



THE DAILY DRINKER

2019 Cuvée Methodius, Tikves Winery

ref. TIKV190













Wine Variety: This potent red grape variety, Vranac, shares DNA with a whole slew of varieties around the Balkan region, where it appears to have been grown for many centuries. Perhaps most interestingly, it shares DNA with Tribidrag, a grape that is genetically identical to Zinfandel. Vranac's bunches are compact, the berries thin-skinned: something of a surprise considering how tannic is the wine it produces. The name of this variety translates as "strong black", referencing the potency and colour of the wine it produces. (N.B. This wine also includes 10% Merlot.)

Wine Region: The Republic of North 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.

Single Bottle **£10.00**
member price: £9.00

Six Bottle Case **£60.00**
member price: £54.00

 Style: Red - medium-bodied	 Grape Variety: Vranac	 Producer: Tikves Winery	 Serving Temperature: 19°C
 Alcohol Content: 14%	 Country: not specified	 Appellation: not specified	 Drink By: 2022
 Bottle Size: 75cl	 Region: Tikves	 Colour: Still Red	 Food: BBQ Beef Casseroles and Stews Duck Lamb Pasta Vegetables

Tasting Notes:

A deep and very healthy-looking ruby in the glass with a purple tinge. Nose is dry and I can find hints of cocoa to the wild dark fruit aromas of damsons. There something peppery lurking here, too. The palate is delightfully cool, the fruit showing admirable purity of dark plums and damsons. There's super energy to this wine in its structure, taking in juicy acidity and some refreshing upright tannins. It's a long thing and grips in lively fashion through its back end. Lovely stuff.

#3wordtastingnote: dark, damsons, cool

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