



Name: Franc Kačičnik Stilj

Classification: Dry white wine

Varietals: 40% Žametna Črnina (aka Blauer Kolner),
40% Yellow Muscat, 20% Sauvignon Blanc

Appellation: Lower Styria (Štajerska)

Vine Training: Double-guyot, average vine age is 35 years

Density & Yield 8,000 Vines/ha; 1,5 kg/vine

Annual Production: 1,500 bottles

Alcohol: 11%

Climate: Continental cool climate, with snowy and cold winters, and sunny and mild spring, with sun-drenching summers.

Terrain: The terrain of the entire Štajerska region is made up of steep-sloped vineyards and narrow, wind-rich hill valleys. A diverse geological soil composition, consisting mainly of sand and clay with marl in the lower layers. The vineyards is located on steep 30-45° slope with southern-exposure, 350 meters above sea level.

Farming: No irrigation. Environmentally friendly cultivation, following the integrated farming guidelines of Slovenia.

Vinification: Manual harvest of totally clean, healthy grapes, de-stemmed, Yellow muscat macerated on skins, Kolner blau and Sauvignon pressed directly in the barrel. Fermented with no added yeasts, and then all wine separately matured for one year in used and new oak on lees. Bottled with little sulphur addition without filtration.

Tasting Notes: Štilj is a blend of 20% Sauvignon Blanc and 40% Muscat and 40% Žametna Črnina from the estate's oldest vines. The Muskateller is fermented on the skin for 7 days and has a substantial structure in addition to its varietal elderberry notes. The nose is bright, floral, and fruity, with bright yellow elderberry, gooseberry, and ripe pears on the nose. The palate delivers a fresh and round texture with juicy exotic fruits and subtle smoky note. Low in alcohol and with an exciting minerality, this wine is wildly representative of the varietals and typicity of the small village in Štajerska.

Winery: Posestvo Bela gora (White hill estate) is a small family-owned vineyard and winery that is producing vibrant and authentic wines from Štajerska grape varieties. Vinum was introduced to this small estate when discovering that, Radojko Pelengic, the talented winemaker of Sanctum (and former assistant winemaker at Heaps Good Wine Co., under Nick Gee), also had a small family winery of his own along with his wife Martina, down the road in Dramlje. Rado and Martina produce a teeny amount of wine out of their small family winery, but the wines scream with expression, typicity and love.

Their small 1-hectare vineyard is planted on the hill, Bela gora, near the town of Dramlje in the region of Štajerska, northeastern Slovenia. The name of the settlement, which is also the name of the winery's white cuvee (Stilj), was changed from Šent Ilj (literally, 'Saint Giles') to Dramlje in 1955. Our cellar was built in 1951 a year after our vineyard was planted by our grandfather Franc Kačičnik, whose name is on the wine bottles today.