

K O Z L O V I Ć

FAMILY &
TRADITION
THE KOZLOVIĆ WINE STORY

*To plant a vineyard means I want to live here.
To build a winery means I could die here.*

Gianfranco Kozlović



www.kozlovic.hr

Our family has been producing wines in the Valle valley from **1904**. Since then, four generations have lived with wine and made wine their livelihood.

The first generation, Antonio and Marcella, had 1 ha of vineyard in the Valle valley in **1904** and a modest house of only 35 square meters. **The second generation**, Pietro and Marcella, worked on 2 ha. Pietro's son - Armando, father of the present owner Gianfranco Kozlović, expanded the area of the Valle estate, extended the house and upgraded the living quarters as well as the production facilities. Armando and his wife Edvige became owners of 4.5 ha of vineyards and produced wines and brandies. Since **1975** they have strictly dedicated themselves to wine.

In **1987** Kozlović bottles were introduced to the market.

In **1998** Malvazija from the vintage **1997**, won the title of the best white wine in Croatia.

Today, the winery is supervised and run by its **fourth generation - Gianfranco and Antonella** who took over the business in **1998**. They first extended the cellar to 450 square meters becoming the first fully functional cellar in Istria. At the same time, Gianfranco introduced a new, modern style and together with a few other young winemakers from Istria altered the old expression of Malvazia and switched to a fresh, crisp, light-alcohol, fruity wine. Antonella took over the role of overseeing and planning the strategic marketing activities and wine sales.

Over the past decades our wines have become a benchmark for **Malvazia Istriana** and are recognized as such abroad. **They can be found at Michelin-starred restaurants in the UK and NL** and are distributed to the US, England, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, Bosnia, Serbia and Montenegro.

Gianfranco and Antonella decided upon a brave path concerning the vineyards and took on a momentous task that was 7 times the size of the Valle valley by extending their plots to the **Santa Lucia hill**, a location known for the highest quality vineyards in Istria (single vineyard). The oldest plots here date back to **1961**. They also extended the plots in the Valle valley to 5.7 ha making the current total area of the vineyard 25 hectares.

In **2012** a modern cellar was built and production was moved into a new winery covering 2200 square meters. The wine making, storage and catering facilities are divided into 3 floors. **The complex consists of a smart wine bar, a venue for presentations and guided wine tasting along with outdoor facilities.** Situated on the Valle estate, the winery building with its stunning architectural design became an integral part of the landscape, organically blending into the ambience. Its cutting edge architecture was included in the luxurious monograph by Paolo Basso, the world's best sommelier for 2016, as **one of the 66 best wine cellars presented in the lavishly designed book "Sommeliers' Heavens - The Greatest Wine Cellars of the World"** (Braun Publishing, 2016).

