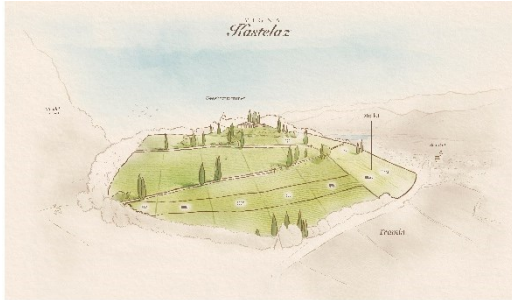


Merlot Riserva Vigna “Kastelaz” 2022

Alto Adige DOC



The recognized single vineyard Vigna site of “Kastelaz” dominates the landscape of the wine village of Tramin. The term „Vigna“ is an additional denomination of origin, recognizing a precisely demarcated and cartographically recorded single vineyard. Sloped at an imposing 63 degrees with a rare full Southern exposure, this narrowly terraced vineyard scales from 330 to 380 meters above sea level on a layered structure of loose limestone soils, interspersed with post-glacial sand, granite and porphyry. The best elements of

Alto Adige viticulture are further magnified here, as the south-facing position grants even more of the region’s ubiquitous sunshine, while strong winds and altitude engender very cool evening temperatures. From here, Elena Walch exclusively bottles two top wines, a ripe yet elegant Merlot Riserva Vigna „Kastelaz“ and an internationally-recognized Gewürztraminer Vigna „Kastelaz“ that powerfully reflects the unique growing conditions the vineyard presents.

„A fresh, bright ruby red characterizes the Merlot Riserva Vigna “Kastelaz”. The wine is intense and pure in the nose, with fruity notes of sour cherries and plums, with hints of caramel and fine roasted aromas. Supple velvety tannins, a soft, round texture, an important, spicy body, fruity concentration and filigree elegance fill the palate.”

Elena Walch

VINTAGE 2022

An excellent vintage 2022 is awaiting you! As a result of the warm, stable summer, grapes of the very best health and with balanced values have reached our cellar. The 2022 wine year began with a warm spring, which led to an early start of flowering. The succeeding summer was consistently dry and warm-to-hot by the midsummer. The drought did not cause any problems, not at least thanks to our irrigation systems and smart technology. The warm summer months have resulted in extraordinarily healthy grapes of very good quality and maturity. The acidity values were somewhat lower due to the vintage, but well balanced and were supported by targeted foliage work during the summer months, and a slightly earlier harvest. The first grapes were harvested at the end of August - as always entirely by hand. Overall, the wines show complexity, great structure and very good fruit.

VINIFICATION

Must fermentation for approximately 10 days, followed by malolactic fermentation and maturation for 18 months in French oak barriques (Limousine and Allier), almost all of which are new. Bottle maturation for about 8 months before being released. Since 2015, a state-of-the-art fermentation cellar has allowed the grapes to be processed with the utmost care, with whole-grape processing using via gravity fed technology. A highly sensitive destemmer and the gentle transport of the grapes by means of a specialized container, „cuvon“, which runs on rails, prove to be very gentle on the grapes and preserve their high quality. The state-of-the-art building is certainly unique in Alto Adige, and is probably one of the most modern fermentation cellars in Italy to produce great red wines of excellence.



Variety: 100% Merlot

Alcohol: 14,5% Vol

Appellation: Alto Adige DOC

Residual sugar: 0,5 g/L

Total Acidity: 5,5 g/L

Aging: 10-18 years

Availability: 0,75 l

Harvest: Entirely handpicked