



CIACCI PICCOLOMINI D'ARAGONA



Ciacci Piccolomini is one of the most sought-after producers in all of Italy. This ancient estate has 35 hectares of superior holdings in the prized Castelnuovo dell'Abate zone, including the 'Pianrosso' vineyard (meaning 'red field,' a reference to the iron rich soils) and the 'Fonte' vineyard, which produces grapes for the Rosso di Montalcino.

*"Brother-and-sister team Paolo and Lucia Bianchini continue to make excellent Brunellos in the tradition of their father, Giuseppe, who died in 2004. They are better employing their new modern cellars, which were completed last year, and continue to maintain their south-facing vineyards at near pristine levels. The Brunellos emphasize finesse and balance, with layers of ultrafine tannins and subtle ripe fruit, yet they age incredibly well. The Bianchini family was gifted its Brunello estate in 1985 by Countess Elda Ciacci Piccolomini d'Aragona, who had no heirs; Giuseppe had been the estate manager." — **The Wine Spectator***

"Ciacci Piccolomini d'Aragona is one of the headline estates of Montalcino"
— **The Wine Advocate**

The vineyard consists of medium grain soil with good levels of marl, dating from the Eocene period at an altitude that ranges from 240 to 360 meters. The "Pianrosso" plot of the vineyard consist of heavy iron deposits.

CIACCI PICCOLOMINI D'ARAGONA 2017 BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO

100% Sangiovese Grosso

Aged 24+ months in 20-75 hl Slavonian oak barrels, plus 8+ months in bottle.

97 Points + Editor's Choice, The Wine Enthusiast: *"This delicious, bold red offers inviting aromas of fragrant blue flowers, spiced plum, forest floor and pipe tobacco. Full and enveloping in feel, it delivers a great depth of juicy black cherry, black raspberry, licorice and baking spice flavors framed in velvety tannins."*

93 points, The Wine Advocate: *"Generous, layered and rich, the Ciacci Piccolomini d'Aragona 2017 Brunello di Montalcino shows the generous fruit and deep layering that identifies this vintage. This edition shows a bright note of sweet cherry that features strongly both on the bouquet and the palate. The wine shows lots of soft fruit with almond, spice and wild rose. From a hot and dry vintage, this Brunello is probably best suited to a near or medium-term drinking window."*

Paolo Bianchini and his family shared the same frustrations as other top producers in the appellation regarding the hot and dry 2017 vintage. Thankfully, the Ciacci Piccolomini d'Aragona estate is located in a rather cool location with south-facing vines and well-draining galestro soils on the back side of Castelbuovo dell'Abate. I always like to think of this tiny hilltop hamlet as the place where the day's sunbeams shine in Montalcino before sunset. This estate is certified for organic farming."

