

Antinori

Antinori Badia a Passignano Chianti Classico Gran Selezione is a majestic expression of 100% Sangiovese, crafted from a historic vineyard at the heart of the Chianti Classico region. This wine celebrates centuries of winemaking tradition with elegance and depth.



94
James
Suckling



Badia a Passignano Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 2020

Tuscany, Italy

Region and Vineyards

The **Badia a Passignano estate**, located in the heart of the **Chianti Classico DOCG**, is renowned for producing some of the region's finest wines. The vineyards are situated at an altitude of approximately **300 meters (984 feet)**, benefitting from soils rich in **limestone and clay**, which contribute to the wine's structure and aromatic complexity.

The **2020 growing season** was characterized by a mild, dry winter, an early bud break, and a spring with average rainfall and cooler temperatures. Summer was warm but not excessively hot, with scattered rain showers that provided the ideal moisture for healthy growth and ripening. Light precipitation in September, during the harvest period, allowed the grapes to achieve **optimal phenolic maturity**. The harvest began in late September and concluded in early October, yielding grapes of exceptional quality.

Winemaking

After **destemming**, the grapes underwent careful selection and gentle crushing. Alcoholic fermentation lasted **10 days**, followed by an additional **10-12 days of maceration on the skins** to extract maximum color and flavor. Once racked, the wine completed **malolactic fermentation** and was aged in **Hungarian oak barrels**, with a small percentage aged in French oak, for several months.

Regular tastings during the aging process ensured the oak integration was perfectly balanced, enhancing the wine's complexity without overpowering its vibrant fruit character. The wine was bottled on-site and further aged in the bottle before its release, reflecting Antinori's commitment to producing a Gran Selezione of unparalleled quality.

Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 100% Sangiovese



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Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby red.
- **Aroma:** Aromatic notes of **black cherries, dog rose**, and subtle hints of **milk chocolate** and **cocoa**, enriched by floral tones of **lavender, irises**, and a touch of saffron.
- **Palate:** Lively and vibrant, with a lean structure and a defined, long, savory finish.

Did You Know?

The **Badia a Passignano** abbey dates back to the **10th century** and has long been associated with viticulture and wine production. The cellars beneath the abbey, where this wine is aged, provide the perfect environment for crafting wines of extraordinary depth and elegance.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Bistecca alla Fiorentina (Florentine steak):** The wine's structure and savory finish complement the richness of the steak.
- **Wild boar ragù with pappardelle:** The vibrant acidity balances the earthy and robust flavors of the dish.
- **Aged Pecorino Toscano:** Its nutty, savory character harmonizes beautifully with the wine's complexity.
- **Grilled portobello mushrooms with rosemary and olive oil:** The earthy notes of the mushrooms are elevated by the wine's aromatic bouquet.

James Suckling (JS) : 94 Points (2020)



This is really velvety and open with a caressing texture that entices with every sip. Medium-bodied with gorgeous brightness and complexity. So hard not to drink now. So why wait, but will age beautifully.

Jeb Dunnuck (JD) : 94 Points (2020)



A saturated dark magenta-ruby color, the 2020 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Badia A Passignano is well layered with aromas of fresh leather, black cherry liqueur, vanilla bean, black licorice, and forest floor. Full-bodied without weight, it is well-balanced and very elegant with ripe fruit lasting long on the palate with ripe tannins that are well integrated, fresh underpinnings and saline, with notes of black tea on the finish. It is a lovely ripe wine, with a hint of game, that will mature slowly over the next 15-20 years. It strikes a wonderful balance of polish and purity.



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Wine Spectator (WS) : 94 Points (2020)

Laced with pure flavors of cherry and raspberry and shaded by a spicy oak element, this bright, balanced red is elegant yet reveals fine intensity. Light tannins line the lingering finish as iron and tobacco notes join in. Best from 2026 through 2042.

