

THORMAN HUNT

EST. WINE SHIPPERS 1978

Lyrarakis, Crete

Liatiko Aggelis Vineyard

Grower

The Lyrarakis estate is a family vineyard and winery which has been producing high quality wines since 1966. Lyrarakis has devoted itself to the revival of indigenous, almost extinct, rare varieties such as Dafni, Plyto, Melissaki and others, vinifying wines that highlight their unique and distinctive character. Lyrarakis is located in the mountainous commune of Alagni (440 metres above sea-level), south of the city of Heraklion, in Crete. The soils are predominantly loam with either more sand or clay depending on the vineyard site. In charge of winemaking, is Myriam Ambuzer who has been vital in securing Lyrarakis a place in the elite wineries of Greece. Her philosophy emphasises precision, purity and supple texture of the fruit.

Vineyards

Aggelis Vineyard, Sitia, East Crete. Soil: Loam. Vines: Head trained, spur pruned. Altitude: 580m above sea level. Irrigation: Not irrigated. Yield: 4.5tn/ha.

Vinification

The "Aggelis" vineyard, planted in the 1930s, with ownrooted Liatiko vines, highlights the authenticity and wealth of Eastern Crete. The low yields lead to small grapes with exceptional high intensity of flavour. Harvesting was performed in two passes over 10 days, based on analysis and flavour profile. Fermentation by indigenous yeasts and malolactic bacteria. One third of the bunches were fermented whole in small oak tank and barrels. The wine had a 12 days maceration, prior to maturation in oak (40% of the wine matured for 1 month in new oak barrels). Respect to natural micro-flora that defines each vintage character, results in a rare, self-sufficient wine. This wine is also made with no temperature control for fermentation, no fining, no cold treatments and is bottled unfiltered. Also, SO2 in the bottled wine is in low concentration (less than 50 ppm).

Style

Ruby colour. Aromas of berry fruits marmalade and cherry with sweet spicy notes in the bouquet. Balanced with firm acidity. The mouthfeel is fruit-driven with some mixed berries and a touch of sweet oak while the tannins are nicely structured. A wine of good length and persistence with lots of potential.



Grape varieties:

100% Liatiko

Vegetarian: yes

Vegan: yes

Bottling options: 75cl

Closure: cork

