Maisons Marques & Domaines





Castiglion del Bosco

Campo del Drago Brunello

Montalcino, Italy Vintage: 2016

Overview

Castiglion del Bosco is one of the most prominent producers in Montalcino, both for the history of the estate and for its size, with 5,000 acres unchanged in the last 400 years. In 1967, when the Consorzio del Brunello di Montalcino was born, Castiglion del Bosco was one of its 25 founding members. This extraordinary property whose origin dates back to the 12th century was acquired by Massimo Ferragamo in 2003, who in turn totally restored the property to its original glory.

As Castiglion del Bosco's most representative wine, Brunello di Montalcino is an example of the Sangiovese grape's perfect symbiosis with the terroir of Montalcino.

Campo del Drago is a single-vineyard Brunello that comes from the finest and highest parcel of Capanna vineyard, 3.5 acres at 450 meters with the best exposure. Displaying a noble personality and structure, it has a unique character and a great aging potential. It matures two years in French oak. This wine has great power and personality and represents a wonderful combination of tradition and innovation.

Winemaking

The wine vats are filled by gravity alone, without resorting to mechanical pumps. The entire vinification process is carried out in Castiglion del Bosco's cellar, completely gravity-fed. The grapes are quality-selected in the vineyards first, then the clusters travel to sorting tables where trained eyes make a further selection of the finest fruit. Fermentation in steel tanks starts with natural yeasts only, once completed, the wines are transferred to French oak in a spacious, climate-controlled cellar that is partially underground, where it refined for 24 months, partly in barriques and partly in 30-50 HL French oak barrels. This was followed by refinement in unglazed concrete prior to bottling.

Tasting Notes

Complex and rich wine, with great grit. Both on the nose and on the mouth, it is intense and harmonious, characterized by a crunchy fruit, with well-integrated acidic notes and hints of officinal herbs. The wine also has a remarkable tannic quality.

Harvest Notes

Characterized by mild winter and spring with higher than average minimum temperatures. This led to a slight advance in budding and a beautiful vegetative expression of the vines. The summer was cool and mild, slowing down the ripening which continued slowly and very well. Ripe tannins, richness in color and good acidity have therefore characterized the Sangiovese of this excellent vintage. The harvest began slightly earlier and ended however around mid-October as often happens in great vintages. There is an excellent balance in the aging of Sangiovese, this should lead to rich but also very elegant wines.

Food Pairing

Excellent with red meats and game.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Varietals: 100% Sangiovese Soil Composition: Galestro

Aging: 24 months partly in barriques and French oak barrels