MORELLINO

DI SCANSANO

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THE WINE KILLER

Morellino di Scansano

Despite being relatively recent, the history of Morellino di Scansano DOCG is deeply rooted in the ancient times. Numerous archaeological findings dating back to the Etruscan period, especially in the areas of Scansano and the Albegna valley, prove that the local production of grapevines was already fundamental for the Etruscans. Other discoveries, such as terracotta jars containing some vitis vinifera seeds, bronze statuettes and other artefacts confirm the strong relationship with wine at that age.

After having conquered the Fortress of Ghiaccioforte, around 280 B.C., the Romans took possession of the territories of Scansano and allow the further development of agriculture. Wine was thus produced for the western provinces of the empire, as evidenced by the discovery of several shipwrecks and kilns used for the production of wine amphorae, which confirm the flourishing trade, both by sea and through the Aurelia and Clodia roads. After a relative decline in the Middle Ages, during the 19th century the practice of the "Estatatura" (seasonal migration of people), inaugurated by Peter Leopold I of Lorraine in 1737, determined the arrival of the wealthy families in the Scansano area, encouraged by the Grand Duke to invest and enhance the Maremma district. It was a sort of peaceful migration, which lasted from June to October, where the public offices of the province of Grosseto moved to Scansano to escape malaria. According to tradition, Morellino takes its name from the bay horses called 'morelli', which were used to tow the carriages of the families and officials when they moved to Scansano. The word 'morelli' evokes all the strength and intensity of this type of horses.

Morellino di Scansano became a DOCG wine

only with the 2007 harvest, even though it was established as a DOC in 1978. The DOCG regulations make some changes to the previous technical specifications, which are summarized below.

Production area:
The historical one: the whole town of Scansano and part of the towns of Campagnatico, Grosseto, Magliano in Toscana, Manciano, Roccalbegna, Semproniano.

Grapes:
- Minimum 85% of Sangiovese grapes.
- Maximum 15% of other grapes from black grape varieties allowed in Tuscany (Canaiolo, Ciliegiolo, Malvasia, Colorino, Alicante, and more recently also Merlot, Cabernet, Syrah, and other international black grape varieties).

Production:
90 quintals per hectare (while the DOC regulation allowed 120 quintals per hectare).

Vinification:
The vinification process must take place only in the production area of the grapes, as provided for by the previous regulation dated back to 1978.

Bottling:
It must take place in the production area of the grapes, without prejudice to the right acquired by the firms that have historically bottled Morellino di Scansano outside the aforementioned area before the transition to DOCG.

This wine, in the "Vintage" type, shows a ruby red colour, a winy aroma with fruity notes, a good freshness and sapidity, combined with softness or sometimes a slight tannic texture. It can be marketed from the spring after the harvest.
The Morellino di Scansano in its Riserva version has an intense red colour, which tends to become ruby red with aging, a fruity aroma (marasca cherries, red fruits and plum), spicy and vanilla notes. These characteristics are due to the long aging, at least two years, one of which in wood. When tasted it is dry, full-bodied, from slightly tannic to soft.

Morellino di Scansano

GARDINI NOTES WINE RANKING

The targets are three: short (5 years), medium (8-10 years) and long (more than 10 years), which denote the aging potential of the wine.

SHORT (5 years) MEDIUM (8-10 years) LONG (more than 10 years)

97+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Riserva Calestaia 2016

ROCCAPESTA

Emblematic wine for this winery, picture of the versatility of Sangiovese. On the nose, fruits of undergrowth, blackberries above all. Then, balsamic nuances of star anise; again, officinal trace of thyme and pepper leaf. The fresh sip shows an excellent fullness enhanced by iodized tannins.

95+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG I Massi di Mandorlaia 2019

CONTE GUICCIARDINI

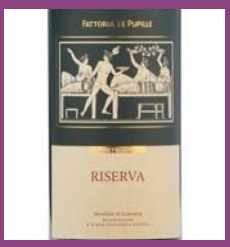
From a wine-growing area of undeniable vocation, a label of great reliability. Good roundness on the nose with alcohol-infused black cherries and officinal trace of bay leaf, hints of star anise. Dense, compact mouthfeel with salty tannins and fruity return.

95

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Riserva 2017

FATTORIA LE PUPILLE

Another tasting of great freshness and juiciness. Cherry and red currant on the nose with touches of eucalyptus. Thick and crunchy mouthfeel with iodized tannins. The closing is persistent with a balsamic return.



95

Morellino di Scansano DOCG 2017

CASTELLO DI MONTEPÒ

Iconic and timeless. From Sangiovese BBS 11 clone, with a contribution of Cabernet Sauvignon. Sour cherries and blueberries on the nose, with a pleasant officinal trace. Closing on the notes of sweet spices, cinnamon dominating. Taut mouthfeel, juicy and salty tannins. Long persistence in the finish.

94+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Riserva Maestrino 2016

TENUTE CALÌ

This Reserve version displays a good complexity. Aromas of alcohol-infused sour cherries, cassis, bay leaf. Agreeable finish on the notes of sweet spices, cinnamon dominating. Salty tannins, a good density and firmness. In the finish, return of officinal trace.

94+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Ghiaccioforte 2018

CASTELLO ROMITORIO

Project of great originality carried out by Sandro Chia, a very famous representative of the Italian art movement called Transavanguardia. Blend of Sangiovese and Syrah backed by a great sapidity. Alcohol-infused plums, a hint of bay leaf ending on the scents of ginger. Dense mouth with salty tannins. Fruity closing.

94

Morellino di Scansano DOCG 2019

POGGIO AL LUPO

One of the Morellino's essential interpretations, from the skilful and elegant hands of Antonio Moretti. Undergrowth wild strawberries and cherries on the nose with a nice finish of eucalyptus. Taut and juicy mouth. Salty tannic texture with a final balsamic return.

93+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Bellamarsilia 2019

POGGIO ARGENTIERA

A colour picture of one of the Morellino's representations, the most 'bright' one. Left fifteen days on the skins, alcohol-infused marasca cherries, great officinal note of marjoram and balsamic finish. Juicy and dense mouthfeel. Fruity closing.

93

Morellino di Scansano DOCG 2019

CANTINA DEI VIGNAIOLI DI SCANSANO

The best taste of the Cantina. Sangiovese with a little contribution of Alicante generating a Morellino of great personality. On the nose, blackberries, blackcurrants, a trace of undergrowth with a finish of cinnamon. Dense mouth, salty tannins ending on a spicy return.

92+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG La Rasola 2019

CANTINA DEI VIGNAIOLI DI SCANSANO

A cooperative winery dating back to 1972. Total surface covering 600 hectares, a natural inclination towards quality. Blend made of 90% Sangiovese, left 4 months on fine lees. On the nose, undergrowth blackberries and sour cherries. Nice closing of dried spices. Taut mouth, salty tannic texture ending on fruity notes coming back.

92

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Col Di Bacche 2019

COL DI BACCHE

Great taste in the name of freshness from a winery situated a stone's throw from the Maremma Natural Park. Blend of 90% Sangiovese and the remaining 10% of Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. On the nose, aromas of blackberry and blueberry, with a final balsamic trace. In the mouth, salty and juicy.

TOP 25

92

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Riserva Laire 2017

BRUNI

Blend made of 85% Sangiovese and 15% Syrah for a wine showing an intense nose: blackberry jam, a touch of fresh thyme ending on the notes of cloves. Nicely taut and dense in the mouth with iodized tannins. In the finish, fruity taste returning.

92

Morellino di Scansano DOCG 2017

MONTECIVOLI

An interesting organic project focused on a well-balanced blend of Sangiovese and Alicante. Raspberry jam on the nose with scents of black pepper ending on the notes of nutmeg. The mouthfeel is salty with a nice tautness and length.

91+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Doga Delle Clavule 2017

BORGO SCOPETO E CAPARZO - DOGA DELLE CLAVULE

Fermentation in steel, then wood for a 100% Sangiovese displaying a complex nose. Aromas of alcohol-infused marasca cherries, a nice officinal trace of thyme, closing on the tones of cinnamon. Salty on the palate with a balsamic return.

91+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Marteto 2019

BRUNI

Standard-bearer of this firm, Sangiovese blended with Alicante and Syrah. On the nose, candied cherries and fruits of undergrowth with a closing of fresh bay leaf. In the mouth, iodized taste with a beautiful persistence and a fresh finish on the nuances of eucalyptus.

91+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Roccapesta 2018

ROCCAPESTA

This flagship product represents the philosophy of Roccapesta. On the nose, alcohol-infused black cherries, a wonderful nuance of marjoram and touches of cinnamon in the finish. The mouthfeel is taut with a nice density and salty tannins. Officinal and fruity taste returning in the end.

91+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Brumaio 2017

TENUTA PIETRAMORA

A single-varietal Sangiovese resulting from a perfect workmanship. Aromas of wild strawberries and pomegranate on the nose, with hints of thyme ending on the notes of star anise. Great firmness in the mouth, iodized tannins. In the finish, a return of small red fruits.

91+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG 2019

POGGIO ARGENTIERA

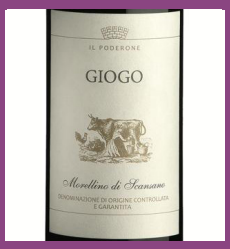
Great firmness in this Morellino from a single-varietal Sangiovese. Nice profile of small black fruits on the nose. In the finish, notes of fresh pepper leaf. Juicy mouthfeel with iodized tannins. Closing with fruity return.

91+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Giogo 2019

TERRE DELL'ETRURIA

From a great cooperative project, a product expressing the whole territorial essence. "Duroni" cherries and officinal herbs on the nose, bay leaf dominating, touches of white pepper. The mouthfeel is thick with iodized tannins. Again, an officinal taste in the closing.



91+

Morellino di Scansano DOCG 2019

MORISFARMS

Historic label for the appellation with an interpretation of great freshness. Blend of 90% Sangiovese and Merlot and Syrah for the remaining 10%, no wood for aging. On the nose, raspberries, pepper leaf and closing on the notes of cloves. Juicy, salty mouth with a pleasant persistence.

91

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Poggio Brigante 2019

POGGIO BRIGANTE

From a great organic project, a wine that stands out for its freshness. On the nose, wild strawberries and redcurrants with an officinal closing on the notes of bay leaf and touches of cinnamon. Fresh and iodized mouthfeel. Long-lasting persistence with spiciness returning in the finish.

91

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Spiaggiole 2019

TENUTE CALÌ

From one of the most beautiful wine-producing areas for the whole typology.Sea and wind held in this wine. Pleasant olfactory profile with fruits of undergrowth, blueberries and blackcurrants, a hint of cloves. The mouth is salty and tannic, with a nice juiciness. Small black fruits returning in the finish.

91

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Ribeo 2019

ROCCAPESTA

Sangiovese 'with a little help' from Alicante, a very pleasant easy-drinking wine. No filtration, aging in concrete. On the nose, aromas of cherries with a great spiciness of cloves and officinal closing. Juicy and iodized mouthfeel with a fruity finish.

91

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Riserva Madrechiesa 2016

TERENZI

A remarkable reserve, from a young but already reliable winery. Aged in Slavonian oak, a nice olfactory profile: cherries, Mediterranean maquis and touches of cinnamon. Juicy mouth with salty tannins closing on balsamic tones.

91

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Riserva 2016

CANTINA DEI VIGNAIOLI DI SCANSANO

What is currently the most significant reality of Morellino – supported by figures - is also striking in this Riserva version. Left 15 months in oak barrels, aromas of canned plums and fruits of undergrowth, a great officinal trace in the finish. Salty tannins, a nice acidity with long-lasting taste.

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THE WINE KILLER

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96

NOVEMBER 2020

MORELLINO DI SCANSANO
WINE RANKING BY
LUCA GARDINI
THE WINE KILLER

TASTING PERIOD
JULY 2020