



Owner Gaby Gianini

CASTELLO DI MORCOTE 2012 Merlot del Ticino

CASTELLO DI MORCOTE

The Castello di Morcote estate extends over the Arbostora promontory in Switzerland, surrounded by Lake Lugano, at the southern point of Ticino, facing Italy. It comprises 172 hectares where grapes and olives are cultivated, fruit trees and bees are nurtured, and horses and donkeys are raised. The Gianini family, owners of the property for four generations, began to cultivate the land in 1940. The current 7-hectare estate vineyard, surrounding the castle, was established at the end of the 1980s. The estate produced its first wine in 1993. In addition to classic Merlot, a white Merlot aged in oak and a Reserve are also produced.

THE TICINO REGION

There are just under 2,500 acres of vineyard in the southern canton of Ticino, which makes it Switzerland's fourth most important wine region. Ticino is famous for its Merlot, which was first planted here in 1906, and now comprises 80% of its production. Merlot del Ticino can be relatively light, but from well-sited vineyards and serious vinification — as at Castello di Morcote — these wines can easily stand alongside fine red Bordeaux.

CASTELLO DI MORCOTE MERLOT DEL TICINO

Grown on the steep, south-facing granite-porphry slopes of Lake Lugano, this Merlot is produced in the classic Bordeaux manner. It is intense in color and concentrated in flavor, with finely balanced tannins. The cooler climate and moderating influence of the lake help to retain freshening acidity in the fruit, giving the wine a refined, elegant structure.

TECHNICAL INFO

Grape Variety: 90% Merlot; 10% Cabernet Franc

Appellation: Ticino DOC

Soil type: Granite-porphry

Yield at harvest: 40 hectoliters/hectare (approximately 2 tons per acre)

Vinification: Temperature-controlled fermentation, with the skins, for about 20 days.
Maturation for at least 12 months in 225-liter French oak barriques (75% new)
Two rackings.

Alcohol: 13.5%

UPC: 810404020531

Case Pack: 6 x 750 ml

FROM THE PRESS

[90] *Wine Advocate*

“Pure, elegant and smoky on the nose and displays a ripe and matured bouquet of red cherries. Silky, round and elegant with remarkable finesse and freshness, this full-bodied, sweetish red shows firm tannins and a stimulating mineral finish.” *February 2018*

castellodimorcote.ch

