Massandra Black Muscat Ay-Gurzuf

PRODUCER
Massandra Black Muscat Ay-Gurzuf

REGION
Rest of world

WHERE
Southern coast of Crimea

CLASSIFICATION
Fortified dessert wine

GRAPES
Black Muscat

VINTAGE AND SIZE
1944 · 6 x 75cl OWC

About Massandra Black Muscat Ay-Gurzuf

Massandra is the historic winery of the southern coast of Crimea, near Yalta. It was established in the 1890s under Prince Lev Golitsyn to supply the Russian imperial court, and its cellars, cut as tunnels into the hillside, were completed in that decade.

Massandra is famous for its fortified dessert wines, made in styles inspired by port, Madeira, sherry and Tokaji, and for its vast collection of old bottles, some dating back to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Old vintages from the collection have been sold at auction and are sought by collectors.

About the wine

This is a fortified sweet wine from Massandra made from Black Muscat grapes, with Ay-Gurzuf referring to the vineyards around Gurzuf on the Crimean coast. Fortification and long cask ageing give a dark, rich wine with raisin, chocolate, rose and spice notes. Wines of this style keep for many decades in bottle.

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