



# ROYAL TOKAJI 2013 BETSEK, 6 Puttonyos

<b>Varietals:</b>	Furmint, Hárslevelű
<b>AVA:</b>	Tokaj, Hungary
<b>Vineyards:</b>	Royal Tokaji's parcels of 1 <sup>st</sup> Growth Betsek single-vineyard (100% Estate)
<b>Alcohol:</b>	11%
<b>Sugar:</b>	182.8 g/L
<b>Total Acidity:</b>	8.7 g/L
<b>Bottled:</b>	May 2017
<b>Imported:</b>	600 bottles

## Tokaji Vineyard Classification

In 1700, 28 villages and their vineyards in Tokaji became the first European vineyards to be classified. This classification remains in effect today and has been verified by the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture as the structure for Tokaji production.

## Betsek 1st growth single-vineyard

Betsek Hill is situated at the heart of the Mád grape-growing basin. Formed by many small south facing parcels planted with Furmint and Hárslevelű, these vines have an average age of 20 to 40 years. Royal Tokaji owns 15 hectares of the best-located vineyards. The soil is rich, dark, Nyirok clay with good drainage.

## 2013 Vintage Notes

Winter was mild and it was nice to walk outside in a t-shirt in the first half of March. However Mother Nature played a joke on us at the end of the month - we suddenly had 10-12 cm snow just a few days before Easter. Many fruit orchards got severe frost but not the Tokaj vineyards as they are located along hillsides at quite high altitude. The rest of the spring was warm again.

Berry setting was not perfect because of the rain during blossoming, but it did not reduce the crop dramatically and there was no need for a heavy green harvest. Early rains transitioned to drought, but the weather was miraculous after veraison started. We had ideal conditions for developing aszú berries (botrytis-affected grapes resulting in noble rot). It had been several years since such a top vintage for botrytis/aszú, but it was well worth the wait.

## Vinification

Excellent quality aszú berries with good structure and perfect botrytis were macerated in fermenting must for two days. After pressing and fermentation the wines were transferred into 300-liter second or third fill Hungarian oak casks for three years maturation in Royal Tokaji's 13<sup>th</sup> century underground cellars.

## Tasting Notes

Pale lemon color. The nose is attractive with hints of honey, apricot and white pepper (pepper is characteristic of this vineyard). Vibrant citrusy palate with hints of grapefruit, orange zest and white pepper, ending with an extremely long finish.

