

LE MACCHIOLE

Le Macchiole has farmed their vineyards organically since 2002. Hand-harvesting and manual sorting are the norm here; a testament to the estate's steadfast dedication to quality. [Pictured: Le Macchiole's Vignone vineyard in Bolgheri]



Bolgheri Rosso 2017

Bolgheri, Italy

ESTATE

Le Macchiole can best be defined as the "Boutique Bolgheri." The winery is known for its spectacular single-varietal wines — Syrah, Merlot, and Cabernet Franc farmed with the utmost attention to each bottling's "expression of the land." The winery continues to evolve in both the vineyards and in the cellar to allow the soil characteristics from this estate property to be the defining identity in the wines.

WINE

The Bolgheri Rosso is a refined, irresistible blend of Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Syrah, serving as an introduction to the estate. The wine is, frankly, almost too good at the price. All the intensive artisanal work that Le Macchiole carries out in its vineyards and cellars benefits this wine, and despite more availability than its Paleo Rosso, Messorio and Scio siblings, it sells out just as quickly.

VINEYARD

Bolgheri Rosso is sourced from two of the estate's five vineyards: Puntone and Nuova Vignone.

WINEMAKING

Variety: 40% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Syrah

Fermentation: 15 days in concrete/stainless steel

Aging: 10 months, 80% barrique (2nd or 3rd use), 20% concrete

Alcohol: 14.5%

VINTAGE

In 2017, as every year, harvesting exactly at the right ripeness stage of each grape variety is the challenge that the winery faces in order to make an extremely easy-drinking Bolgheri Rosso. The first Merlot grapes gave a fresh starting point and an assertive tannic texture, whereas the less dense yet very complex Syrah grapes gave spicy black pepper and red fruit notes and, above all, good acidity. The Cabernet Franc and Sauvignon grapes enjoyed a longer ripening cycle, which contributed to the wine's body and complexity on the finish.

91

Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

"There is a sure sense of precision and sharpness here with bright berry and black cherry. Those aromas show quality and craftsmanship. You would do well to pair this accessible, mid-weight wine with simple pasta topped with fresh tomato sauce." - ROBERT PARKER, 5/2019