ELENA WALCH

2021 "ATON" PINOT NOIR RISERVA ALTO ADIGE DOC

WINERY

Elena Walch is a five-generation family estate in Alto Adige, a leading force in the region's wine quality revolution with a strong international reputation. The estate focuses on terroir-driven wines that reflect their unique soils, climate, and vineyard practices, all guided by sustainability. With 90 hectares under vine—including the top sites VIGNA Castel Ringberg in Caldaro and VIGNA Kastelaz in Tramin—Elena Walch is a key figure in Alto Adige winemaking.

WINE

Produced in limited quantities, only 3,395 bottles of Elena Walch's highest expression of Pinot Noir, "Aton," are available. Named after the ancient Egyptian sun god who was symbolized by a sun disk, Aton represents the source of light and life.

VINEYARDS

"Aton" Pinot Noir Riserva Alto Adige DOC comes from top grapes grown at 1,250-2,000 ft a.s.l. The 62-year-old vines with low yields are in Glen and Barleith, benefiting from clay and limestone soils with marl. Higher altitudes provide more light, sunshine, and freshness. The result is an elegant Pinot Noir with a fresh, expressive presence, thanks to long sunshine hours and large temperature differences.

VINTAGE NOTES

Harvest took place in the second half of September, once the grapes had reached optimal ripeness. 2021 was a vintage of outstanding quality. A dry, cool spring led to a late flowering of the vines, followed by a warm, dry June. After an unsettled midsummer, an unexpected shift in weather occurred in mid-August, bringing ideal conditions through to the end of September and creating perfect circumstances for optimal grape ripening. Clear skies, abundant sunshine, and warm summer days paired with cool autumn nights allowed the grapes to achieve excellent sugar levels while retaining vibrant acidity.

WINEMAKING

Hand-harvested grapes from high-altitude, northwest-facing plots were gently processed, cold-macerated, and fermented at 73°F (23°C). The wine aged 12 months in French oak and another 12 in steel, then was bottled unfiltered and matured for 11 months before release.

TASTING NOTES

The "Aton" Pinot Noir 2021 is a ruby-red wine of timeless finesse, with aromas of black berries, licorice, and subtle smoky notes. Dense yet elegant, it shows black-fruit intensity, minerality, fresh tannins, and a long, spicy finish. The 2021 vintage offers impressive concentration, precision, and balance—an expressive Pinot Noir crafted with uncompromising dedication.

VINEYARD

Region:	Italy
Appellation:	Alto Adige DOC
Eco-Practices:	Sustainable

WINEMAKING

Varietals:	100% Pinot Noir - Estate Sourced
Aging:	The wine was then aged for 12 months in medium-toast French oak barriques and 12 in stainless steel

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Yeast:	Select
Alcohol:	13.5%
Residual Sugar:	0.5 g/L
Total Acidity:	5.4 g/L

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