



## PRODUCER

Described by Steven Spurrier as "Croatia's best winemaker", Ivica Matošević has established himself as a force of nature in the country's burgeoning wine industry. His incredible family story explains the turbulent history of the last 100 years, explaining that "my grandfather was born in Austria, my father in Italy, I was born in Yugoslavia and my daughter was born in Croatia. We were all born in the same house." His unbridled passion, which led him to divert his career from a PhD in agriculture, to winemaking, is reflected in his wines, which are exuberant, fresh and true to their nature. Ivica is widely recognised as one of the leaders of the quality revolution amongst his peers and was instrumental in setting up the Istrian appellation and establishing the wildly popular annual wine fair which takes place there to promote the wines. We believe that Ivica's view on his personal journey is reflected in his wine: "[I am a] better man today, more honest and common, more natural and more savage, all due to changes in my life circumstances."

## VINEYARDS

Vineyards are located at 250-300 metres above sea level on limestone, marlstone and sandstone soils. The area is characterised by a Mediterranean climate, with mild and rainy winters followed by dry, hot summers. It is Matošević's goal to slowly cut off the use of any chemicals, by using minimal pesticides and no herbicides. Instead, mechanical cultivation inside the rows is applied as well as mulching between the rows.

## VINTAGE

2018 was a very fruitful vintage, with lots of sunshine and well distributed rainfall during vegetation. The yields were bigger than the previous vintage and the grapes had well balanced sugar levels and acidity.

## VINIFICATION

After manual sorting and destemming, the must was gently pressed in a pneumatic press for three hours. It was then fermented in stainless-steel vats. Grapes from specific sites were fermented separately with their indigenous microflora, to highlight the expression of varietal aromas. The wine was aged on fine lees until January to develop complexity. Blending of single-vineyard vats took place in March. This wine saw no oak or malolactic fermentation.

## TASTING NOTES

The wine has aromas of elderflower, acacia, lime zest, quince, pear, apricot and ripe nectarine. An incredibly crisp acidity balances the concentration of flavours beautifully. It has a medium body and a long finish, marked by lovely minerality.

## AWARDS

Decanter World Wine Awards 2022, Silver

|                 |                                           |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Grape Varieties | <b>100% Malvasia Istriana</b>             |
| Winemaker       | <b>Ivica Matošević and Saša Topolovec</b> |
| Closure         | <b>Double Disk</b>                        |
| ABV             | <b>12.5%</b>                              |
| Residual Sugar  | <b>1.8g/L</b>                             |
| Acidity         | <b>4.3g/L</b>                             |
| Wine pH         | <b>3.48</b>                               |
| Notes           | <b>Vegetarian, Vegan</b>                  |