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klimenti

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PRODUCER	WINE	VINTAGE	APPELLATION	DATE TASTED ↑	DRINK DATE	SCORE
Odjaleche (Klimenti Keutia)	Odjaleche Salkhino	2018	Samegrelo	2021-10-29	2021 - 2026	17

Tasted from a 10-cl sample bottle filled to halfway. Relatively new producer from a region in the west of the country. The grape variety, Ojaleshi , is a maglari vine (grown up trees) and is supposed to have a vibrant strawberry scent, gentle tannins but quite good intensity; Gamay-like, apparently. When asked about all the spellings of seemingly the same word, Sarah explains that Odjaleshe is the producer, Odjaleche Salkhino is the cuvée and Ojaleshi the grape variety. All versions of the same root word. A

qvevri wine.
Soy notes. Umeboshi plums and pink-purple olives. This has an immediate deliciousness and the tiny sample grew even more delicious over several hours. I didn't pick up any strawberry to begin with, but five hours later it had definitely developed a lovely wild-strawberry sweetness and purity of fruit, along with rough-velvet tannins and star-anise spice and Sarawak black pepper. Definitely a producer to watch! Lovely, long savoury yet fruit-led finish. (TC)

VIEW MORE DETAIL

Odjaleche (Klimenti Keutia)	Salkhino Terroir of Legale Tsolikouri	2020	Samegrelo	2021-10-27	2021 - 2027	17.5

Tasted from a 10-cl sample bottle. Tsolikouri is the main white grape of Imereti.
Amber. Oranges and peaches on the nose. And cherry leather. Tobacco leaves, still soft and yellow and curing in the steam heat of the barn. Intense, pure, riveting – speared me to the back wall. This is apricot jam without the sweetness. Leather beaten from dried apricots. Has remarkable delicacy. Tissue-paper-fine notes of hazelnut, walnut, chestnut. A touch of inner sweetness, although the wine finishes quivering silvery dry. A touch of quince syrup. Exquisitely slim line of acidity. The finest tip of clove spice. There is something very like amontillado about this wine, just with apricot sweetness, a shaft of shining acidity and without the burn of alcohol. The finish just goes on and on. Absolutely stupendous. Please will someone import this wine! (TC)

VIEW MORE DETAIL

Odjaleche (Klimenti Keutia)	Tsolikouri	2020	Kakheti	2021-06-22	2022 - 2025	16.5

Qvevri-fermented.
Deep orangey gold. Intense orange and apricot nose though you can tell it will be dry. Super-intense orange flavour, structured by the tannin but more rounded than most of the really tannic qvevri wines. Dry, firm and chewy and hugely flavourful. Long, too. (JH)

VIEW MORE DETAIL

Odjaleche (Klimenti Keutia)	Grand Vin	2018	Ojaleshi Salkhino	2021-06-22	2022 - 2025	15.5

Full bottle 1,632 g. Qvevri wine. Made from the dark-skinned Ojaleshi variety.
Very dark crimson. Deep dark-red fruit with plenty of spice as well as a more savoury character, just a little leafy. Thick, chewy tannins but with fresh and spicy fruit to balance the texture that fills the mouth. Thick and full-bodied. Very dry and chewy tannins on the finish and just a little bit tough. This might be worth hiding in the cellar for another ten years but I haven't tasted any wines with that much bottle age. (JH)

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