



CASTELLO DI VOLPAIA

2017 BALIFICO TOSCANA IGT



The Balifico vineyard shares its name and location with a villa. The first Super-Tuscans were created in the 1970s by Chianti producers who rejected government mandates that determined which grapes were required to go into their wine, especially white grapes like Malvasia and Trebbiano. The Super-Tuscans were also treated differently from Chianti, aged in small French barriques rather than in large Slovenian casks. Because they did not follow DOC regulations, the Super-Tuscans were entitled only to the lowest official designation of the time — vino da tavola. It wasn't until 1994 that the government recognized the high quality of the Super-Tuscans and gave the wine its own category — IGT (Indicazione Geografica Tipica).



ORGANIC WINE

COMPOSITION	65% Sangiovese, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon
VINEYARD	Balifico (bawl-ee-FEE-co)
SIZE	5.02 hectares (12.4 total acres): Sangiovese: 3.1 hectares (7.66 acres); Cabernet Sauvignon: 1.92 hectares (4.74 acres)
VINE AGE	Average is 20-25 years old (ongoing planting since the 1980s)
SOIL	Sandstone
ELEVATION	Sangiovese: 470 meters (1,542 feet); Cabernet Sauvignon: 450 meters (1,475 feet)
EXPOSURE	South-southwest (Sangiovese); southwest (Cabernet Sauvignon)
DENSITY	Sangiovese: 5,435 vines/hectare (2,200 vines/acre); Cabernet Sauvignon: 5,698 vines/hectare (2,306 vines/acre)
TRAINING	Sangiovese: Guyot; Cabernet Sauvignon: Cordon spur

VINTAGE NOTES A record year for heat and drought throughout the growing season. This condition presented extremes which led to early bud break in the vineyard followed by a spring frost during late April. The frost effected the lower portions of the Volpaia estate. Spring and summer months were dry with higher than average temperatures. Rainfall in mid-September helped the grapes achieve complete ripeness, tannins and other phenolic compounds, despite low yield.

HARVEST DATE Sangiovese: September 29 Cabernet Sauvignon: September 29

BARREL AGING 18 months in new French oak

CASE PACK 6/750 ml

ALCOHOL / TA / RS 14% / 5.4 g/L / 1.1 g/L

TASTING NOTES The Balifico has a vivid ruby color with a dark purple tinge. The nose is elegant, displaying aromas of blackberry and blueberry with hints of oak and cinnamon. This is a smooth wine with good structure and a long finish tasting of red fruit.

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