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PASAELI ÇAL KARASI ROSE

£20.90

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Founded by the charismatic Seyit Karagözoğlu in 2000 Pasaeli is a pioneering winery proudly representing Turkish winemaking on the international stage. Previously a wine importer, Seyit recognised the huge potential of his homeland for wine production. Turkey is blessed with a wealth of unique indigenous grape varieties (some estimate over 1,000, compared to Italy's 600), a Mediterranean climate, and centuries of winemaking tradition, and is, in fact, the world's sixth-largest grape grower. The wine production scene, however, is limited to smaller, boutique producers who are mostly export-focused – among them, Pasaeli.

Their grapes are sourced from single vineyards around Turkey's Mediterranean coast, near Izmir, Tekirdag and Canakkale (close to the ancient city of Troy). All of the grapes are hand-harvested, and exclusively natural yeasts are employed during the vinification process, resulting in wines that are authentic expressions of their unique terroirs.

Çalkarası variety is native to Çal – Denizli. Here it is grown in a single vineyard at an altitude of 850 meters, fermented in stainless steel tanks at a temperature of 18C and aged on its lees for 3 months to provide complexity. A delicate pale pink in the glass, while the nose has enticing aromas of wild strawberries and white peach. The palate is elegant and balanced with a subtly saline, refreshing finish.

