

MASCIARELLI

Villa Gemma Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Riserva 2011

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo

ESTATE

Founded by Abruzzo native Gianni Masciarelli in 1981, Masciarelli and its wines have become the standard-bearer for the Abruzzo region, and an inspiration to all emerging Italian wine regions. After a summer in Champagne, Gianni Masciarelli became convinced that world-class wines could be produced in Abruzzo, and through tremendous vision and non-stop innovation, Masciarelli became one of the most admired wineries in Italy.

WINE

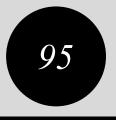
Villa Gemma is the wine that announced Abruzzo to the world, showcasing what the region and grapes of Abruzzo could produce. Villa Gemma is the only Italian wine with 14 consecutive Tre Bicchieri, the highest rating of Italy's most prestigious wine guide. More importantly, it is the wine that established Abruzzo as capable of making truly distinct, extraordinary wines.

VINEYARD

The Colle Cave vineyard is located in Chieti above the house of Gianni Masciarelli's grandfather, and where his grandfather first started making wine in 1930. *Soil:* This steep-sloped site consists of limestone, clay and gravel. *Vine Training:* Guyot *Grape Variety:* 100% Montepulciano d'Abruzzo *Alcohol:* 14.5%

WINEMAKING

Aging: In first-passage French barriques for 18-24 months, followed by an additional 24-36 months in bottle before release.



ILLA CEMMA

2011

GEM

JAMES SUCKLING

"This is a rich and powerful wine that shows greatness. Full and so intense and powerful. So much dark fruit and pumice character. Just a baby. Needs three or four more years to come around but what a wine. Yes."