

Castello di Ama

A masterpiece of Tuscan winemaking, La Casuccia 2019 captivates with its intense aromas, complex structure, and a finish that lingers gracefully on the palate , marking it as a true benchmark for Chianti Classico.

CASTELLO DI AMA



Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 80% Sangiovese, 20% Merlot

Vigneto La Casuccia Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2020

Tuscany, Italy

Region and Vineyards

The **La Casuccia vineyard**, part of the Castello di Ama estate, spans **12.58 hectares (31.09 acres)**, located in **Gaiole in Chianti**, Tuscany. The vineyard features **terraced plots** designed to enhance exposure and uniform ripening. Key parcels—**49, 46, and 45**—contribute the highest-quality fruit for this prestigious wine.

Situated at altitudes of **470 to 495 meters (1,540 to 1,625 feet)** with **north-east to south-west exposures**, the vineyard benefits from excellent sunlight and airflow. Its soils, a mix of **clay and limestone**, are ideal for Sangiovese, while the addition of Merlot thrives due to the balance of richness and freshness. Sustainable farming practices have been in place since the late 1990s, with certification by **Equalitas Italy**.

The 2019 growing season began with cold temperatures and significant diurnal shifts. After a wet spring, the summer was warm and dry, ensuring full phenolic ripeness. Harvesting was conducted by hand between **September 5 and October 10**, parcel by parcel, to achieve optimal maturity.

Winemaking

La Casuccia 2019 is composed of **80% Sangiovese** and **20% Merlot**, reflecting the estate's dedication to tradition and innovation. Fermentation occurred separately for each variety in **temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks** using indigenous yeasts, with temperatures between **30–33°C (86–91°F)**.

The Sangiovese underwent a **27-day maceration**, while Merlot fermented for **25 days**, with regular manual pump-overs. Malolactic fermentation occurred in **French oak barriques**, followed by **14 months of aging** in 40% new fine-grained oak and 60% one -year-old barrels. This meticulous process preserves the wine's elegance while enhancing its complexity and aging potential.

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Intense ruby red with vibrant purple highlights.
- **Aroma**: A symphony of **black cherry**, **ripe plum**, and subtle floral tones, complemented by hints of **tobacco**, **cedar**, and a touch of blood orange.
- **Palate**: Full-bodied and layered, with flavors of **dark fruit**, **licorice**, and earthy minerality. The tannins are firm yet silky, leading to a long, harmonious finish with notes of **spice** and a hint of mint.

Did You Know?

The **La Casuccia vineyard** was replanted in stages, starting in **1978**, with the most recent updates in **2007**. Its terraced design ensures that each row of vines receives equal sunlight, creating uniform ripeness and exceptional quality across all parcels.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Tagliata di Manzo**: The wine's structure and depth complement the richness and tenderness of sliced steak with arugula and Parmesan.
- **Pappardelle al Cinghiale**: Its earthy notes and vibrant acidity balance the gamey flavors of wild boar ragu.
- **Risotto al Tartufo Nero**: The wine's complex aromatics harmonize beautifully with the earthiness of black truffle risotto.
- **Aged Pecorino Toscano**: Its firm tannins and dark fruit flavors pair perfectly with the cheese's nutty and salty profile.

100 vinous

Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 100 Points (2019)

The 2019 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Vigneto La Casuccia is stunning. What a wine! In this vintage, the aromatics are huge and expansive, a theme that comes through on the palate as well. Cedar, tobacco, dried leaves, incense and blood orange all race out of the glass. The 2019 is mind-blowing in its intensity, pedigree and overall balance. It's the wine of the vintage in Chianti Classico. 2027 – 2044

97 Wine Spectator

Wine Spectator (WS) : 97 Points (2019)

Broad and packed with succulent flavors of plum, blackberry and black cherry, this red is supported by a dense, burly structure that should allow it to evolve nicely over the next two decades. Reveals iron, earth, eucalyptus and tobacco accents by the finish. All the elements are there, this just needs time. Sangiovese and Merlot. Best from 2026 through 2045.

97

Robert Parker (RP) : 97 Points (2019)

The 2019 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Vigneto la Casuccia is a wine of intensity, volume and power. Yet it also shows impeccable balance thanks to the deft hands of the estate winemaking team. I find this edition of la Casuccia, with fruit from a steep vineyard that faces the Castello, to be especially full and rich. Fruit weight and concentration is indeed a characteristic of this classic growing season, and this wine wears it well. You are treated to plenty of blackberry, spice, tobacco and grilled herb.