CIACCI PICCOLOMINI D'ARAGONA

Ciacci Piccolmini 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.

2012 BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO RISERVA
"PIANROSSO-SANTA CATERINA D'ORO"

100% Sangiovese Grosso
aged 36+ months in 7.5-62 hl Slavonian oak barrels, plus 12+ months in bottle.

100 points, The Wine Enthusiast: *"This gorgeous wine opens with alluring aromas of sweet pipe tobacco, underbrush, new leather, truffle, plum and eucalyptus. Smooth and full-bodied yet elegant, the savory, juicy palate delivers crushed Marasca cherry, raspberry preserve, licorice and menthol alongside polished, enveloping tannins. Fresh acidity provides impeccable balance while an orange zest note lifts the finish. Drink 2023-2032."*

95 Points, The Wine Advocate: *"The 2012 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva Vigna di Pianrosso Santa Caterina d'Oro is a gorgeous expression that sits firmly on a base of dark fruit, spice, tobacco, and crushed river stone. There is a spot of ripe fruit and candied raspberry that comes into focus as the wine warms in the glass. The wine is slightly shorter in the mouth, but it quickly makes up for that thanks to balanced elegance, fine tannins and tangy acidity."*

94+ Points, Vinous: *"Good full red-ruby. High-pitched aromas of red cherry and violet are complemented by lower tones of licorice and dried herbs. Concentrated and primary in the midpalate; ripe dark fruit flavors build slowly and stain the palate. Deep and dense on the tactile finish, this wine could use a little more acidity to highlight its dark, medicinal aspect. Bigger, richer and deeper than Ciacci Piccolomini's 2013 Brunello, it will likely develop more grace and nuance over time, hence the "+" sign attached to the numerical score."*

93 Points, The Wine Spectator: ***"****Elegant, evoking cherry, strawberry, cigar box, and graphite flavors matched to a firm structure. Shows fine balance and expression. Best from 2021 through 2033."*