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## Climate

Autumn and winter seasons were relatively mild with very little precipitation. Springtime in Chianti Classico began with beautiful weather prompting early bud break, about 10 days ahead of schedule compared to seasonal averages. The month of May and the first half of June brought rainfall and registered relatively cool temperatures however, these conditions didn't have any adverse effects on the critical phases of bloom and fruit set. Summer was hot, dry and uninterrupted by heat spikes up until the end of August; optimal conditions to maintain excellent balance in the vines' vegetative cycle and guarantee steady growth and development of the grapes. Harvesting activities took place between September 7<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Fermentation and Aging

Grapes for Vinsanto were harvested exclusively from Antinori estate vineyards in the Chianti Classico region. Clusters were carefully selected in the vineyard and placed into small crates; in the cellar they were laid out manually on bamboo mats in the drying room at the Tignanello estate or hung in suspension in special movable frames at the Pèppoli estate. The grapes were left to desiccate until the end of December then were gently pressed to preserve their aromatic and organoleptic qualities. The must was introduced into small casks called caratelli, coopered with different types of wood in sizes varying from 50 to 200 liters and stored in "vinsantaia", rooms exposed to seasonal temperature fluctuations. Alcoholic fermentation is a lengthy and slow process that primarily occurs in the spring and fall, while extreme temperatures in summer and winter cause fermentation to become dormant. Once the alcohol content is elevated enough, the fermentation process naturally comes to a halt. Vinsanto Marchese Antinori was left to age in the caratelli for about 3 years then blended and bottled.

## Historical data

The production of Vinsanto in Tuscany goes all the way back to the Middle Ages and the wine is considered a true regional specialty; the Antinori family has always produced it. The first vintage of the Vinsanto Tenute Marchese Antinori (a "natural" Vinsanto, not a fortified wine with alcohol added) was the 1987.



## Tasting notes

Vinsanto Marchese Antinori is deep amber in color with golden highlights. On the nose sweet notes of dried fruit, hazelnuts and dates, blend with intense sensations of candied orange, honey and a slight hint of cinnamon. The palate is full, supple, backed up by a pleasant freshness that makes it vibrant and pleasurable. Enjoyable persistence of flavors.