



The Daily Drinker

2016 Smederevka Classic, Tikves Winery

ref. TIKV160 AUG17

Wine Variety: Smederevka is the most widely planted white variety in the Republic of Macedonia, but it seems likely that its origins are in Bulgaria, where there is some genetic diversity. A legend that it was brought to Bulgaria from Egypt by the crusaders is likely to be no more than that: a legend.

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

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|  Style: Dry White - light |  Grape Variety: Smederevka |  Producer: Tikves Winery |  Serving Temperature: 9°C |
|  Alcohol Content: 10,5% |  Country: Republic of Macedonia |  Appellation: <i>not specified</i> |  Drink By: 2018 |
|  Bottle Size: 75cl |  Region: Tikves |  Colour: Still White |  Food: Aperitif Cheese Fish Salads |

Tasting Notes:

Very pale wine: a hint of straw to the colour. This is really undemonstrative to smell. Aromatic it aint. Yet swirl it hard for a while and hauntingly sweet aromas emerge, of vanilla and other sweet flowers. Smells like a New Orleans funeral, but a distant one. Yet the palate has real weight and purpose, just not a vast amount of character. Long and earthily-textured, this. Lemony and a touch saline of fruit. I like it!

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