Planeta

Discover the unique expression of Mount Etna with the Planeta Eruzione 1614 Nerello Mascalese, a wine that captures the essence of volcanic soils with its refined and aromatic profile.

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Eruzione 1614 Nerello Mascalese 2020

Sicily, Italy

94 WineEnthusiast

Region and Vineyards

The **Sicilia DOC** region, particularly the vineyards around **Mount Etna**, is steeped in volcanic history. The **Sciaranuova vineyard**, located in **Castiglione di Sicilia (CT)**, lies at an altitude of **840-860 meters above sea level**. This vineyard, part of Planeta's **Feudo di Mezzo** estate, benefits from black lava sands and rich mineral soils, resulting from centuries of volcanic activity. The 1614 eruption, which lasted for ten years, is a legendary event that shaped the terroir, providing an extraordinary environment for growing **Nerello Mascalese**.

The vineyard is managed according to organic agriculture principles and the **SOStain®** protocol, ensuring soil vitality through ground cover crops and minimal use of chemicals. This sustainable approach enhances the unique character of the wine.

Winemaking

The vintage began with the hand harvesting of grapes on **October 22nd and 23rd**. The grapes were picked into small crates, chilled to 10 °C, and then hand-selected. After destemming, fermentation took place in concrete tanks and stainless steel vats at temperatures up to 25-26 °C, with the skins remaining in contact with the wine for **16 to 40 days**. The fermentation process was gently managed with manual punch downs to ensure fine extraction.

Following alcoholic fermentation, the wine underwent malolactic fermentation in stainless steel. The wine was then matured in **25 hl and 36 hl oak casks** for **12 months** before bottling in July. **The final product is a 100% Nerello Mascalese wine**, characterized by its elegance and aromatic intensity.

Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Nerello Mascalese

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Tasting Notes

- **Aroma:** This wine boasts extraordinary aromas of **incense of medicinal herbs, hibiscus, and wild fennel** derived from the lava sands. The bouquet is luminous and lyrical, reflecting the character and refinement of great mountain red wines.
- **Palate:** Compact density of tannins, drawn with elegance. The flavors include the sweetness and generosity of **wild fruit and currants**, mingling with aromas of incense and beeswax, and a faint almost salty flavor that invites further sips.

Did you know?

The name **Eruzione 1614** commemorates the legendary eruption of Mount Etna that lasted ten years, the longest ever recorded. The vines for this wine grow on the very lava flow from this eruption, imbuing the wine with a unique connection to the volcano's dramatic history. This historical link provides not only a unique terroir but also a profound story that enriches the wine's character .

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Game:** The robust character of this wine pairs beautifully with game dishes, enhancing their rich and intense flavors.
- **Truffles:** The aromatic complexity of the wine complements the earthy and luxurious flavors of truffles.
- **Rock Fish with Complex Sauces:** The wine's structure and minerality match well with the intricate flavors of rock fish dishes.
- **Cheeses and Salumi:** Ideal with a selection of aged cheeses and artisanal salumi, bringing out the depth of the wine and the food.

94 WINEENTHUSIAST

Wine Enthusiast (WE) : 94 Points (2020)

The nose begins savory and herbaceous, with notes of stone, salt, pepper, oregano and fennel, before lighter aromas of cherry blossom, hibiscus and strawberries emerge. The cherry and strawberry elements sparkle on the palate, while an enduring wet, salty stoniness balances a silky smooth texture with an intense, briny freshness.

93

Robert Parker (RP) : 93 Points (2020)

The 2020 Sicilia Nerello Mascalese Eruzione 1614 opens to a medium dark ruby hue with lively primary fruit. Wild berry and cassis are backed by softly rendered oak tones of cinnamon and campfire ash. Even though it is technically outside of the DOC (by just a few yards), this is one of the most beautiful growing sites on Etna. The tannins are firm but silky, meaning you can drink this bottle straight out of the gate.

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Wines & Spirits (W&S) : 94 Points (2019)

Grapes for this wine come from high-elevation vines around Planeta's Sciaranuova winery on Etna's north slope, the soils deriving from an eruption that occurred in 1614. As the crushed nerello mascalese grape skins form a cap over the fermenting juice, winemaker Patricia Tóth keeps that cap submerged for up to 40 days, extracting fresh red-berry flavors and fine-grained tannins. The wine is easy-drinking yet packed with personality, its taut raspberry and blood-orange flavors scented with notes of smoke and pink blossoms.