

LE MACCHIOLE

Le Macchiole has farmed their vineyards organically since 2002. Hand-harvesting and manual sorting are the norm here; a testament to the estate's steadfast dedication to quality. [Pictured: Le Macchiole's Vignone vineyard in Bolgheri]



Paleo Rosso 2017

Toscana IGT, Italy

ESTATE

Le Macchiole can best be defined as the "Boutique Bolgheri." The winery is known for its spectacular single-varietal wines — Syrah, Merlot, and Cabernet Franc farmed with the utmost attention to each bottling's "expression of the land." The winery continues to evolve in both the vineyards and in the cellar to allow the soil characteristics from this estate property to be the defining identity in the wines.

WINE

Paleo Rosso has been called Italy's landmark expression of Cabernet Franc. This grape variety is growing internationally as a distinct bottling, but Bolgheri has proven to be the single best place in the world to do so. The Mediterranean climate and surroundings result in a wine of extraordinarily expressive, sensual, and textural fruits and savory spices.

VINEYARD

Paleo Rosso is sourced from three of the estate's five vineyards: Puntone, Casa Nuova, and Vignone Vines are planted in two training systems, double cordon and single guyot.

WINEMAKING

Variety: 100% Cabernet Franc

Fermentation: 20 days in concrete

Aging: 18 months in oak barrique (75% new), 16 months in bottle

Alcohol: 14.5%

VINTAGE

2017 was definitely a dry year, with little rainfall and very low humidity levels. Spring brought above-normal temperatures, leading to a fast budbreak and growth until temperatures dropped slightly in April. Temperatures rose again over the following months and remained steady throughout the whole pre-harvest period. Harvesting was performed ahead of schedule, as compared with the previous year, giving nonetheless surprising results in terms of freshness and elegance.

Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

97+

"The Three Graces of Le Macchiole are Messorio, Scorio and Paleo (Merlot, Syrah and Cabernet Franc, respectively). Of these three top-tier releases, my favorite is the 2017 Paleo. This is an upright and direct expression of the grape that carefully sheds some dusty or mineral aromas before opening the way for determined black fruit, charred meat, spice and cured tobacco or cigar. There is quite a bit of oak, but it works beautifully against the natural intensity and rich concentration of the hot vintage. More unexpected are those pretty tones of lilac, blue flower and aniseed that add to the detailed rendering and complexity of the bouquet. This wine won my heart."

- ML, 10/2020

96

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