



1215 Wine Bar & Coffee Lab

Strekov 1075, "Rozalia" 2021

Varietal:

Svatovavrinecké (St. Laurent), Alibernet

Region:

Strekov/Kürt, Slovakia

Farming:

Practicing Organic

Soil Type:

Clay Loam, Calcium, Marine Sediments

Fermentation:

Stainless Steel

Dry/Sweet:

Dry

Body:

2/5

Acid:

4/5

Tannin:

2/5

ABOUT THE WINE

Pop, pop, fizz, fizz, oh what a relief an unconventional sparkling at the holiday is! Don't get us wrong, we are always down for a Champagne or Prosecco, but we wanted to keep this holiday extra fun for y'all with this dark rosé, or light red, pet-nat from Slovakia! The name Rozália, is a nod to the dark pink color, but also the many important women in the winemaker, Zsolt Sütó's family: his mother and grandmother, as well as his wife's mother and grandmother were all named Rozália. So this wine is truly near and dear to their hearts!

"When there's an article on our winery in the Slovak media, they call me a Slovak winemaker; when it's in the Hungarian media, I'm a Hungarian prodigy," Zsolt Sütó (or Zsolti, as his friends call him) laughs at his double nature of making wine in a village located in Slovakia while being a member of its traditionally Hungarian majority. Hungarians still make up about 90% of the population of the village, whose past dates back to the year 1075 at least. (Hence the number in the winery's name; by serendipity, it's also the street number of Zsolti's winery, a picturesque white house with a sun-laden terrace sheltered from the main road by a socialist-era grocery store.) Due to its eventful past, this border region and its ubiquitous bilingual signs are still a sensitive reminder of a once vast Hungarian empire that was significantly reduced in size after WWI. Yet, standing on the small plateau that separates the upper and lower part of the Údolie Márie (Slovak for "Maria Valley") vineyard, with wild Blaufrankisch vines on stakes above and some Welschriesling below, you're more likely to experience an intense sensation of calm and joy. Maybe it comes from the gentle slopes running towards the marshlands and the Danube River on the horizon, both contributing to the unique microclimate of the area. Maybe it's the unobscured vistas formed by this soothing, horizontally-oriented land. Or the afternoon sun, which leisurely sets around us, bringing us joy as we soak in its long, large rays. Their caresses are also very beneficial to the vines, which – thanks to this extended sunlight – have built up a resistance to the extreme heat that sometimes hits this area. It's no surprise that we tend to see wine as a projection of the winemaker himself: Zsolti sports a sturdy constitution and his energetic, honest hug may leave the more fragile among us breathless. Yet, if you're lucky enough to spend some time with him, you might end up nose-deep in inspiring discussions that run late into the night in the spacious, rustic wooden attic above his zero-additions cellar. The winemaking down there is minimal: whites often undergo skin contact, and some of them are then aged under a yeasty veil called flor (similar to Jura or Jerez). Zsolti also often blends different vintages, both in his still and sparkling wines; the latter are made as pet-nats or as non-vintage blends with added must, depending on the vintage. After using less and less sulfur for a couple of years, he stopped adding it altogether in 2017, giving his wines total freedom. Back in the tasting room above, you'll probably talk about the open mind needed to taste these unconventional wines. About the leap of faith that it takes to make them, especially completely without sulfur. Or about having the audacity to face the eventual flops of using this approach. "I had a barrel that was borderline flawed, I felt it coming. I also knew that a tiny bit of SO2 would spare me the risk; but if I added it, I'd never know the eventual outcome – maybe the wine would manage to take care of itself. In the end, I think this search for truth is my ultimate fuel. No matter how unflattering or potentially painful, I think we should always seek the truth and face it." - Jenny & Francois Selections, Importer

This wine is bright and full of tart berry and bakery note flavors with robust bubbles. It's incredibly food friendly and a great wine to share with your adventurous palate friends
Deliciously tart berry forward sparkler with a slightly structured and bakery note finish.

