



VILLA TRASQUA

Tuscany | Italy



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INTRODUCTION

Wines crafted by one of Tuscany's most famous winemakers. The historic property of Villa Trasqua is located in the Castellina sub-region of Chianti Classico, between Siena and Monteriggioni. The estate's long tradition in winemaking dates back to 1001, making it one of the oldest winemaking estates in Chianti Classico.

Today, winemaker Franco Bernabei, also known as "Mr. Sangiovese", oversees the production of 3 DOCG Chianti Classicos, which are characterised by a traditional-modern wine style with the inclusion of Merlot and Cabernet Franc and three IGT wines. Franco has one of the most revered careers of any winemaker in Tuscany, having created wines for Felsina, Fontodi (where he created the iconic Flaccianello della Pieve), Folonari and Fattoria di Selvapiana.





HISTORY & PHILOSOPHY

The name Trasqua made its first official appearance in land registers on 4th February in the year 1001, recognised as a plot of highly prestigious land. Since then, along a “thousand miles” of history, the thread that links the locum dicto Trasqua to the present has never been broken. In spite of wars, revolutions, expropriations and assignments, the land has never lost its natural vocation, that of viticulture. Today the total 120 hectares of Villa Trasqua’s estate is owned by the Hulsbergen family, who purchased the estate in 2001.

Villa Trasqua believe that time is the only one, solemn raw material of wine. Time as a rhythm of nature, which must be respected and understood to achieve qualitative consistency; time of growth and full ripening of the grapes; time of slow and conscious waiting for the refinement of wines. But also the time of the “right moment”, of the timeliness of operations in the vineyard, of the moment in which to harvest and process the fruits in the fullness of their expressive qualities. To fully respect the time of wine, and allow their wines to express their origin fully, from 2014 Villa Trasqua has chosen an integral, sustainable approach to wine production, and today they are 100% organic. This is an ethos shared by their oenologist Franco Bernabei, a leading expert on Sangiovese and Chianti Classico.



VINEYARDS & ESTATE

Villa Trasqua's spectacular amphitheatre of vineyards stretches along the southern border of the territory of Castellina in Chianti, in the heart of the Chianti Classico area, between Poggibonsi, Radda in Chianti and Castelnuovo Berardenga, under the shadow of the towered walls of Monteriggioni. It is an area of exceptional biodiversity in which pristine woods, olive groves, cultivated fields and white roads have coexisted with the vine since Etruscan times, and where generations have worked to grow expressive Sangiovese.

The 54 hectares of vineyards rest on Pliocene hills which emerged between 6 and 2 million years ago. The soils are poor, yet rich at the same time: stony, hard, marly (Galestro) and crunchy soils that millennia of rainfall have made poorer, bringing silt and clay towards the valley. These are the perfect soils conditions for the vine, providing balanced and elegant wines.

The uniqueness of Villa Trasqua also lies in the microclimate, influenced by the particular geophysical conformation of the area: a hilly corridor between the Monte Ala massif in the south and the plain of the Staggia stream in the north. The protected yet constantly ventilated micro-environment mitigates summer temperatures and generates an important high day-night temperature range, helping to produce expressive aromatic qualities and ensure perfect ripening of the grapes.





WINEMAKING & THE WINEMAKER

Since 2014, Villa Trasqua has undisputedly excelled under the guidance of winemaker Franco Bernabei, one of Italy's most experienced winemakers and a true Sangiovese expert. Villa Trasqua began a process of mass selection of the clones used in the vineyards and, at the same time, decided to use only indigenous yeasts to better express the origins of the wine.

Pedoclimatic and geological analyses have divided the Villa Trasqua vineyard into sections, each of which, based on soil types and microclimate, has been assigned to grow the most suitable grape variety. This 'French-style' approach led to the identification of 10 distinct fractions of land among which Nerento, the Grand Cru of Villa Trasqua, stands out. Nerento is vinified as single vineyard, as it has always been suited for the production of Sangiovese, and produced the highest quality grapes.

The winery was purposely built close the vineyards to ensure a quick transportation of healthy grapes. Villa Trasqua believes the winemaking process begins in the vineyard, through a never-ending search for vegetative balance. Harvest is done by hand and in several stages, to ensure each vineyard's grapes are picked at optimal ripeness. Once in the winery, pump overs, pressing and racking are all done by hand to enhance aromatic complexity and character.

Fermentation mostly takes place in truncated conical steel vats in a temperature-controlled environment, before transferring to large Slavonian oak barrels and fine-grained French oak barrels, starting the aging phase which will last for several months. The wine is closely monitored, with constant controls and tastings in order to check that a correct aging process is taking place, and only when it is at its peak potential will it be bottled, before a further 3 to 30 months of bottle ageing in optimum conditions.



PREVIOUS AWARDS

James Suckling

Chianti Classico DOCG 2015

92 Pts

James Suckling

Chianti Classico DOCG 2016 BIO

92 Pts

James Suckling

Fanatico Chianti Classico Riserva DOCG 2013

93 Pts

James Suckling

Fanatico Chianti Classico Riserva DOCG 2015

92 Pts

James Suckling

Nerento Chianti Classico Gran Selezione DOCG 2012

94 Pts

James Suckling

Nerento Chianti Classico Gran Selezione DOCG 2013

95 Pts

Wine Enthusiast

Fanatico Chianti Classico Riserva DOCG 2015

91 Pts

Falstaff

Fanatico Chianti Classico Riserva DOCG 2013

91 Pts

Falstaff

Fanatico Chianti Classico Riserva DOCG 2015

92 Pts



RANGE



Chianti Classico DOCG



Chianti Classico DOCG Riserva Fanatico



Chianti Classico DOG Gran Selezione Nerento



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