

## Licorna Winehouse

**Address:** Gura Vadului Vlg, Mizil, Prahova Co.

**Phone:** +40 372 710 710

**GPS coordinates:** 45.048009, 26.395549

**Founded:** 2013

**DOC:** Dealu Mare

**Area:** 30 Ha

**Owner:** Virgil Harabagiu

**Oenologist:** Gabriel Lacureanu



Licorna Winehouse is the concept by which we manifest courteous love for wine lovers. This is more than a story and we focus on the purity and excellence of wines made with great care in limited editions. If Licorna is the embodiment of perfection, then we are striving every day to find that perfection in wines. Created in a fairytale region, our wines are born from vineyards located in the southeastern area where the grapes are carefully monitored. No detail in the miraculous journey from grape to wine is left to chance, even though this process of transformation is a really magical one.

They say that Licorna or Unicorn, as a mythological animal, possesses miraculous powers: heals diseases, cleanses evil and gives life. If Licorna has never been seen, the wine that bears its name can be found here and, incidentally or not, has the same qualities. In addition, it does not have to be hunted with a bunch of skillful archers, it is enough just to be tasted to leave the mark in the memory of the wine lover.



The long journey of wine at **Licorna Winehouse** starts with extra care in the vineyard, goes on with harvesting the grapes, and finishes with the actual making of wine, with nothing left to chance. Although these are more or less standard steps, the metamorphosis is nothing short of miraculous. The diversity of factors that have a say in wine making makes it a challenge for a group of people to manage the process. However, meticulous attention and professional expertise gained over time help us create the WINE which blends sunshine, rain drops and the heat of the earth.

## **The History**

More than a century ago, Nicolae and Elena Nicolau decided to build a winery in the commune and they had an especially interesting reason for their decision. A few nights before, Nicolae had dreamt that Constantin Brâncoveanu said to him "I demand that you raise a winery where wine shall be as dark as the rooster I am offering up!". Even today a keen eye can see at the entrance the stone that says that in 1909 Nicolae and Elena Nicolau's winery was set up.

After a period of time when history had been a relentless master, the project was swept aside, until 2013 when Virgil Harabagiu, a businessman with experience in HoReCa and tourism, unlocked the gates to the winery and invested in a wine centre and some vineyards which were located in the same area as they were a century ago. The project was called Licorna Winehouse.

## **Winemaker – Gabriel Lăcureanu**

**His life as a winemaker as told by himself.**



*I would say that it was the profession that chose me and not the other way around. The year I had the university admissions exams I opted for Polytechnic University and the Faculty of Horticulture. I was admitted to both, but I chose horticulture as the idea of working with nature smiled upon me, despite the fact that my former high-school mates were laughing at my choice. It is true that I was worried, as any graduate would be, but I had made a choice and I don't like to waltz on a promise.*

*I first entered the world of wine at university, when I was doing an internship at the Oenology Research Centre. By the time I finished university I had already realized that I wanted to build a career in winemaking. That is when the opportunity of doing training at Unicom Production, known for the Davino wines, arose. It was there that I spoke to the practitioners in this field for the first time. Afterwards I left for France, Burgundy region, for a Master's degree in oenology.*

*I wanted to make wines by myself, so I got to go Urlați. I was urged by the possibility of making my own wines in a winemaking center equipped with all the necessary features. My dream had finally become reality, and that was only the beginning of probably the hardest and yet the most beautiful period of my career.*

*Years later I was called to Zimnicea to be a winemaker and I was accepted into the team after no more than 5 minutes. As far as the rumor is concerned, it may be true. I am delighted to have the opportunity of making full use of my experience, here at this well-known winery. I would also like to destroy the myth about it being a large cellar with mediocre wines. Zimnicea lies rather far from Ploiești, where I had recently established a family. Thus, after a while, I decided to be only a winemaking consultant at Intervitt and I returned to Dealu Mare, at Licorna Winehouse.*

**Grapes:** Fetească Regală, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Gris, Tămâioasă Românească, Fetească Neagră, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Sangiovese



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