Bilancia

The Bilancia Uvaggio Field Blend offers a refined expression of Rhône white varietals , with layers of stone fruit, floral notes , and a touch of minerality , crafted from hand-harvested grapes in the renowned la collina vineyard .

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Uvaggio Field Blend 2021

Hawkes Bay, New Zealand

Region and Vineyards

Bilancia's Uvaggio Field Blend comes from the **la collina vineyard** in the Hawke's Bay region of New Zealand. **Hawke's Bay** is renowned for its warm and sunny climate, ideal for growing Rhône varietals like **Viognier, Marsanne, and Roussanne**. The **warm days** allow the grapes to achieve full ripeness, while the **cool nights** help preserve the wine's natural acidity, resulting in a balanced and structured wine.

The vineyard is unique because of its **interplanted vines** of Viognier, Marsanne, and Roussanne, where these varieties are grown side by side in **eight rows**. This traditional Rhône approach, referred to as a **field blend**, involves harvesting and fermenting the grape varieties together, which creates a wine with harmonious integration of flavors. The blend composition can change from year to year based on the yield and growing conditions of each variety.

Winemaking

The Uvaggio Field Blend is crafted using **100% hand-picked fruit** from the la collina vineyard. The grapes are **whole bunch pressed** and the juice is fermented in **old French oak barriques**, allowing for subtle oak influence without overpowering the delicate fruit flavors. The wine spends **11 months in oak**, where it develops complexity and depth before being bottled.

The blend is **Viognier-dominant**, providing the wine with its floral and aromatic profile, while the Marsanne and Roussanne add depth, structure, and hints of honeysuckle and white flowers. The result is a wine that balances richness and acidity, creating a full-bodied yet fresh wine.

Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 48% Viognier, 30% Marsanne, 18% Roussanne

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Pale gold with bright reflections.
- **Aroma**: Aromas of **floral perfume**, dominated by **Viognier's exotic fruit** and **white flowers**, along with notes of **honeysuckle** from the Marsanne and a delicate touch of spice.
- **Palate**: The palate is **lush and floral**, with flavors of **ripe apricot**, **pear**, and a subtle hint of **stone fruit**. A backbone of **deep-set acidity** provides length and freshness, balancing the wine's richness and weight.
- **Finish**: Long and complex, with evolving flavors that highlight the different varietals over time.

Did You Know?

The term **Uvaggio** means "field blend" in Italian, referring to the traditional practice of growing and harvesting different grape varieties together in the same vineyard. This method ensures that the resulting wine is more than the sum of its parts, with each grape variety contributing different characteristics to the blend.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Seared scallops with lemon butter sauce**: The wine's acidity and floral notes balance the richness of the scallops and the tangy butter sauce.
- **Roasted chicken with herbs**: The complex aromatics of the wine complement the savory flavors of roasted chicken and herbs like thyme and rosemary.
- **Grilled vegetables with goat cheese**: The creamy texture of the goat cheese pairs beautifully with the wine's acidity, while the grilled vegetables highlight its fruit and floral notes.
- **Spaghetti alle vongole**: The saline quality of the clams and the fresh lemon zest in this classic Italian dish are perfectly balanced by the wine's freshness and minerality.

93

Robert Parker (RP) : 93 Points (2021)

The 2021 Uvaggio Field Blend is composed of 48 buckets of Viognier, 30 buckets of Marsanne and 18 buckets of Roussanne. On the nose, this is incredibly aromatic, with white flowers, apricot kernel, white pepper, clove, pink grapefruit and lashings of white chocolate and sesame seeds. In the mouth, the wine is textural and complex, viscose without being fat or oily, but it's weighty in all the right ways. 14% alcohol, sealed under screw cap.