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## Climate

The 2009 growing season was characterized by three successive phases: an early period punctuated by significant rainfall, then warm and sunny weather until mid-September and an early harvest for the Merlot. Cool and occasionally rainy weather in September delayed picking, but both Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot benefitted from this additional time on the vine to achieve important levels of ripeness and complexity.

## Vinification

A careful selection first in the vineyard and then in the cellars, - both before and after destemming, - preceded a soft pressing of the grapes, harvested and fermented parcel by parcel for a whole series of different wines to blend. A moderately warm fermentation used delicate extraction techniques to insure elegance and suppleness. The malolactic fermentation and 18 months of aging took place in small oak barrels. Ten months of bottle aging preceded the release.

## Historical Data

A blend of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc and occasionally a small amount of Petit Verdot to best represent the complex and elegant terroir found in Bolgheri. This wine has been produced since 1990 from vineyards on alluvial soils whose composition ranges from clay-sand to clay-loam with rocky deposits known as "scheletro".



## Tasting Notes

On the nose the initial balsamic sensations are followed by aromas of ripe fruit and spices, on the palate is velvety, with soft tannins and much finesse. The finish and aftertaste are well supported by savory mineral notes and much length and persistence.

## Awards

**I vini di Veronelli 2013** Super Tre Stelle Italy **Associazione Italiana Sommelier "Duemilavini 2013" Guide 5**  
**Grappoli Italy Annuario L. Maroni** 90/100 Italy **Wine Spectator** 91/100 USA **Wine Enthusiast** 98/100 + Cellar  
**Selection USA Wine Advocate** 94/100 USA **Antonio Galloni** 94/100 USA **Falstaff** 93/100 Austria **James**  
**Suckling** 97/100 USA **Int Wine Cellar** 93/100 USA