

TUTTO

PODERE SANTA MARIA

Montalcino, Toscana



Marino Colleoni's winemaking journey began when he and wife Luisa discovered a patch of old vines buried amongst the landscape on Montalcino's northern reaches.

They began clearing away the shrubs and to their surprise a rather detailed vineyard lay beneath. After restoring the terraces and replanting damaged vines, they harvested for the first time in 2000. Sitting just below the town at almost five hundred metres above sea level, the vineyards are some of the highest in Montalcino and unusually, face almost entirely north, a real benefit in the age of climate change. Today they farm just over one and half hectares in Montalcino, on sites surrounded by forest planted over a complex mix of sand, limestone and volcanic rock. They also rent a further hectare and a half in Castiglione d'Orcia.

A visionary in the area, Marino has worked organically from the outset and has experimented working without treatments entirely. In the cantina he exercises a considered restraint and great patience, ageing the wines in large oak casks until they are ready and rendering Sangiovese that is uncommonly pure, detailed and fine.

In recent years, Marino has also begun buying grapes from further afield in Grosseto, from which he makes the kind of rustic, easygoing wines he and Luisa like to drink out on their terrace.

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BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO SANTA MARIA
2019

Marino's Santa Maria vineyards are amongst the highest in Montalcino at around 500 metres above sea level. Planted over a combination of sand, limestone and volcanic rock, they produce wines with a finesse that is sadly often missing in the area these days. Here the grapes were macerated for one month on skins, before being pressed for four years of rest in large old Slavonian oak casks, and it is during this time that Marino believes the magic happens, where Sangiovese transforms into a true Brunello. A masterful wine of impeccable balance, it evolves beautifully in the glass, slowly but surely revealing layers of nuance, suggesting a long life ahead.