

Gaia Wines, 'Thalassitis', Santorini, Assyrtiko 2018



A nervy dry wine with a strain of flinty saltiness on the mouthwatering, bone-dry finish.

Producer Note

One of the pioneers of the modern Greek wine revolution Gaia Estate was established in 1994 by Greek winemakers Leon Karatsalos and Yiannis Paraskevopoulos. Operating two different wineries they make cutting edge wines in both Nemea and Santorini. Gaia's main aim is to present the potential of the indigenous Greek grape varieties to wine enthusiasts worldwide.

Vintage

2018 was a challenging vintage with difficult climatic conditions. As a result, the yields were lower than previous years. Vigilance in the vineyards and winery ensured the wines have retained the high quality and varietal characteristics.

Vineyard

This wine is made from the island's indigenous variety Assyrtiko (pronounced Ah-SEER-tee-koe) which is renowned for combining full flavoured maturity while retaining considerably high acidity. The grapes are produced exclusively from vineyards in the Episkopi, Akrotiri and Pyrgos regions, at elevations of between 50 to 250 metres above sea-level. The vines are between 70 to 80 years old and produce a particularly low yield of between 18 to 25 hectolitres per hectare, which in turn produces concentrated juice. The vines are cultivated in volcanic soils which are porous with a high mineral content.

Winemaking

The hand-picked grapes were cold macerated for a period of 12 hours at controlled temperatures of 10°C. Fermentation took place in stainless steel tanks at 16 to 18°C with selected yeasts. The wine did not undergo malolactic fermentation, to retain its characteristic crisp style. This wine was produced in an unoaked style preserving its freshness and purity of fruit. It spent four months in stainless steel tanks on its lees with frequent bâtonnage or lees stirring, imparting texture and complexity.

Tasting Note

A bone dry wine, with an explosive mineral core surrounded by delicate notes of fresh lemon zest and floral hints. Refreshing with a crisp, mineral finish.

Grape

Assyrtiko 100%

Awards

90 pts, Decanter, 2019

17 pts, Julia Harding, 2019



Winemaker:	Yiannis Paraskevopoulos
Region:	Aegean Islands
Sub region:	Santorini
Country:	Greece
Alcohol:	13%
Dry/Sweet value:	1 (1 is dry, 7 is very sweet)
Residual Sugar:	1.5
Contains Sulphites:	Yes
Vegetarian/Vegan:	Yes/Yes
Milk/Eggs:	No/No
Organic/Biodynamic	No/No
Product Code:	5912018A
Case unit of measure:	6X75CL
Formats Available:	75cl
Closure:	Nomacorc