

## VAENI 2018 Naoussa (Xinomavro)

WineWise Code	HVA-NAO18
Country	Greece
Region	Naoussa
Color/Style	Red
Varieties	Xinomavro 100%
ABV	12.5
Residual Sugar	1.8
Acidity	5.6
Closure	DIAM
Case Size	12x750
Pricing	Discountable
Maceration	5-6 days
Pumpover/Punchdown	Gentle daily pumpovers
Destemming	100% destemmed
Fermentation Vessel	Stainless Steel
Fermentation Duration	8-10 days
Aging Method	14 months oak barrels, 5 months in bottle
Filtered	Yes
Fining Agents	Gelatin
Lees Contact/Stirring	Fine lees in barrel, no stirring
Malolactic	Yes
Added Sulfur	Yes 90 mg total
Soil Type	Clay, Calcareous
Elevation (meters)	50-300
Vineyard Aspect	South, southeast
Vine Age	30
Yields (hl/ha)	55
Vine Training	Linear double-cordon (Roget)
Picking	Hand-harvested
Annual Production	7000
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### Notes from the producer:

The Co-operative was inaugurated in 1983 but the winery was actually built in 1984 and the first commercial vintage took place during that year. A desire for increased production was one of the reasons that led to the establishment of the Co-operative, which could act as a counterbalance for private companies. In 1984, the most radically designed winery in the Balkans was built at record speed, due to the hard work of its members and support from the government. The Co-operative originally counted 330 members that grew 65% of the grapes in the Naoussa viticultural zone.



### WineWise Notes:

This is a perfect introduction to the aromatic joys of Xinomavro and its capacity for producing refined, tense and expansive red wine. It could plausibly cost much more. Let us be glad that it does not.

This must be one of the world's great wine co-operatives, on a par with La Chablisienne, the Wachau's Freie Weingärtner and the Produttori di Barbaresco. The vast majority of Naoussa's growers have tiny holdings. Only 20 or so grow enough grapes to contemplate making a living from them. Most of the rest sell them to this exemplary organization, which offers a degree of technical and marketing expertise that is quite remarkable.