



Antinori

Antinori Solaia 2020 is a masterful expression of Italian winemaking, blending Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and Sangiovese from the Tignanello estate. It exudes power, elegance, and harmony.



Solaia 2020

Tuscany, Italy

Region and Vineyards

Solaia originates from the prestigious **Tignanello estate** in the heart of Chianti Classico, Tuscany. The **Solaia vineyard**, spanning 20 hectares, lies at an altitude of **350-400 meters** with a southwestern exposure. The soils, composed of **"alberese" limestone and "galestro" clay**, contribute to the wine's remarkable structure and minerality.

The **2020 growing season** started with a mild and dry winter, followed by a brief cold spell at the end of March that accelerated budbreak. Spring brought cool temperatures and sufficient rainfall to support vine growth. The summer was hot but without extreme heat spikes, and light rains in September facilitated gradual ripening. Harvest began in late September with Cabernet Franc and Sangiovese, concluding with Cabernet Sauvignon on **October 10th**.

Winemaking

Solaia 2020 is meticulously crafted, beginning with a careful **hand-harvest and sorting process** to select only the finest berries. Grapes were destemmed, gently crushed, and transferred by gravity into **60-hectoliter truncated cone-shaped fermentation tanks**.

Fermentation and maceration were carefully managed to balance fruity compounds and tannin quality, showcasing the wine's identity and character. After racking, **malolactic fermentation** occurred in French oak barriques, enhancing complexity and softness. The wine was then aged in **new French oak barrels** for approximately **18 months**, with individual lots aged separately before blending and final refinement in barrels.

Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 75% Cabernet
Sauvignon, 20% Sangiovese, 5%
Cabernet Franc



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Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby red.
- **Aroma:** Intense and complex with notes of wild berries such as blueberries, raspberries, and currants, interwoven with sweet hints of plums and black cherries. Subtle mint, myrtle, and licorice emerge alongside floral lavender and rich cocoa powder, complemented by spices like cloves and pink pepper.
- **Palate:** A rich, mouth-filling entry leads to a velvety texture. Vibrant acidity and well-integrated tannins sustain a long, elegant finish. The aftertaste reveals mint, licorice, and chocolate, mirroring the aromatic complexity.

Did you know?

The name **Solaia**, meaning "sunny place," reflects the vineyard's warm southwestern exposure. First produced in **1978**, Solaia was created to highlight Cabernet Sauvignon's potential in Tuscany. It is made only in exceptional vintages, underscoring its rarity and prestige.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Bistecca alla Fiorentina (Tuscan-style steak):** The wine's structure and tannins complement the richness of this classic grilled steak.
- **Braised short ribs in red wine sauce:** Its bold flavors align with the wine's complexity and depth.
- **Porcini mushroom risotto:** The earthy notes of mushrooms enhance the wine's floral and spicy character.
- **Aged Parmigiano-Reggiano:** The wine's vibrant acidity and tannins balance the nutty, savory profile of the cheese.

James Suckling (JS) : 98 Points (2020)



Subtle and beautiful on the nose with currants, flowers and light sage aromas that follow through to a full body with ultra-fine tannins and a long and flavorful finish. Extremely polished and poised.

Wine Spectator (WS) : 97 Points (2020)



Dripping with black currant, blackberry, black cherry, iron and toasty oak flavors, this red is suave and polished. Features flashes of tobacco and wild herbs that add even more detail as this builds to a long, kaleidoscopic finish. Presents civilized tannins that are well-integrated and provide structure. Cabernet Sauvignon, Sangiovese and Cabernet Franc.



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Decanter (DCT) : 97 Points (2020)

Baked black fruit, ripe, fragrant and intense on the nose. Bright and sour fruit on the palate, quite a sharp initial tang from the high acidity before rich, sunny, ripe strawberries and raspberries come into play with liquorice, toast and cedar aspects giving the spiced element to the expression and graphite offering minerality. This is a powerful wine no doubt, bordering on too hedonistic at times - a result of the hot and dry summer, it's sensual, rich and flashy but the sense of control and layers of juicy freshness help balance the opulence with refinement. Clearly confident and charismatic, fans of this style will delight with Solaia in 2020. Made by Renzo Cotarella, Stefano Caraneto and Pietro Dogliani. (GH) (7/2023)

