

Corcova Roy&Damboviceanu Winery

Address: 293 Main Street, Corcova, Mehedinti Co.

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GPS coordinates: 44.698095, 23.047737

Address/Headquarters: 293 Main Street, Corcova, Mehedinti Co.

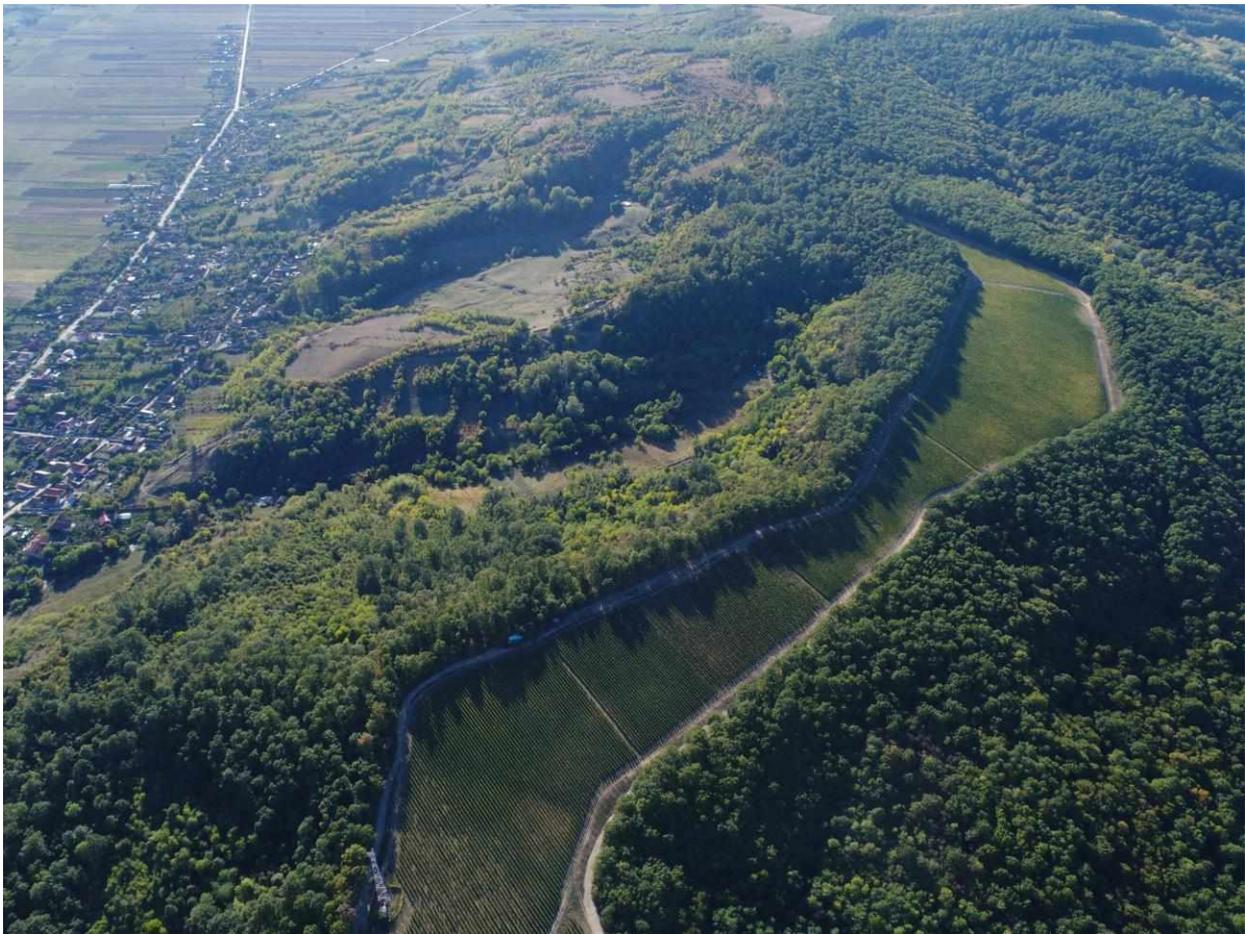
Founded: 2005

DOC: Mehedinti - Corcova

Area: 68 ha

Bottled annually (in Litres): 300.000 L

Owners: Michel Roy & Serban Damboviceanu



Located in the South-West, in Mehedinti County, Corcova is a new vineyard which continues an old tradition of winemaking that has lasted centuries. Even though Corcova Winery has only recently entered the market, it is a tradition that begins in forgotten ages. The Corcova wine bears the original footprint of the location and speaks of history, distinction and passion.

The personality of the area is given by the advantageous intertwining of climate elements with the geological specificity, proper choosing of grape strains and especially the care for the wine-making process. The climate of the area is temperate - continental, with sub-Mediterranean influences. During winter moist and warm Mediterranean and oceanic air masses invade the area, thus making this season gentler. Summers are generally warm but with chilly nights due to the proximity to forests and mountains. Corcova wines are special and have that "gout du terroir", owing to the fact that all the necessary elements meet in the same place: the temperate-continental climate with Mediterranean influence - warm and dry summers, gentle winters, with increased rain fall; the soil has a diverse lithological structure and is rich in minerals, specific to the Motru Piedmont. The Corcova Roy and Damvoiceanu team do a careful and responsible work here.



Since 2005, 60 ha of French grape vines have been replanted as well as others from the past (from the old estate of Bibescu) - Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Pinot Noir, Syrah, Muscat Ottonel, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Fetească Neagră. Furthermore, the wineries that Prince Antoine Bibescu had built, were completely restored during 2008 - 2009

respecting the architectural design, and they were equipped with modern technology which allows the reaching of European standards and a high-level processing of the grapes.

History

Viticulture was probably practiced in this area during the Dacians, being an inhabited area and not far from the capital of Sarmizegetusa. Documentarily, the vineyard is recognized from the 16TH century. By an act of 1 July 1594, Mihai Viteazu gives two vineyards in Corcova to Necula (a Noble), and by another, from 8 July 1596, gives Radu, some other vineyards in Jirov, Cernaia, Cotoroaia and Valea Bună.

Corcova, owned by Bibescu family, met its glory days at the end of the 19th century and in the first half of the 20th century. Prince Anton Bibescu hired a young French agronomist to deal with the vineyard, Aristoteles Sauget. He, followed by his sons, made Corcova a heaven, and most notably, invented Corcovine and corcosail, breathtaking couplings based on Cabernet. None of the technologies of the IAS in the communist era, some even the meritors, failed to rebuild them.

Corcova was the favorite holiday party for Anton Bibescu and Martha Bibescu, as well as for some of their famous friends.

Marcel Proust wrote: *Dear names, like that of Corcova, were so familiar and close to me as Senlis and a thousand times dearest than Bonnelles, and I was shaking in one not to see them in any communiqué, and I blamed myself for not knowing enough and others that you must love them and who are perhaps known by memories...*

Sightseeing

Visiting typical constructions called "CULE" in the surroundings of Motru municipality: Some very interesting things to see.

A culă (plural: cule; from Turkish kule "tower, turret") is a semi-fortified building found in the Oltenia region of Romania with a number of examples located in the historical province of Muntenia. They were originally built as homes for the ruling Boyar class to defend against incursions by Ottoman troops during the Ottoman–Habsburg wars or against violent raids by rebels from the south of the Danube during the eighteenth century (e.g. Osman Pazvantoğlu). Similar constructions exist throughout the Balkans, see Tower houses in the Balkans.

Cula Glogoveanu (Construction year-around 1800) 6 km from Motru in the municipality of Glogova;

Cula Cutui (Year of construction – around 1815) 10 km from Motru in the municipality of Brosteni;

Cula from Ercea village, Cazanesti, at the halfway distance between Dr. Turnu Severin – Motru;

Cula Siacu from Slivilesti municipality (year of construction – around 1818), south of Motru municipality.



Winemaker - Laurent Pfeffer

Foto: Cula Cuțui



Laurent Pfeffer followed the path of Aristoteles Sauget-the oenologist invited by Prince Anton Bibescu to deal with the Corcova vineyard-when, at the age of 27, he chose to make wine in Romania.

Laurent graduated from the faculty of Agronomy in Bordeaux, and then completed his studies in Oenology. He has been in the Bordeaux region for 4 years before taking Romania's path.

After returning to Romania, this passion naturally merged with confidence in Romanian vineyards. Thus began the search for the place where many characteristics needed for a quality wine were found. It has come a long way, visiting the vineyards from the east, to the south, to the southwest and

arriving in 2005, following the recommendation of Prof. Univ. Dr. Aurel Popa, from the University of Horticulture Craiova, and of Alexandru Ghica, to the vineyards and cellars of Corcova.

His work philosophy is to find the ideal balance between the classic wine-making principles of each variety and the specificity of terroir. The search for this balance begins with the work of the Earth and Vine.

Grape Varieties: Sauvignon Blanc, Muscat Ottonel, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Fetească Neagră.



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