

# 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 2020

Bolgheri DOC, 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 Sciro siblings, it sells out just as quickly.

### VINEYARD

Bolgheri Rosso is sourced from four of the estate's five vineyards: Puntone, Vignone, Casa Nuova, I Sommi.

### WINEMAKING

Variety: 50% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Franc, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Syrah

Fermentation: 15 days in concrete/stainless steel

Aging: 10 months, 70% barrique (2nd or 3rd use), 30% concrete

Alcohol: 14.5%

### VINTAGE

The year started out with a mild winter followed by a brief period of cold weather and then a rapid rise in temperatures, leading to bud-break in the majority of the vineyards. Spring saw two frosts during the month of April, and then regular precipitations followed until the middle of June leading to abundant vegetative development. Temperatures were not excessively hot in summer but it was dry and windy up until harvest which was characterized by significant temperature variations between day and night and hot days with no rain, except for the last ten days of harvest when the first autumn rains began. The Merlot and Syrah harvests were irregular and included days in which nothing was harvested, between the first and third weeks of September. The harvest of Cabernet grapes, on the other hand, was more sudden, between the third and fourth weeks of September, thanks to the autumn rains.

*Robert Parker*  
WINE ADVOCATE

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"This is a powerhouse wine [...] This vintage does a terrific balancing act with dark fruit and concentration on the one hand and an accessible easy-drinking personality on the other. Black fruit cedes to baked brioche, spice and toasted aniseed [...] you get good value. - M.L. 7/2022

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James Suckling

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Wine Spectator

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Jeb Dunnuck

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