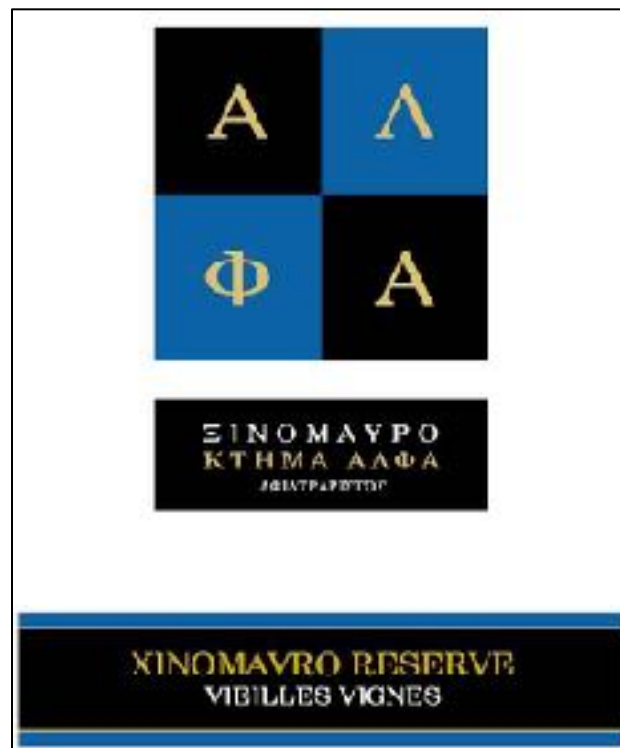


Alpha Estate Old Vines Xinomavro 2015



93 points



The 2015 Xinomavro Ecosystem Reserve Vielles Vignes Barba Yannis Single Block was aged for 24 months in new French barriques and comes in at 13.1% alcohol. By "old vines," the winery means "ungrafted bush vines" from 1919. This, to be clear, is never a wine that seems deep and jammy. The mid-palate finesse is exceptional. It has a wonderfully refined and sophisticated feel—that old-school character. It doesn't hit you over the head with richness. For one thing, it's Xinomavro. For another, it's Alpha in Amyndeon. That means you get pure silk for texture in a wine that has both grace and subtlety. This year isn't the ripest ever, but I loved its freshness. It's a fine performance in a year that had its share of challenges.