

## `Terrapieno` Pinot Grigio 2018

Veneto, Italy



### PRODUCER

Alpha Zeta was conceived in 1999 when Liberty Wines set out to produce a range of modern, fruit-driven wines from the hills outside Verona. Working with leading New Zealand winemaker Matt Thomson of Blank Canvas, Alpha Zeta works directly with growers rather than buying bulk wine, the standard for most wines from Verona at this price. In doing so, ripe grapes are obtained by reducing yields and picking later, utilising Matt's expertise to preserve these flavours in the finished wines. As a result, Alpha Zeta continues to offer great value, quality, balance and typicity.

### VINEYARDS

The Terrapieno vineyard is situated in the Valpantena Valley in eastern Valpolicella. Cool currents blow down the valley from the foothills of the Dolomites, enabling the grapes to ripen slowly. Poor, well drained soils, a great aspect and excellent vineyard management produce fruit that is incredibly intense in flavour.

### VINTAGE

Bud burst was delayed by seven to eight days compared to the 2017 vintage, but rainfall and high temperatures in the following weeks brought forward flowering. On the whole, the grapes developed well and in perfect condition. Yields were slightly higher than in 2017.

### VINIFICATION

The grapes were hand harvested, de-stemmed, crushed and chilled to 10°C on the way to the press to minimise the extraction of skin phenolics. The juice was chilled immediately and naturally settled. Fermentation took place at low temperatures of 12-14°C in order to retain fruit flavours. The cool and gentle handling ensured that there was no need for harsh fining, preserving the wine's delicate aromas.

### TASTING NOTES

This is a single vineyard Pinot Grigio with great intensity and balance. It has lifted aromas of pear and bread crust, classic for Pinot Grigio from this region. The nose gives way to lovely weight and a silky texture on the palate, with hints of delicate spice and biscuits. The wine finishes dry with a zesty acidity to maintain freshness and an impressive length.

### AWARDS

Sommelier Wine Awards 2019, By The Glass Trophy

Grape Varieties	<b>100% Pinot Grigio/Pinot Gris</b>
Winemaker	<b>Luca Degani &amp; Matt Thomson</b>
Closure	<b>Screwcap</b>
ABV	<b>12.5%</b>
Residual Sugar	<b>4.21g/L</b>
Acidity	<b>5.87g/L</b>
Wine pH	<b>3.36</b>
Bottle Sizes	<b>75cl</b>
Notes	<b>Vegetarian, Vegan</b>