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## Climate

The 2019 growing season went through a period of relatively cold temperatures in April and May followed by hot dry weather up until July. Initial vine growth was delayed but caught up to a normal pace by summer. A sudden rise in temperatures resulted in lighter, loosely packed clusters, especially notable in the late ripening varieties where fruit set wasn't yet fully completed. The months of August and September brought stable sunny weather that allowed grapes to progress to full ripeness in optimal conditions, achieving exceptionally high quality of each grape variety. Harvesting began on September 16<sup>th</sup> with Merlot, slightly later than seasonal averages, continued with Cabernet Franc at the end of September and was completed on October 5<sup>th</sup> with the last vineyard block of Cabernet Sauvignon.

## Vinification

Upon arrival in the cellar, the grapes were sorted on two different occasions, once before destemming and again immediately after to guarantee that only perfectly ripe berries reached fermentation vats. Each single vineyard parcel was subdivided into smaller blocks and grapes were harvested separately based on climatic trends and individual characteristics of each grape variety and then fermented separately. Fermentation and maceration took place in temperature controlled stainless steel vats for 15 - 20 days. After racking operations, the wine was transferred directly into barriques where malolactic fermentation was completed by the end of the year. In February, wine from the very best vineyard blocks was selected and the final blend was made. Guado al Tasso was again transferred into new French oak barriques where it aged up until bottling in the month of June 2021.

## 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

Guado al Tasso 2019 is an intense ruby red color. On the nose it's rich and alluring with notes of tobacco, licorice, plums and balsamic sensations that are accompanied by light, elegant aromas of toasted coffee. On the palate it's characterized by aromatic precision and purity, persistent and savory. Tannins are of outstanding quality, very pleasant midpalate and finish. 2019 is a vintage that has great aging potential.