Marchesi
ANTINORI
26 GENERAZIONI

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Climate

The 2012 vintage was, on the whole, warmer than the previous one. The early months of the year were marked by a February snowstorm, a very unusual event for the Tuscan coast. Bud-burst took place quite regularly despite the scarce rainfall during the spring and summer. Early September rainfall, fortunately, pushed the ripening of the grapes forward, assisting the achievement of a high quality crop. The 2012 vintage demonstrated, once again, that the Bolgheri production zone can produce excellent wines even in very hot years: the morphology of the territory and the nearby presence of the sea mitigate high summer temperatures and help prevent vine stress that could compromise ripening and proper balance in the grapes.

Vinification

The harvest at the Guado al Tasso estate is carried out exclusively by hand, with the grapes picked into small, fifteen kilogram packing cases. The grapes are inspected on two different occasions: first, on the sorting table, only entirely healthy and undamaged grape bunches are selected and then, after destemming, the berries are chosen, one by one, to insure that only perfectly ripe grapes finish in the fermenting tanks. As in every vintage, the crop is fermented vineyard block by vineyard block and parcel by parcel on the basis of the specific characteristics of each single plot. Fermentation and skin contact lasted for 15-20 days and were carried out in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks. After the wine was run off its skins, the finest lots went directly into new, 60 gallon French oak barrels where they also were put through a complete malolactic fermentation. Subsequently, after a year of aging, the finest lots were blended together and aged for a further six months in oak before bottling.

Historical Data

First produced in 1990, Guado al Tasso is the wine through which Marchesi Antinori has deepened its understanding and interpretation of Bolgheri, contributing to turning the potential of this terroir into an identity recognized around the world. Its name evokes Bolgheri as it once was: a landscape shaped by natural fords and untamed nature. Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Merlot, sourced from vineyards at the foot of the Bolgheri amphitheater, are blended in proportions that vary with each vintage, expressing both the character of the territory and the distinctive qualities of the year. Guado al Tasso is a mosaic of terroir, defined by intensity and balance, with tannic finesse as its stylistic signature.

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Tasting Notes

A wine of ample aromatic impact with notes of mint, mocha, plums, and spice which follow and fuse with one another in a movement of constant energy and development. On the palate, the tannic texture is exceptionally full and silky. A wine of true profundity, length and elegance.

Awards

James Suckling 96/100 USA **Wine Advocate** 95/100 USA **Wine Spectator** 95/100 USA **Antonio Galloni** 95/100 USA **Falstaff** 94/100 Austria **Wine Enthusiast** 92/100 USA **I Vini di Veronelli** Super Tre stelle Italy **I Vini dell'Espresso** 16,5/20 Italy