

Valadorna

T O S C A N A

Indicazione Geografica Tipica

2018



Since vintage 2018, Valadorna is 100% Merlot, sourced from the Valadorna and Capraia blocks, which produce the estate's most complex and mineral-based expressions of this variety. The Capraia block is located in one of the cooler areas of the estate. This block has a high percentage of limestone and adds racy minerality to the blend. The Valadorna block is naturally cooled by the stream that undulates through it and features a Marlstone soil very high in clay. The combination of clay and cool temperatures delay the ripening, giving the fruit more time on the vine to develop perfect tannins. Mother Nature saves the best for last, and as such these blocks are often the last Merlot blocks harvested.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2018 vintage was beautiful and will be well-remembered. Overall, the growing season was consistent and produced very balanced wines. With a cool, rainy February and March, budbreak arrived later in the season and gave way to perfect conditions in June and July. We held our breath through early August as hailstorms approached the estate - sometimes less than 1km away - until welcomed rain arrived later in the month to rehydrate and cool the vines. With warm days and cool nights through the rest of August, the ripening conditions were optimal. Merlot from the Capraia vineyard was harvested on September 14th, with the Valadorna block Merlot following shortly thereafter on September 16th.

TASTING NOTES

Expressive aromas of nutmeg spice are supplemented by notes of fresh strawberry and vanilla. A soft and supple mouthfeel is underscored by elegant tannins that envelope the mid-palate. Optimal acidity keeps this wine bright and balanced. Flavors of ripe black cherry and sweet balsamic are accompanied by a lingering finish with notes of tobacco, cedar and a hint of cinnamon. The 2018 Valadorna is a stunning wine that can be enjoyed for years to come.

STATISTICS

COMPOSITION:	100% Merlot	TOTAL ACIDITY:	5.2 g/L
ALCOHOL:	14.5%	pH:	3.58
AGING:	12 months in 70% new French oak barrels	BOTTLES MADE:	16,300

