

# VILLA SALETTA

980AD  
— 2016 —

VILLA SALETTA IS A 1,760-ACRE ESTATE LOCATED IN THE HEART OF TUSCANY. ✦ ITS STORY SPANS CENTURIES, WITH THE FIRST WRITTEN ACCOUNT OF WINEMAKING DATING BACK TO 980AD. ✦

In 2000, Guy and Julia Hands purchased the estate and began restoring its productive vitality, starting with the regrowth of the 31 hectares of vineyards in 2002. This includes Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Sangiovese grape varieties.

Under the stewardship of winemaker David Landini, this revitalization, along with the diversity of the *terroir* and an ideal climate, has allowed Villa Saletta to produce a suite of award-winning, top-quality Tuscan wines.

## Information

PRODUCTION:  
*980 bottles Magnum*

SURFACE:  
*1 hectare*

GRAPE VARIETIES:  
*100% Cabernet Franc*

SOILS:  
*Blue clay marls*

AGEING:  
*24 months*

*100% new French oak Tonneaux*

## Vinification

METICULOUS VINEYARD MANAGEMENT AND THOUGHTFUL HAND SELECTION OF THE GRAPES LEAD TO THE QUALITY OF THE 980AD. For the estate's cru, all of the grapes come from the top of the 'Colline' cru, located in the middle of the Villa Saletta property.

The grapes are gently de-stemmed and carefully selected on a sorting table, after which they are softly pressed. Attention to such detail is crucial, as only the perfect berries are useful for fermentation in barrels for the integral fermentations.

During fermentation and the period of skin contact, the must slowly become wine. Our aim is to not only develop freshness and aromas, but also to extract color and roundness. Once the wine has run off its skins, it goes through malolactic fermentation in new French oak barrels to increase its finesse. The ageing period lasts 24 months and is followed by other six months in bottle.

## Tasting notes

A VERY INTENSE, DEEP RUBY RED IN COLOUR, THE 980AD IS RICH IN ITS CONCENTRATION OF RED AND BLACK FRUIT INCLUDING CHERRIES, RASPBERRIES, BLUEBERRIES, CASSIS AND WILD FOREST FRUITS. The bouquet is a complexity of flavors and tastes of blackberries, black pepper, vanilla, liquorice, rosemary and Mediterranean forest. The palate is elegant, fresh, round and fruity, with notes of spices and outstanding tannins with a long persistence.

