



Massetino 2017

Toscana IGT

Merlot 92%

Cabernet franc 8%

Climate and vintage

2017 will be remembered as one of the hottest and driest vintages in recent history. Due to an unusually mild winter with temperatures 3°C above average, budbreak occurred two weeks earlier than usual. Apart from a brief period of cold weather towards the end of April, the entire growing season was dominated by warm and dry weather, leading to a reduced development of the canopy. Flowering and fruit set went well, but due to the lack of water cluster and berry sizes stayed small. July and August stayed hot and virtually without rain, but fortunately with sufficiently cool nights.

Harvest started early on the 24th August and was completed very quickly in less than one week, to preserve freshness and avoid over ripeness.

Vinification and ageing

Due to the unusually quick and early harvest the entire vineyard was picked in only three passages. Given the small crop the lots were grouped by vine age rather than split in single vineyards. The bunches, hand harvested in 15kg crates, were selected by hand on a double sorting table before and after destemming and then subjected to soft crushing. Every single lot of the vineyard was vinified separately. Fermentation took place in both steel and wood tanks, followed by rather short macerations, which did not exceed a week. Given the small size concentration of the berries, we kept extraction to the minimum and lowered the temperatures, keeping them at around 25°C maximum. Malolactic fermentation took place in 50% new oak barriques. The wine remained in the barrels for 15 months and was then assembled. After bottling the wine remained in the cellar until release in October 2019.

Tasting notes

Born out of the strict selection for Masseto, Massetino shares the same pedigree as its sibling. The hot and dry vintage shows in a dark colour and rich and ripe aromatics, dominated by stewed plums and blackberries. The palate is broad and rich, with a remarkable freshness and firmness of structure.

Tasting November 2018

MASSETO

Bolgheri - 57022 Castagneto Carducci
Livorno - Italia