



WINERY OVERVIEWS



DOMAINE SIGALAS

"Sigalas is one of Greece's finest white wine producers – in fact, a short list candidate for the best. This producer is universally acclaimed for his skill with Assyrtiko of all types. He is simply a master with this grape."

- Robert E. Parker's [The Wine Advocate](#)

Founded in 1991, Sigalas wines were initially made at the converted Sigalas family home. In 1998 a new vinification, bottling and aging unit was built in a privately owned area of Oia, on the northern part of Santorini. Here the Santorini Assyrtiko as well as the Aidani, Athiri, Mandilaria and Mavrotragano varietals thrive. The vineyards for these varietals are considered the oldest continuously cultivated vineyards in the world, over 3000 years.

The volcanic soils and climate of the viticulture area are the most unique and this "terrior" can not be replicated anywhere else in the world. This is indeed a very special place. The Sigalas Assyrtiko is arguably one of the most acclaimed white wines in the world.



"...one of those hot estates that should draw consumer attention. This winery has been considered to be a 'comer' for awhile. It is fair to end that talk. They have arrived and are making terrific wines."

- Robert E. Parker's [The Wine Advocate](#)

Alpha Estate is located in the heart of the Amyndeon, a wine region in the Northwest of Greece. The estate's vineyards cover over 160 acres situated on a plateau around 2,000 feet above sea level. Moderate temperatures and heavy winter rains create ideal conditions for the grapes to ripen. Poor soils with good drainage create a mild water deficit, resulting in small berries with intense red color and concentrated flavors and aromas.

Alpha Estate is presided over by Angelo Iatridis, considered by many to be Greece's most promising winemaker. Angelo cultivates international varieties as well as indigenous Greek varieties, and all the wines are crafted in Alpha's state-of-the-art gravity-flow winery. Alpha is considered one of the most cutting edge producers in Greece and has established the most technologically advanced vineyards in the viticulture world. They always strive for precision grape-growing and focused terrior-driven wines that are bold and exciting.



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SKOURAS

"A Most Popular Wine Brand in Wine & Spirit's 24th Annual Restaurant Poll"

Domaine Skouras was established in 1986 by Dijon-trained winemaker George Skouras in Pyrgela, Argos, a quaint village nestled in the Nemea region of the Peloponnese. George is widely considered the "Sassica" of Greece, the leader of the modern Greek wine revolution.

Working with both indigenous varieties as well as international varieties, Skouras started producing very high quality Greek wines in the late 1980's. The first bottling of the Megas Oenos, his flagship wine launched in 1988 was the first wine in Greece to blend Aghiorghitiko with Cabernet Sauvignon. Skouras also boasts one of the highest red wine vineyards in all of Europe, planted at over 3,400 feet.

Domaine Skouras sources grapes from its own vineyards and from dedicated grape-growers in the region and is today at the forefront of Greek estates. Demand for these terroir-driven and estate-bottled wines is strong in both Greece and around the world.



Over 20 years ago Konstantinos Karydas established Karydas Estate in Ano Gastra, one of the most well-known grape-growing regions of Naoussa. His immaculately kept six acres of Xinomavro vines are planted on the hill of Gastra in sandy, clay and limestone soils, noted for their good drainage.

In 1994, he built his winery in the middle of the vineyard and, shortly thereafter, his son Petros joined him to produce his first vintage under his own label. Their mission? To produce an old school, traditional single-vineyard Xinomavro with very little intervention.



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In 1930, Dimitris Douloufakis became one of the first winemakers in Crete to produce wines professionally in his traditional, old winery. A consistent award winner, Dimitris's grandson, Nikolas, now runs the winery carrying on his grandfather's traditional practices but with more modern equipment and facilities.

The privately owned vineyards are certified 100% organic and span over 70 acres of hillside land in Dafnes, a village close to Iraklio in Crete. This region has a long history in viticulture and also has been established as a Protected Designation of Origin for Liatiko wines. In addition to the natural choice of Liatiko, Nikolas grows other Cretan indigenous varieties such as Kotsifali, Vilana, Vidiano, along with other international varietals such as Chardonnay, Cabernet, and Syrah.

ALEXAKIS The Alexakis family is one of the most important ambassadors of Cretan wine. It is the largest privately owned winery in Crete and during its long path has collaborated with all the winegrowers on the island. The result is high quality wines that truly represent the Cretan terroir.

The winery is a family affair. Stelios Alexakis, chemical engineer turned winemaker is still in charge of the winery with his wife Sofia responsible for quality control. Children Apostolos and Lazaros, who literally grew up in the winery, join their father as winemakers and are now responsible for the planning and production, successfully transferring the valuable knowledge and insight of their parents.

The Alexakis wines draw on a deep understanding of the Cretan vineyards (varieties, soil, local weather conditions and viticulture); long years of collaboration have allowed the company to choose the most suitable vineyards and the best growers, to produce the highest quality wines on Crete.