



ROYAL TOKAJI 2016 BETSEK, 6 Puttonyos

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| Varietals: | Furmint, Hárslevelű |
| AVA: | Tokaj, Hungary |
| Vineyards: | Royal Tokaji's parcels of 1 st Growth Betsek (100% Estate) |
| Alcohol: | 10.5% |
| Sugar: | 185.8 g/L |
| Total Acidity: | 10.2 g/L |
| Bottled: | May 2019 |
| Imported: | 100 cases |

Tokaj Vineyard Classification

In the 1730's, 28 villages and their vineyards in Tokaj became the first European vineyards to be classified. This classification remains in effect today and was verified by the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture in 2013.

Betsek First Growth Single Vineyard

Betsek hill is a celebrated First Growth vineyard located in the Mád basin. Its volcanic bedrock is overlaid with rich clay mixed with dark, almost black, humus soil and chalk-white minerals. Royal Tokaji owns 15 hectares of south-facing parcels planted with Furmint and Hárslevelű vines with an average age of around 35 years.

2016 Vintage Notes

In truly exceptional years Royal Tokaji selects the finest berries from its classed vineyards and carefully produces a few barrels of single vineyard aszú wine. 2016 is such a year, just the seventh this century, and the quality was so exceptional that we are releasing the widest range of aszú wines since 2008.

After a mild and dry winter, we had a long spring with warm days and cool nights. The flowering season was unusually long and there was an uneven fruit set in many vineyards due to some late spring frosts. Throughout the summer, the weather was almost perfect. In July and August, the region was hit by hail, but there was no serious damage. From the middle of August, botrytis started to spread all over the region. We hand-harvested each intensely flavored aszú berry from the bunches on the vines. The aszú harvest required multiple passes through each block over many weeks!

Vinification

Excellent quality aszú berries with good structure and perfect botrytis were macerated in fermenting must for two days. After pressing and fermentation the wines were transferred into two 500-liter neutral Hungarian Zemplen oak casks for maturation over two years in Royal Tokaji's 13th century cellars.

Tasting Notes

This wine is weighty and spicy, with a nose of appealing honey and apricot leading to a palate with hints of grapefruit, orange zest and white pepper, vibrant acidity and an extremely long finish.

