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CARASSIA BLANC DE BLANCS BRUT NV

£27.50

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Categories: Other European, Unsung Heroes, £20 - £49.99 Wines

Set between the Mureș, Someș, and Tisa rivers and framed by the Apuseni Mountains, the Crișana region—known as Körösvidék in Hungarian and Kreischgebiet in German—boasts a deep-rooted winemaking tradition. Archaeological finds at the Roman site of Porolissum-Moigrad link this area to the ancient Silvania wine region, while records from the Josephinische Landesaufnahme (1770) confirm early grape cultivation in Carastelec. Carastelec, first mentioned in 1241 and part of today's Sălaj County, has long been tied to viticulture. In 1650, Princess Zsófia Báthori restored the local church and endowed it with vineyards, forests, and her manor—marking the earliest documented proof of vineyards in the village.

Today, Carastelec is home to Romania's first winery focused mainly on sparkling and semi-sparkling wines. Located near Măgura Șimleului Mountain in northwestern Transylvania, its 22-hectare, south-facing vineyard—planted in 2011—is perfectly suited for high-quality sparkling production. The site, chosen by renowned oenologist Tibor Gál, benefits from a favourable microclimate, clay-rich soil, and a wide day-night temperature range during ripening. Pinot Noir is the flagship variety, key to the structure and elegance of the winery's sparkling blends and rosés. Local Fetească Regală and Rhine Riesling complement the range with vibrant pétillant and crisp still wines.

