

Franz Haas,
`Lepus` Pinot Bianco 2023
Alto-Adige, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy



PRODUCER

The Haas family has been growing grapes in Montagna in the province of Bolzano in the Alto Adige for generations. However, it is only with Franz, who died prematurely in 2022, that they began to produce and bottle quality wines. Franz studied at Geisenheim before working as a broker of Italian wines into the German market. After several years, he took over the running of the family business. Franz went to tremendous lengths to grow good grapes and strived to preserve the flavours of the fruit during winemaking. As a result, the wines that are produced today are infused with great character and show a rare purity and balance on the palate.

VINEYARDS

The Pinot Bianco grapes for this wine are grown in three different vineyard sites on the hillsides of the village of Montagna. The plots are located at 400-800 metres above sea level. Vineyards are south and south-west facing, planted on diverse soils that vary from light sands to heavy porphyry, and are trained using the Guyot system. 'Lepus' is the Latin name for 'hare' and is part of the Haas family crest.

VINTAGE

After a mild winter and early spring with little rain, temperatures dropped in April and there were high levels of precipitation. A warm June and July allowed grapes an extended ripening season with optimal levels of sunshine and cool nights.

VINIFICATION

Once at the winery, the grapes were gently pressed, with the majority undergoing fermentation in temperature controlled, stainless-steel vats and the remaining in small oak barriques. After fermentation, the wine was aged on its lees for about five months before bottling, to add complexity and body.

TASTING NOTES

This wine is straw yellow in colour. Its fruity, spicy aromas are reminiscent of ripe apples, wild flowers and fresh bread crust. Strong yet elegant in structure, this Pinot Bianco has well-balanced acidity and is framed by a sweet, round richness and great length.

Grape Varieties	100% Pinot Bianco
Winemaker	Franz Haas
Closure	Screwcap
ABV	13.5%
Residual Sugar	2g/L
Acidity	6.38g/L
Wine pH	3.17
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Vegan