THORMAN HUNT

EST. WINE SHIPPERS 1978

Lyrarakis

Crete

Liatiko Red Aggelis Vineyard



Grower

Lyrarakis was established in 1966 by the brothers Manolis and Sotiris Lyrarakis and is now run by the second generation of the family. The winery is in the mountainous commune of Alagni, 440 metres above sea level, south of Heraklion in central Crete. The family has devoted itself to reviving rare, almost extinct Cretan varieties such as Dafni, Plyto and Melissaki. Soils are predominantly loam, with more sand or clay depending on the site, and the family's vineyards have been farmed organically since 2020. Winemaker Myriam Ambuzer looks for precision, purity and a supple texture.

Vineyards

The Aggelis vineyard near Sitia in East Crete was planted before 1910 with own-rooted Liatiko vines. It lies at 580 metres on sandy soil facing north, and the vines are head trained, spur pruned and not irrigated. Low yields give small berries of great concentration.

Vinification

Picked by hand in two passes. Fermentation with indigenous yeasts and malolactic bacteria, with a third of the bunches fermented whole in an oak foudre and barrels, followed by a long maceration. It matures in old oak and stainless steel. No temperature control during fermentation, no fining and no cold treatment; bottled unfiltered with low sulphur.

Style

A light-coloured, structured red of real character, with vibrant acidity, well-knit tannins and good length. It will age for 6 to 9 years. Serve at 15 to 16°C with grilled food, octopus or hare stew.

Grape varieties:
100% Liatiko

Bottling options:
75cl

Closure:
Cork

Suitable for:
Vegetarians and vegans



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