



The Daily Drinker

2015 Kratosija Classic, Tikves Winery

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Wine Variety: What a fascinating thing is this grape. It's most long-standing synonym is Tribidrag, a fact that probably won't have you slapping your forehead in amazement. Yet by some means or other Tribidrag made its way to Puglia in southern Italy and thence to California in which locales it is respectively known as Primitivo and Zinfandel. Let the frontal assault commence. Further, no one really has much idea how the grape arrived in CA. It seems most likely that it was sent - along with every other vine known to the Austrian Empire - to the US from Austria sometime around the beginning of the 19th century. In any event, this Croatian variety hinted at its origins with the Italian synonym (now obsolete) Zagarese i.e. native of Zagreb.

Wine Region: The Republic of Macedonia is a landlocked country that used to be part of Yugoslavia. Indeed, greater Macedonia also covered parts of Greece and Bulgaria, too. The Greeks still dispute the use of the name. 85% of the country's vineyard area is within the central River Vardar valley; 41% in Tikves, from where comes this wine. It is now thought that this region is the cradle of global wine production. Recent investment has given rise to a resurgence of quality in the Republic of Macedonia.













Wine Producer: Tikves Winery opened its doors 130 years ago and is apparently the largest and oldest winery in south-east Europe. Bought in 2003 by the Texas-based M6 Investment Group, Tikves has been the beneficiary of €30M of new investment and is now a fully modernised winery. One of their wines, the 2015 Vranec Classic, won a Gold Medal and the Macedonian Trophy at the 2017 International Wine Challenge.

Single Bottle **£10.50**

member price: £9.45

Six Bottle Case **£63.00**

member price: £56.70

 Style: Red - medium-bodied	 Grape Variety: Zinfandel	 Producer: Tikves Winery	 Serving Temperature: 16°C
 Alcohol Content: 12%	 Country: Republic of Macedonia	 Appellation: <i>not specified</i>	 Drink By: 2019
 Bottle Size: 75cl	 Region: Tikves	 Colour: Still Red	 Food: Asian/Spicy Casseroles and Stews Duck Game Lamb Pasta Pork Vegetables

Tasting Notes:

Quite deep, limpid clear ruby colour. The nose is a purity of domestic dark fruits: plum; cherry. There's the merest hint of rhubarb to this; perhaps something a touch floral. Take a sip, and for a split second one encounters a rich, plush, supple wine. Then very quickly the snappy-fresh acidity appears and the wealth of tannin that has the texture of the skin beneath a walnut's shell. Long wine and there's a mineral element to the freshness. Nice. For the table...or a barbecue.

To buy this wine, go to www.thedailydrinker.co.uk
or call 01380 827291