

MAISONS MARQUES & DOMAINES



Livio Felluga

Picolit DOCG

Friuli Colli Orientali, Italy
Vintage: 2011

Overview

At 100 years old, the founder and patriarch, Livio Felluga, was accredited with innovating and mastering modern winemaking in Italy. Back from WWII, he sealed a deep bond with the hillsides of Friuli by reviving the vineyards of Rosazzo, later establishing him as "the patriarch of the wines of Friuli."

In 1956, when Livio anticipated an implementation of appellation of origin, he chose an ancient map of the area to create an iconic label to tell the world the story of his wines. Pioneering vision, deep knowledge, respect for the vineyards, and obsession with quality, once embodied by Livio Felluga himself, have been proudly carried out by the company over the years.

Today, the family-owned winery is led by Livio's son, Andrea Felluga. Known for producing lush, crisp and well-balanced wines, the winery's reputation extends well beyond the region of Friuli and its wines are recognized in a class with the most esteemed producers from around the world.

Picolit is Friuli's noblest wine, but its origins are still a matter for debate. It is only since 1750, thanks to the writings of Count Fabio Asquini, that we have any accurate documentation of this "nectar produced by the meagre berries of the bunch." The peculiarity of this odd, delicate vine is the partial fertilization of its flowers. This means that only a few, very concentrated berries ripen in each bunch. A complex wine the color of old gold, Picolit marries sweet and acidulous sensations, releasing a pervasive aroma of candid peel, vanilla and spring flowers. In the past, Picolit was the wine of Europe's nobility. Today, it is admired as a prestigious meditation wine.

Winemaking

The part-dried grape was carefully destemmed. Next, the fruit was soft crushed. The must obtained was then allowed to settle. The now-clarified must fermented at controlled temperatures in small casks of French oak, where it matured for about 18 months. After fermentation, the wine was left on the lees in the small oak casks for nearly 18 months. The bottled wine was aged in temperature-controlled binning cellars for about 18 months.

Tasting Notes

The color is an intense golden yellow. The nose is complex, captivating, and ripe with sweet sensations; it has notes of Calla lily, white rose blossoms, ginger, dates, quince jelly, trifle, sultana grapes, dried figs and white cherry. The palate is rich, full, persistent and lasting; the powerful tastes of honeycomb, a fruit blend of apricot, syrup and yellow peach, layered with hints of cream and crème brûlée. These flavors fade into an elegant, sapid vanilla ice cream finish.

Food Pairing

Superb as a meditation wine. Pairs beautifully with full-flavored, tangy and blue cheeses. Picolit is also a fine complement to pastries, and of course outstanding with foie gras. Best served between 54°F and 57°F.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Varietals: 100% Picolit
Wine Alcohol: 13.5%
Soil Composition: Marl and sandstone flysch of Eocene origin