Wine and goose - reviving old traditions for Saint Martin's Day

2018-11-21

Two days with new Polish wine, goose and tasty food - this is how we can summarise the New Wine Festival that took place in Stara Zajezdnia. The Municipality of Krakow - 2019 European Capital of Gastronomic Culture - was the partner of the event.

New wine festivals have been celebrated for centuries on Saint Martin's Day, the patron saint of harvest and vintners. This is the time of year when fermentation comes to a halt and clarification begins. This tradition has been revived in Krakow by Srebrna Góra Vineyard located just within the city limits. This year's festival lasted two days and was an opportunity to talk about granting Krakow the title of 2019 European Capital of Gastronomic Culture.

However, the main protagonist of the event was the wine itself and nurturing the strong culinary heritage of our region. Guests tried the new wine - this year Srebrna Góra Vinyard filled over 4000 bottles - and sampled food prepared by Stara Zajezdnia chefs as well as tasted quality Polish products. On Saturday Wojciech Bosak and Mariusz Kapczyński were presented with the Saint Martin’s award for exceptional efforts in promoting Polish wine and Saint Martin's traditions. “This award is granted for their extensive theoretical and practical knowledge acquired over the years and for the tremendous effort involved in their volunteer work sharing the knowledge through numerous pioneering and exemplary educational initiatives”, said Mikołaj Tyc, the chairman of the award commitee, congratulating Wojciech Bosak. Wojciech Bosak is a journalist, wine critic and lecturer at Jagiellonian University in Krakow and Collegium Civitas in Warsaw. Mariusz Kapczyński, journalist and wine critic, was granted the award for his successful efforts – involving both sharing detailed expert knowledge on wine and highlighting its entertainment aspect - in promoting Polish wine making traditions and the traditions of other countries and regions that we have close wine-related ties with. The guests gathered in Stara Zajezdnia relaxed by listening to the culinary tales of Bartek Kieżun who prepared local, seasonal specialities under the watchful eye of Kuba Janicki.

On Sunday visitors had a chance to sample wines from Srebrna Góra and try delicacies - both local and those from afar - prepared by vendors from a small version of Najedzeni Fest! Wine tastings also proved highly popular. This was the sixth time the New Wine Festival was organised.