

born of earth, wind & fire



basket, bottle + vine

a newsletter dedicated to the santorini vineyard: july 2011

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IN FOCUS

Real-time face time with Santorini winemakers

Press and bloggers visit the island for up close and personal tastings

"THERE'S JUST NO WAY to shorten the name of Assyrtiko in my notes. Three letters don't work and a fourth isn't much better, so you might as well go with the whole name."

Wine writers and bloggers pretty much summed up the novelty of Assyrtiko: just go with it. Read Steve Raye's report from the field.



Field day: North American press and bloggers discover the mysteries of the basket vine.

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WHAT'S NEW

Family wineries adopt new ways

THE WOMEN ARE DOING THE COOKING on Santorini—and it's not just in the kitchen.

At two family wineries, young women are cooking up new products and ideas. They're part of the new generation of

HOT VIEW

Champion of Minerality: Yiannis Paraskevopoulos speaks to Wine Spectator

[WATCH HERE](#)

HOT LINKS

Travel + Leisure magazine names Santorini the best island in 2011

Alder Yarrow explores Santorini's unique terroir, and in Part II, its unique tastes.

Jordan Mackay writes about another kind of austerity

Huff Post's Thei Zervaki rocks on in Santorini

It's never too hot in Florida for summer (sippers)

SantoWines scores big in Canada

THE CALL OUT



Mark Squires from Robert Parker.com calls Santorini "a small and special wine region."

Other kudos: "Santorini Assyrtikos have depth, power and high acidity."



Enologist Margarita Karamolegou of Gavvas Winery (L) and Agape Roussos of Canava Rouso are cooking up new things on Santorini.

young wine professionals that combine tradition and trend.

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ON TOP

Santorini makes impressive showing at World Wine Awards

North American wine lovers now have another standard by which to judge Santorini wines. The [Decanter World Wine Awards](#) in May medalled a number of wines, showing the world that though Santorini is the "stuff of myth," its indigenous varieties are not.

Ten medals were awarded across the categories, with two regional trophies recognizing Top 10 placements. Congratulations to these winners!



Gaia Wines Assyrtiko Wild Ferment 2010
Argyros Estate 12 Year Barrel Aged Vin Santo 1998



Estate Argyros Assyrtiko 2010
Argyros Estate 4 Year Barrel Aged Vin Santo 2006
Gaia Wines Thalassitis 2010
Domaine Sigalas Mavrotragano 2008



Estate Argyros Mavrotragano 2008
Volcan Wines Koutsoyiannopoulos Assyrtiko 2010



Top 10 Sweet Wines, Argyros Estate 20 Year Barrel Aged Vin Santo 1990
Estate Top 10 New Wave (indigenous) grape varieties:
Argyros French Oak Fermented Assyrtiko 2010

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IN THE FIELD

Countdown to harvest with SantoWines

EVER WONDER WHAT GOES INTO A BOTTLE OF WINE? We did, so we asked SantoWines to give us the "Harvest Countdown." The island's biggest producer, SantoWines receives about 70 percent of the total grapes produced in the Santorini vineyard.



Harvest starts in a few days: here's what it takes.

"Assyrtiko is one of Greece's claims to fame and it reaches its peak on Santorini. These are well worth exploring. Just as a very big cherry on top – they are nicely priced, too.

HOT FILES



The Wine Enthusiast's "Vino Files" spotlights Santorini's earthly delights.

HOT TALK

From the outside looking in, visitors to Santorini tell us what they love.

HOT TWEET

- [@gormanmcdams](#)
- [@ReverseWineSnob](#)
- [@boutari](#)
- [@canterburywine](#)
- [@franklywines](#)
- [@VinoCC](#)

Number of growers in the coop: 1,100

Number of hectares under vine: 1,200

85% is Assyrtiko grapes. 8% reds and the rest other white grape varieties.

Amount of grapes received during the harvest: 1,600 tons of grapes

Number of bottles produced: 500,000 bottles white, 10,000 red, 30,000 Vinsanto

Amount of grapes it takes to make a 500ml bottle of Vinsanto: 1.7 kg

Days of harvest: About 21

Number of people working the harvest: 10



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MISSION

Wines from Santorini is a campaign to increase awareness of the unique PDO wines and vineyard of Santorini through cutting-edge education and promotion.

Direct editorial queries to: info@winesfromsantorini.com

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