



ARGENTIERA 2008

BOLGHERI DOC SUPERIORE

Argentiera Bolgheri DOC Superiore draws its strength and originality from the magnificent land from where it was born. The grapes come from the winery's most suitable vineyards of Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Cabernet Franc. This is a wine with a rich and silky taste. A long maturation in French oak barrels, the refined structure and the unique terroir of Argentiera make this wine one of the greatest expressions in the Bolgheri area.

COMPOSITION

Cabernet Sauvignon 55% Merlot 40% Cabernet Franc 5%

VINIFICATION

The grapes are harvested and selected by hand, coming from the most suitable parcels of the winery which are located between 180 and 200 m.a.s.l. The integral berries fall into the tanks by the use of gravity and undergo vinification divided by variety. Fermentation and maceration take place in stainless steel tanks for about 25/30 days at controlled temperatures not exceeding 28/30° C. The wine is then transferred to 50% new 225-liter French oak barrique where the malolactic fermentation is completed. After 14 months of aging in barrique, the wine is assembled and prepared for bottling. It rests in the bottle for about a year.

TERROIR

Altitude:	180/200 M. ASL
Vineyard exposure:	SUD-OVEST
Plant density:	7500 PLANTS/HA
Yield per hectare:	60 QA/HA

CLIMATE

Winter of 2008 was relatively mild and not particularly rainy. Temperatures fell around the middle of March, remaining below the seasonal average for roughly three weeks. This delayed plant growth by about 10 days, with repercussions on the subsequent phenological phases (blossoming and veraison). Frequent rain fell during the blossoming period with a considerable and unfortunate drop in temperatures, causing production to fall to 20% less than normal. Summer was generally settled, apart from water stress and an unusually hot period between the end of August and the first half of September. The course of ripening nonetheless remained standard for all varieties; however harvest periods were very close together.