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Climate

The 2017 vintage will be remembered for its unusual progression of the seasons. Only the month of January registered cold temperatures while the rest of winter was mild prompting early bud break in the vineyards. A cold spell at the end of April brought a slight drop in production. From May throughout the entire month of August, the Chianti Classico region enjoyed hot dry weather with daily temperatures reaching over 30 °C (86 °F). Rain showers during the month of September counterbalanced summertime vine stress and provided favorable conditions for optimal grape maturation. The picking was carried out during the first week of September with the complimentary red grape varieties and terminated the first week of October.

Vinification

The grapes, after destemming and after being given a delicate pressing, went into stainless steel fermenting tanks where it went through a long fermentation process at a controlled temperature maintained at a level no higher than 86 ° Fahrenheit (30 ° Centigrade). The maceration on the grape skins lasted at most fifteen days, during which time soft and controlled extraction techniques were utilized to attain aroma, structure, and sweet tannins. At the end of the malolactic fermentation, carried out in stainless steel tanks in the case of the Sangiovese and barriques of second and third passage with the other grape varieties, the various lots of wine were blended and continued to age in oak, principally in casks and, in lesser measure in oak barrels, up until the spring of 2019, the Villa Antinori was bottled in July of 2019.

Historical Data

Villa Antinori is, first and foremost, an idea, a way of conceiving the production of wine: on the one hand, experimentation and evolution, on the other hand, continuity in tradition. Sangiovese and other complementary grape varieties render their homage to an historic label and a wine with a long tradition; this name, in fact, is almost one hundred years old, as the wine was produced for the first time in the 1928 vintage. With the inauguration of the Antinori Chianti Classico cellars, the family wished to reinterpret a Tuscan classic with a Riserva offering which is both delicate and, at the same time, elegant and decisive in flavor.



Tasting Notes

Villa Antinori Chianti Classico Riserva 2017 presents an intense ruby red as a color. The nose shows notes of plums and quince along with spicy aromas of laurel, cocoa, white pepper and pleasurable balsamic finish of eucalyptus and mint. The palate is vibrant, soft, characterized by a savory and long finish, which brings back the wine's ample fruity, spicy and balsamic aromas.