



The most beautiful wine cellars in the world

VdH Books



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VinContoret

Sweden, Tidaholm

Granqvist Vinagentur is a wine merchant that imports and retails quality wines and spirits from all over the world. The firm has its premises in the Swedish town of Tidaholm at a place with the intriguing name of Vulcan Island. This islet in the River Tidan is home to VinContoret Vulcanön, built in 1894 as the headquarters of the match manufacturer Vulcan. After Granqvist Vinagentur bought the building in 2005, it was renovated under the direction of architect Ulla Antonsson (of White Architects in Gothenburg). VinContoret opened its doors one year later. Alongside a splendid wine cellar there is also an art gallery and a restaurant for private functions. Those who feel like leaving Sweden's shores can book themselves a range of gastronomic journeys to a variety of European destinations.

The wine cellar has an area of 450 m² (4,800 sq. ft) and is concealed beneath the courtyard next to the 1894 building. The space below the old house is used for wine tastings and conferences. A new tunnel links the two cellars together. A variety of materials was used to build the wine cellar: concrete, limestone, gravel, iron and oak. The extremely contemporary, minimalist design is stunning. At present approximately 10,000 bottles are stored in the cellar, although it has a total capacity of 50,000. In fact the cellar is not only used to age VinContoret's wines but businesses and private individuals can also rent part of it. The large open-plan cellar contains iron cages, each with six compartments. They all have their own entrance hatch and can be locked.



Tidaholm
Sweden