectare vineyard. On the protected inner slopes of Somogy hills through our nature friendly viniculture and viticulture we look for the harmonic relationship between our terroirs, people, grapes and wine. The basic principle is simple and evident: so that our wines could express the unique values hidden in the terroir we should approach viniculture and viticulture in an honest and genuine way.





ZSOLT LIPTAI

WINE REGION – Pannonhalma wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Pannonhalma Archabbey Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – Built on historical fundaments the winery of the Abbey in its current form has been in operation since 2003.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 47 hectares

SOIL – chalky loess, brown forest soil, red and white loessal clay

TERROIRS – Széldomb, Babszökő, Cseresznyés, Packalló, Tavaszó

GRAPE VARIETIES – Sauvignon Blanc, Rheine Riesling, Chardonnay, Pinot Blanc, Királyleányka, Welschriesling, Spicey Tramini, Viognier, Pinot Noir, Merlot, Cabernet Franc

PHILOSOPHY

Present day work which is based on the results of the past and contemplates future must be done perfectly. Naturally, the essence is in the details. For me the biggest learning point was when I realized that a tiny, delicate intervention performed in the right time and on the right place ultimately will have way less change on the accomplished wine, then if we were to let the problems accrued and wanted to have an effective result through a one-off major impact. The former, however, requires permanent presence, proper technological systems and professional expertise, but as the old saying goes: You have to live together with the wine!





BÁLINT LOSONCI

WINE REGION – Mátra wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Losonci Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – Bálint Losonczi has been involved in wine making since 2004 and founded his own winery in 2008.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 7 hectares

SOIL – gault, below that typically andesite

TERROIRS – Gereg, Lógi, Virágdomb, Tamás-hegy, Hótó

GRAPE VARIETIES – Pinot Noir, Rheine Riesling, Blue Frankish, Syrah, Hárslevelű, Királylányka

PHILOSOPHY

We have been engaged in vine production full time since 2009. From the 2014 year vintage onwards we pursue ecological vine cultivation on our own terroirs and also on leased vineyards. We don't purchase grapes. We have a certification attesting ecological production. Following the 2019 year vintage we embarked on an adventure in the world of organic wines. Some of our white wines are made in orange wine style. The premium quality red wines with long aging and low impact are typically the ones that have defined our image from the very beginning.





ENIKÓ LUKA

WINE REGION – Sopron wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Luka Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery that was founded by József Luka in 1995 has been managed by Enikő Luka since 2002.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 3,5 hectares

SOIL – limestone, gneiss and mica slate, on that brown forest soil rich in humus

TERROIRS – Steiner, Újhegy, Kholenberg, Harmler

GRAPE VARIETIES – Zweigelt, Blue Frankish, Merlot, Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon, Turan

PHILOSOPH

Preserve the past,
do our duty,
believe in future,
trust the new generation,
pause,
think,
tell it all,
love, cry, laugh...
wine just comes as a bonus.





CSABA MALATINSZKY

WINE REGION – Villány wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Malatinszky Organic Wine Estate

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1997 by Csaba Malatinszky.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 30 hectares

SOIL – loess mixed with clay on limestone structure

TERROIRS – Kövesföld, Hajdús, Városi-hegy

GRAPE VARIETIES – Rheine Riesling, Muscat Ottonel, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Merlot,

Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon

PHILOSOPHY

A creative winery working in harmony with nature in the spirit of sustainability.





OSZKÁR MAURER

WINE REGION – Szerémség and South-Csongrád wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Maurer Oszkár Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1994 by Oszkár Maurer.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 16 hectares

SOIL – loess, sand, clay, adobe and forest soil, with a relatively high lime content

TERROIRS – Nosza-Kadarka, Nosza, Fodor-Crazy Lud, Karlóca, Remete, Krisztus (Nagy-Krisztus és Krisztus), Remete, Kárász (Nagy-Kárász), Királyhalom-Fodor, Kastélykert, Cseresznyés, Talánterem, Nosza

GRAPE VARIETIES – Kadarka, Szerémi Green, Blue Frankish, Mézesfehér, Furmint, Bakator, Merlot, Muscat Blanc (Tamjanika), Rhine Riesling, Cabernet Sauvignon, Pirosmagyarka, Ezerjó, Vadfekete, Welschriesling, Kövidinka

PHILOSOPHY

I want to make good and true wines. With a soul living in them. In the process of wine making the key emphasis is on the production of the best possible raw materials by applying an improved ecological production. On the plantations we aspire to create a balance by providing the necessary conditions required for the possible fullest presence of indigenous species. Naturalness is also a basic principle for us in the course of wine making. Vine has brought me closer to everything that is important for me. Wine was leading me home. The eternal combat of emotians and down-to-earth thinking doesn't always supress each other, so sometimes it happens that both want the same thing, however, a bit differently. This is how I became an oenologist. My heart and my sense wanted it. Soaring, chasing dreams and at the same time thoroughly convinced that I am on the right way.





SÁNDOR MÉRÉSZ

WINE REGION – Etyek-Buda wine region and Sopron wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Etyeki Kúria Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery which was founded in 1996 has been managed by Sándor Mérész since 2013.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 32 hectares (Etyek-Buda) and 22 hectares (Sopron)

SOIL – Etyek-Buda wine region: brown forest soil with carbonate residuum developed on muddy loess and chernozem soil with lime coating developed on muddy loess with forest residues; Sopron wine region: chalky, clayey brown forest soil developed on triassal Pannon residual rock TERROIRS – Etyek-Buda wine region: Kis Látó-hegy, Nagy Látó-hegy, Öreghegy-dűlő, Tóra-dű-lő, Szépvölgy; Sopron wine region: Harmler, Weidengrund, Warme Infried, Steiner GRAPE VARIETIES – Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Gris, Királyleányka, Pinot Blanc, Pinot Noir, Blue Frankish, Merlot

PHILOSOPHY

Etyeki Kúria Winery has been in operation since 1996 in Etyek, on Öreghegy. We have become known for our respect of traditions and innovative attitude from the very beginning. In 2001 we pioneered as the first to plant Pinot Noir vine at the Etyek-Budai wine region aiming to make red wine. As a chief oenologist I believe in an honest attitude to harmonize local expertise and the latest research results in viniculture and viticulture alike. Etyek is a good place because wines feel good here. It is a tremendous asset that we have to take care of. As far as Sopron is concerned I dare say that it has red wines that can be aged the longest!





LÁSZLÓ MÉSZÁROS

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Disznókő

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1995 by László Mészáros.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 104 hectares

SOIL – volcanic

TERROIRS – Kapi, Dorgó, Lajosok, Illésházi, Hangács, Napsugár, Hegymegi

GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Zéta

PHILOSOPHY

"The wine of the kings, the king of the wines." Although the age of the kings is over, Tokaji Aszú hasn't lost anything from its magnificence at all. At Disznókő Estate the fruit itself shows us how we can express the best the characterstic features of our unique terroirs





CSABI MIKLÓS

WINE REGION – Mór wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Miklóscsabi Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2001 by Csabi Miklós.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 8,2 hectares

SOIL – calcerous, brown forest soil

TERROIRS – Látó-hegy, Cserhát, Csóka, Vén-hegy, Kőhalmi

GRAPE VARIETIES – Ezerjó, Rheine Riesling, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Leányka, Green

Veltliner, Pinot Blanc

PHILOSOPH

Passionate working days. For us viniculture, viticulture and catering is an experience that we communicate to the wine loving public. Here and Mór.





PÉTER MOLNÁR

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Patricius Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2000 by Kékessy family, and the winery's managing director was Péter Molnár from the very beginning.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 74 hectares

SOIL – different in each terroir, but they are all of volcanic origin and extremely rich in minerals TERROIRS – Teleki, Sajgó, Lapis, Várhegy, Czigány, Szárhegy, Boglyos

GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Muscat Blanc, Zéta, Kövérszőlő

PHILOSOPHY

An important aspect in the philosophy of Patricius Winery is that we respect the traditions of the wine region very much and we apply the knowledge that was accumulated by our predecessors. We are aware that based on these traditions we must develop this wine region further. We live together with the values of the past and take advantage of them. We continue the work that had been started by our ancestors and we endeavour to meet the expectations of people living now and the challenges that we are facing. Tradition, value, uniqueness, balance – these represent our credo. "Natural uniqueness" this the motto that reinforces our credo.





LÁSZLÓ NAGY

WINE REGION – Badacsony wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Villa Tolnay Wine House

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2004 by Philipp Oser, and since 2008

László Nagy is the estate manager and chief oenologist.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 25 hectares

SOIL – volcanic basalt turning stones, sand, clay, brown forest soil

TERROIRS – Southern slope of Csobánc-mountain

GRAPE VARIETIES – Welschriesling, Rhine Riesling, Green Veltliner, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Furmint, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Pinot Noir

PHILOSOPHY

Villa Tolnay Wine House is located north of Lake Balaton at the foothill of Csobánc-mountain in the middle of a nature conservation area. Since its foundation in 2004 till today the production area grew by 25 hectares. In the wonderful volcanic land, on basalt and on the sedimental soil of the former Pannon sea very expressive and characteristic Rieslings are born. From the very beginning we are breaking up with local wine making habits and we endavour making wines that tell a story to the consumers. A story about the past of the Pannon region and the unparalleled volcanic landscape surrounding us. We interpret our wines as the narrative of the new Pannon wine tradition.



GYULA PÁLFFY

WINE REGION – Balaton-Uplands wine region, Kál Basin

NAME OF WINERY – Pálffy Vineyard and Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1998 by Gyula Pálffy.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 18 hectares

SOIL – volcanic, sea sedimental lime

TERROIRS – Vaskapu, Csere-kút, Fekete-hegy alja, Csák oldal, Töltés

GRAPE VARIETIES – Welschriesling, Rhine Riesling, Furmint, Juhfark, Tramini, Pinot Gris, Blue

Frankish, Pinot Noir, Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon

PHILOSOPHY

With a stringent selection of shoots, later with the selection of bunches we set the ideal yield quantity so that we could harvest the best quality grapes in its full ripeness. We don't use harsh agents for plant protection, we neither use mite or insect killers nor herbicides for the weed. We aspire to attain the biological balance in the grapes. Since 2015 all our terroirs have ecological certificates attached. The volcanic soil (basalt-, lava- and tuff stones) and the high acid and mineralcontents favourably influence the characteristic taste of our wines. During processing and fermentation we don't use any additional ingredients except for sulphur. We try to keep the sulphur level as low as possible.





GYULA SZABÓ

WINE REGION - Balaton-Uplands wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Káli Kövek

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2009 by Gyula Szabó.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 7 hectares

SOIL – Most of our grapes are grown on monadnoc slopes of volcanic origin in nature conservation areas. On the vine slopes the soils are typically adobe mixed with basalt debris and brown forest soil. In the structure of the rock and tuff soil there is an abundance of minerals and fossils.

TERROIRS – Töltés, Kishegy, Pangyér, Sósi

GRAPE VARIETIES - Welschriesling, Rhine Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Furmint, Juhfark, Merlot

PHILOSOPH'

The geohistpric past shaped the Kál Basin into a miraculous landscape. Mysterious monadnocs emerging from the Pannon sea, the soil that developed on volcanic rock and the Mediterranean influence has inspired generations. From the vine growing here we make wines that in addition to the characters of the variety also faithfully showcase the particular mineral flavours of the Kál Basin. We follow the traditional and most natural way of winemaking. In the complex processes that require a tremendous amount of manual work we rely on the power and wisdom of nature. In every activity we pursue we strive for simplicitiy, genuineness and quality. Our every-day activities are defined by the joy of learning and the excitement of challenges.





ENDRE SZÁSZI

WINE REGION – Badacsony wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Szászi Estate

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1994 by Endre Szászi.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 18 hectares

SOIL – sedimental Pannon soil on basalt base rock

GRAPE VARIETIES – Welschriesling, Furmint, Kéknyelű, Rózsakő, Zeus, Pinot Gris, Muscat Ottonel, Zenit, Cserszegi Fűszeres, Csókaszőlő, Pinot Noir, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon

PHILOSOPHY

There is nothing quite like living in a historical wine region and co-existing with the vines and produce wine. My mission is to tell the story of this small corner of the Earth in liquid form and to do it with ecological cultivation, with the ethical use of nature and the combination of traditional and modern oenological practices showcasing the characteristics of the vintages.





TAMÁS SZECSKŐ

WINE REGION – Mátra wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Szecskő Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2003 by Tamás Szecskő.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 7 hectares

SOIL – clay, volcanic andesite base rock, lime of biogenic origin

TERROIRS – Gereg, Ördöngős-tető, Csákberek, Hótó

GRAPE VARIETIES – Turan, Cabernet Franc, Blue Frankish, Rhine Riesling, Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris, Green Veltliner

PHILOSOPHY

My mission is to increase the popularity of artisan and organic wines and the Mátra terroirs. For me naturalness in vine cultivation and wine making is the most important.





ISTVÁN SZEPSY JR.

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Szepsy Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – István Szepsy Sr. founded the family winery in 1989, and in 2005 István Szepsy Jr. joined as oenologist.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 56 hectares

SOIL – rhyolite tuff, yellow and red clay, quartzy rhyolite, broken tuff, slump zeolite, andesite tuff, quartz, loess, dacite tuff

TERROIRS – Betsek, Birsalmás, Danczka, Király, Kővágó, Nyúlászó, Percze, Sarkad, Szent Tamás, Urbán, Úrágya, Dorgó, Herceg, Hold-valley, Újhegy, Bányász, Bohomáj, Csonka, Hasznos, Lapis, Szepsy, Nyulas, Thurzó

GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Muscat Blanc

PHILOSOPHY

We aim to produce the best quality grapes on the most complex terroirs with no compromise whatsoever.





LÁSZLÓ SZILÁGYI

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Gizella Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2005 by László Szilágyi.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 19 hectares

SOIL – various volcanic soils

TERROIRS – Bige, Szil-völgy, Barát, Deák, Kastély, Dereszla, Bajusz, Lestár, Dobai, Szent Tamás,

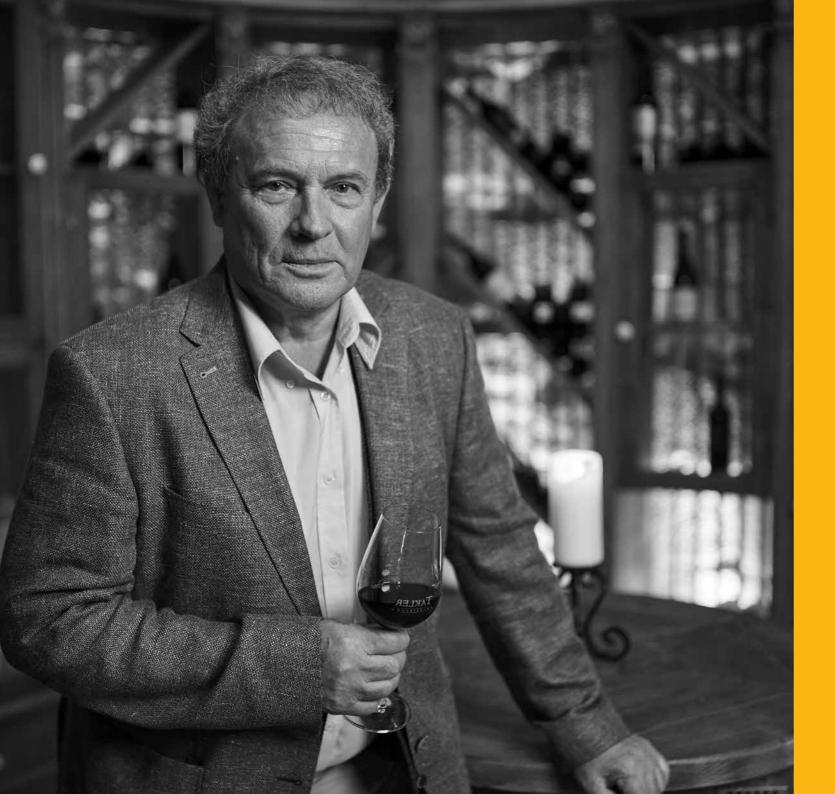
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GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Muscat Blanc

PHILOSOPH

I have been managing Gizella Winery for 16 years. Along with the dynamic growth I keep in view the permanent development of quality. We are interested in dry and sweet wines. Lately we have been focusing on elaborating a new dry base wine.





FERENC TAKLER

WINE REGION – Szekszárd wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Takler Wine Estate

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1996 by Ferenc Takler.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 82 hectares

SOIL – deep layered gray and red clayey loess soil

TERROIRS – Szenta-hegy, Gurovica, Görögszó, Strázsa-hegy, Porkoláb-völgy, Decsi-hegy, Almástető, Felső-Cinka

GRAPE VARIETIES – Blue Frankish, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Syrah, Kadarka, Cabernet Sauvignon, Sauvignon Blanc, Rheine Riesling

PHILOSOPHY

The "Takler Trio", Ferenc Takler and his two sons András and Ferenc Jr. have been working together for over 20 years for the success of Hungarian and Szekszárd wines. The Takler family, similarly to most of the wine families in Szekszárd is aiming to present the typical Szekszárd character in other varieties too, whether it is Blue Frankish or Cabernet Franc. However, this requires a precise and conscious cultivation of vine, processing and wine making philosophy which is complemented by a considerate aging in wooden barrels thus making the wine nicer and fuller. The philosophy is based primarily on local varieties, but there is significant emphasis on wines made from Bordeaux varieties like Primarius Merlot and Szenta-hegyi Cabernet Franc in addition to cuvée wines like Regnum or Szekszárd Grand. The typical feature of the wines is the considerable and rich contents along with a flowlessly clean and fruity character complemented by typical spiciness and mature tannin structure.





VILMOS THUMMERER

WINE REGION – Eger wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Thummerer Winery and Vineyards

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1984 by Vilmos Thummerer.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 100 hectares

SOIL – Ioessal, brown forest soil

TERROIRS – Csókás, Kőkötő, Tekenőhát, Áfrika, Nagy-Eged, Vidra

GRAPE VARIETIES – Blue Frankish, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Syrah, Kadarka

PHILOSOPHY

The uniqueness of our winery is implied in determination, persistent and resolute work and the common success of several generations. Our family business has been engaged in viticulture and viniculture since 1984 in the Eger wine region. The production area has extended from the very beginning and by today it as big as 100 hectares. In addition to wine making, since 2013 we also have the opportunity to produce traditional sparkling wine. On top of the knowledge and traditions overarching generations we put great emphasis on modern technologies as well. Innovation plays a pivotal role in our winery but we still keep "those good old things". From the beginning quality is of key importance for us in positioning our work so we are striving very much for keeping it when we follow the market requirements.





EDE TIFFÁN

WINE REGION – Villány wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Tiffán Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1992 by Ede Tiffán.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 25 hectares

SOIL – lime base rock, loess, brown forest soil

TERROIRS – Kopár, Ördögárok, Sterntal, Remete, Várerdő, Máriagyűd, Kövesföld, Somssich

GRAPE VARIETIES – Welschriesling, Rhine Riesling, Portugieser, Blue Frankish, Pinot Noir, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Syrah

PHILOSOPHY

Sunshine and its vital power, soil, location, climatic conditions, variety selection, the hard work and humbleness of the people cultivating the vine all contribute to making an elegant, mature and great wine from the fruit. Our family has been engaged in viticulture and viniculture since 1746 in the Villány wine region. Our past and present which is embracing ten generations oblige us to be fully devoted to genuine quality as a guiding principle.





GYÖRGY VÁRSZEGI

WINE REGION – Nagy-Somló wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Kreinbacher Estate

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 2002 by József Kreinbacher, and the winery's chief oenologist is György Várszegi from 2011.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA - 62 hectares

SOIL – basalt tuff, solidified basalt, basalt debris, Pannon, sand, broken loess, brown forest soil, black erubase

GRAPE VARIETIES – Juhfark, Welschriesling, Furmint, Hárslevelű, Tramini, Chardonnay, Syrah

PHILOSOPHY

Naturally we deliver experience - experience delivered naturally.





FERENC VESZTERGOMBI

WINE REGION – Szekszárd wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Vesztergombi Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery has been in operation in its current form since 1991.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 30 hectares

SOIL – loess, clay, red clay

TERROIRS – Kerékhegy, Bodzás, Porkolábvölgy, Hidaspetre, Görögszó

GRAPE VARIETIES – Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Syrah, Kadarka, Blue Frankish, Malbec, Welschriesling, Királylányka

PHILOSOPHY

The Vesztergombi name is closely intertwined with Szekszárd, grapes and wine making. A historical evidence of it is that the family's coat of arms which we use on our labels comes from the early 1700s and also the fact that the first vineyard judge of Szekszárd was called Vesztergombi. Ferenc Vesztergombi had gained experience in some other wine regions and following the changeover of the regime he reacquired vineyards and founded his own winery in 1991 which is operating successfully ever since. Success has been growing as their son, an accomplished oenologist with substantial international experience joined the company turning Vesztergombi Winery into a truly two generational family business.





PÉTER VIDA

WINE REGION – Szekszárd wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Vida Family Wine Estate

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1990 by Péter Vida.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 23 hectares

SOIL – chalky loess soil

TERROIRS – Bakta, Hidaspetre, Baranya-völgy, Lisztes, Virághegy

GRAPE VARIETIES – Blue Frankish, Kadarka, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Syrah

PHILOSOPHY

It's been nearly three decades since we are working in our vineyards and finally on all our terroirs all those varieties grow with the proper cultivation method and proper number of vine stocks that provide us the chance to express the real "Szekszárdiness". Elegant and nice wines. This is what we believe in!





MÁRTA WILLE-BAUMKAUFF

WINE REGION – Tokaj wine region

NAME OF WINERY – Pendits Vineyards and Winery

YEAR OF FOUNDATION – The winery was founded in 1991 by Márta Wille-Baumkauff.

SIZE OF PRODUCTION AREA – 7 hectares

SOIL – volcanic, clay and loess with tuff

TERROIRS – Krakó, Pendits, Felső Bea, Holdvölgy

GRAPE VARIETIES – Furmint, Hárslevelű, Muscat, Kövérszőlő, Kabar, Zéta

PHILOSOPHY

We are committed to biodynamic cultivation. In 2008 we became the first organic wine estate in the Tokaj wine region and in 2011 as the first winery in Hungary we received the DEMETER biodynamic certification. For plant protection we only use natural materials (copper, sulphur, plant extracts) and biodynamic preparations. To take advantage of the cosmic powers to our best, vineyard work is timed if possible to Maria Thun's biodynamic calendar according to the clycles of the Moon and planets. Work in the cellars is done with the least necessary intervention.





EPILOGUE

The Winemaker of the Winemakers celebrates its 15th anniversary so the number of the immortal winners will be 15 this year! Going through their names it is evident that there is much more to it than just being winners of a prize, as they really create something that is permanent, their activity is rooted in nature and heading towards advanced cultural heights. With their work they lay friendly sentiments on the festive tables, place holy secrets on the altar, exhilarate dancers' passion and raise smile on girls' faces while they are also vital suppliers of the pulsation of gastronomy and culture in general.

It is heartening to see that this group of 15 are not alone after all, because on the way that they showed to others several of their peers are working actively side by side with them. They are the immortals who every year present fifty winemakers who have already proved to be suitable for joining the circle of winners. In addition to the recognition and honour they have to face a tremendous responsibility because from that moment onwards the right of decision is in their hands, they have to appoint from among themselves the Winemaker of the Winemakers!

The Winemaker of the Winemakers is much more than just a prize: by the help of it we can draw attention to outstanding achievements, we can say thanks for uplifting, tradition preserving and culture promoting activities. It is comforting to see that there are so many of those who work on such a high level, perform their duties so conscientiously for important goals that have an impact on so many different layers of our lives.

In this album we would like to introduce them, the best ones personally to you. I am so proud that as the founder I could make it happen and I can be among the first to bow my head in admiration before their honest and fastidious work and epoch making achievements pursued with a mentality that is going way beyond the boundaries of the estates.

PÁL RÓKUSFALVY

Founder of the Winemaker of the Winemakers



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