



ROYAL TOKAJI 2016 MÉZES MÁLY, 6 Puttonyos

Varietals:	Furmint, Hárslevelű and a small percent of other indigenous varieties
AVA:	Tokaj, Hungary
Vineyards:	Royal Tokaji's parcels of Great 1 st Growth Mézes Mály (100% Estate)
Alcohol:	10.5%
Sugar:	180.9 g/L
Total Acidity:	10.7 g/L
Bottled:	May 2019
Imported:	50 cases

Mézes Mály Great First Growth Single Vineyard

Mézes Mály (MAIZE-esh my) is arguably the world's original "superstar" vineyard. The first classification of the already legendary vineyards of Tokaji took place in the 1730's, the earliest of any wine region, and Mézes Mály was designated as a "Great First Growth" – one of only two vineyards with that classification. Royal Tokaji and Hugh Johnson jointly own this vineyard, which is the winery's only vineyard with deep loess topsoil over volcanic bedrock. Vine age ranges from 19 to 60 years old.

2016 Vintage Notes

In truly exceptional years Royal Tokaji selects the finest berries from its classed vineyards and carefully produces a few barrels of single vineyard aszú wine. 2016 is such a year, just the seventh this century, and the quality was so exceptional that we are releasing the widest range of aszú wines since 2008.

After a mild and dry winter, we had a long spring with warm days and cool nights. The flowering season was unusually long and there was an uneven fruit set in many vineyards due to some late spring frosts. Throughout the summer, the weather was almost perfect. In July and August, the region was hit by hail, but there was no serious damage. From the middle of August, botrytis started to spread all over the region. We hand-harvested each intensely flavored aszú berry from the bunches on the vines. The aszú harvest required multiple passes through each block over many weeks!

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 two 300-liter neutral Hungarian Zemplen oak casks for maturation over two years in Royal Tokaji's 13th century cellars.

Tasting Notes

This wine has a lovely nose, honey-like (Mézes Mály translates as "honey-place"), delicate yet persistent. The palate is graceful and intense, precisely balanced with white fruits, hints of chamomile, crisp acidity and a powerful finish.

