



ARGENTIERA 2012

BOLGHERI DOC SUPERIORE

Argentiera Bolgheri DOC Superiore draws its strength and originality from the magnificent land from where it was born. The grapes come from the winery's most suitable vineyards of Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Cabernet Franc. This is a wine with a rich and silky taste. A long maturation in French oak barrels, the refined structure and the unique terroir of Argentiera make this wine one of the greatest expressions in the Bolgheri area.

COMPOSITION

Cabernet Sauvignon 40% Merlot 40% Cabernet Franc 20%

VINIFICATION

The grapes are harvested and selected by hand, coming from the most suitable parcels of the winery which are located between 180 and 200 m.a.s.l. The integral berries fall into the tanks by the use of gravity and undergo vinification divided by variety. Fermentation and maceration take place in stainless steel tanks for about 25/30 days at controlled temperatures not exceeding 28/30° C. The wine is then transferred to 50% new 225-liter French oak barrique where the malolactic fermentation is completed. After 14 months of aging in barrique, the wine is assembled and prepared for bottling. It rests in the bottle for about a year.

TERROIR

Altitude: 180/200 M. ASL

Vineyard exposure: SUD-OVEST

Plant density: 7500 PLANTS/HA

Yield per hectare: 60 QA/HA

CLIMATE

A particularly long, harsh winter hit Bolgheri with occasional snowfall and temperatures below 0°C for over 10 days in February. The following Spring was characterized by modern temperatures and rainfalls, but no issues with downy mildew or powdery mildew. Starting in June, temperatures increased substantially compared with 2011 reaching normal seasonal averages of 24°C which favored plant development and the onset of fruit. Considerable diurnal temperature changes over the summer months bode well for perfumes and polyphenols in the grapes. Harvest began early and ended early, on October 5, with excellent maturity.