



Fontodi, `Flaccianello della Pieve` 2018

Tuscany, Italy



PRODUCER

The Manetti family has owned Fontodi since 1968 but has been in Chianti for centuries. Though they have always made wine, their primary business is still the production of Chianti's finest terracotta at their factory in Ferrone. Giovanni Manetti has run the property since 1980 and ensures the wines are as meticulously made as the vineyards are immaculately tended. Their 99 hectares of vineyard, 95% of which are Sangiovese, are situated in the prime 'Conca d'Oro' (golden shell) of Panzano, and have been converted to organic viticulture. Giovanni is now following biodynamic principles to obtain the best quality fruit.

VINEYARDS

The Fontodi estate has 90 hectares of vineyards, all of which are farmed organically and found in the Conca d'Oro, an amphitheatre-shaped valley to the south of Panzano. This shape facilitates the full ripening of the grapes. Flaccianello is made from a selection of the best grapes from the best parts of the Fontodi vineyards, located on the top of a hill at 480 metres of altitude. The soil here is classic 'galestro', the schistous clay on which the Sangiovese grape produces its best results.

VINTAGE

The 2018 vintage in Tuscany commenced with a relatively cool spring. Summer saw average temperatures with an increased level of precipitation which ensured that there was little stress to the vines. Maturation was slightly delayed and the relatively humid conditions during the summer required a lot of work in the vineyards to preserve the healthiness of the grapes. Conditions in September and October were beautiful. The plots that were able to benefit from the extra ripening time produced fruit that displayed impressive structure and elegance while preserving acidity and therefore balance.

VINIFICATION

After picking, the grapes were carried to the Fontodi winery and carefully selected on sorting tables. Fermentation and maceration lasted for two weeks in temperature-controlled stainless-steel tanks. The cap was punched down twice a day during fermentation, which reached a maximum temperature of 30°C. The wine was then racked into 80% new French oak barriques for 18 months before being blended and moved to a mixture of large oak casks for another six months prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES

This Sangiovese is bright, ruby red in colour. On the nose, aromas of ripe dark cherries, violets and plums, complemented by a hint of spice. This wine has wonderful structure and the palate is typically rich and full complemented by racy acidity and characteristically fine, supple tannins. The finish is flavourful and persistent.

Grape Varieties	100% Sangiovese
Winemaker	Giovanni Manetti
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	15%
Acidity	6.4g/L
Wine pH	3.4
Bottle Sizes	75cl, 150cl
Notes	Certified Organic, Vegetarian, Practising Biodynamic