Felsina Berardenga

Colonia Gran Selezione is a limited-edition Chianti Classico from Fèlsina, crafted for true Sangiovese connoisseurs with intensity, elegance, and depth.

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Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Colonia 2019

Tuscany, Italy

Region and Vineyards

The Colonia Gran Selezione is sourced exclusively from the **Colonia vineyard**, which holds symbolic significance for the Poggiali family. Situated at the **highest elevation** on Poggio a Rancia and surrounded by woodlands, the vineyard's medium-textured soils are composed of **reddish-brown alberese sandstone** and **calcareous marl** enriched with magnesium and iron. This unique soil composition is distinct within the Fèlsina estate, lending the wine intense minerality and structure.

The vineyard's replanting began in **1966** by Domenico Poggiali and his son Giuseppe, though rocky soils and challenging conditions delayed its completion until 1993. Colonia has been cultivated for only the finest Sangiovese, with a density of **5,435 vines per hectare**. Today, the vineyard symbolizes three generations of dedication, with its first official vintage released in 2006, bearing Giovanni Poggiali's tribute to his grandfather Domenico.

Winemaking

Colonia Gran Selezione is made with meticulous care. The **hand-harvested Sangiovese grapes** undergo rigorous quality selection before destemming and pressing. Fermentation and maceration take place in stainless steel for **16-20 days** at controlled temperatures of **28-30°C**, with scheduled punchdowns and daily pump-overs for balanced extraction.

In **March or April**, the wine is transferred to **new French oak barrels** for a maturation period of **30 months**. This prolonged aging enhances the wine's depth and complexity, integrating powerful tannins with a smooth texture. After barrel aging, the wine is bottled and ages an additional **8-12 months in glass**, ensuring harmony and refinement before release.

Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 100% Sangiovese

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Intense ruby red.
- **Aroma**: Spicy with earthy and mineral nuances, tobacco, and appealing wild berry notes.
- **Palate**: Bold, with firm tannins essential for aging. The palate reveals concentrated flavors characteristic of the Fèlsina and Poggio a Rancia terroir, marked by minerality and finesse.

Did you know?

The Colonia vineyard is a tribute to three generations of the Poggiali family and the challenges they overcame to cultivate this unique plot. Named after a sun-treatment colony that once existed here, Colonia represents Fèlsina's resilience and dedication to preserving Chianti's heritage. Only **3,000 bottles** are produced, each bearing a special dedication by Giovanni Poggiali to his grandfather Domenico.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Wild boar stew**: The rich, earthy flavors of wild boar pair seamlessly with Colonia's structured tannins and spicy undertones.
- **Aged Tuscan pecorino**: The wine's minerality and firm tannic structure balance the intensity and saltiness of pecorino cheese.
- **Roasted duck with herbs**: The herbal notes in roasted duck complement the wine's spicy and berry aromas, creating a harmonious pairing.
- **Porcini mushroom risotto**: The minerality of Colonia enhances the earthy, umami-rich flavors of porcini mushrooms.

96 Wine Spectator

Wine Spectator (WS) : 96 Points (2019)

A racy style defined by black cherry, blackberry, black currant, Tuscan scrub and mineral aromas and flavors, this red is linear and well-delineated. Like a thoroughbred, this has latent energy and is ready to run, given time to align all its components. Shows a stony, mineral aftertaste. (BS) (10/2023)

95

Robert Parker (RP) : 95 Points (2019)

The Fèlsina 2019 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Colonia is a special wine. This vintage was a little tight and closed when I tasted it, but Colonia has a solid track record for a long bottle evolution. The bouquet brings dark fruit, rosemary, cherry and an especially sharp or chiseled mineral note that really is this wine's lasting signature. There are additional mineral hints of iron ore and rust with dried tomato, garden aromas, leafy greens and button mushroom. In all, this wine shows a very savory or autumnal edge over an elegant, mid-weight texture. (ML) (2/2023)

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Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Colonia 2019

Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 94 Points (2019)

The 2019 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Colonia is a bit marked by oak today, but behind that lies a wine of striking purity, depth and freshness. Dark red-fleshed fruit, crushed rocks, white pepper, spice and blood orange are some of the notes that meld together. There's a beautiful, layered wine waiting to emerge here. (AG) 94+ (6/2022)

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