

# 2021 Kolonics Furmint Szent István

## Somló, Hungary

Károly Kolonics is a 4th generation winemaker who grew up in nearby Devecser but spent his weekends and summers in Somló. His grandparents were born and raised on the hill. His Somlói lineage goes back notably to his great grandparents who emigrated to the US before WWI. Once the war threatened Hungary, they mailed back as much money as possible. There was an issue with the postmaster and none of the money went to the family and the estate was lost to the Abbey. The family eventually got their land back. The labels are photos of the great grand parents from the late 1800s.



### VINEYARDS

Today, Kolonics farms about 9 hectares of Olaszrizling, Furmint, Juhfark and Hárslevelű in thick basalt crumble soil. The area is also covered in chestnut and walnut trees at an altitude just above the frost line. No herbicides, pesticides, cover crops are cut by hand, and he uses orange oil and hand sprayed SO2 when needed.

### WINE MAKING

His barrel regiment of large 1500L Hungarian oak and Acacia barrels, many around 60 years old, are adorned with the names of Kings and Saints of Hungary. According to Károly, "I usually say that when you taste a wine and you speak about the barrel you do not speak about God but of his dress." As for winemaking, grapes are destemmed, pressed, and then usually spend 6-8 hours of maceration before the native fermentation begins. All wines are barrel fermented and aged, full malo and only racked once before bottling.

### NOTES & PAIRINGS

Szent István was the first Christian King of Hungary. He's impossible to miss walking around Budapest or anywhere in Hungary really, and still resides on the 10,000 Forint. He tragically lost all of his children before his own death and is among other things, venerated as the patron saint of children suffering from severe illnesses. Perhaps less tragic, he's also the patron saint of bricklayers, stonemasons and Hungary itself. Needless to say, he's regarded to have a strong moral compass and gave Hungary 40 or so years of peace which for Hungary is saying something. The Szent István barrel is a long lived 100+ year old oak barrel. The biome of this barrel yields wines with a strong profile befitting the first King of Hungary. All the levels are up in this vintage. It's like spiking the hard mineral water of the hill with plenty of structure, acidity and residual sugar. The barrel also lends some black walnut richness as well. After 6-12 hours on the skins, its gravity fed into barrel. A minimum of 12 months aging on the fine lees with zero racking and then an additional 2 years in bottle before release. The only addition is SO2.



### ANALYTICS & PRONUNCIATION

APPELLATION: Somló (Shoam-low)

GRAPE COMPOSITION: 100% Furmint

CLIMATE: Cool Continental

SOILS: Basalt and ancient seabed

MACERATION & AGING: 6-12 hours on the skins. 12 months aging on the fine lees with zero racking and then an additional 2 years in bottle before release.

ALCOHOL: 14.1%

RESIDUAL SUGAR: 6.7 g/l

ACIDITY: 6.9 g/l

## DANCH & GRANGER SELECTIONS

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