

CUSTOZA



FONDO EUROPEO AGRICOLO PER LO SVILUPPO RURALE: L'EUROPA INVESTE NELLE ZONE RURALI

Custoza



70%

Garganega, Trebbianello
Bianca Fernanda



30%

Trebbiano toscano, Malvasia, Riesling italiano,
Pinot bianco, Chardonnay, Manzoni bianco

Custoza is a DOC wine produced in the Italian region of Veneto, in the province of Verona.

The area of the DOC is spread across 9 municipalities: Sommacampagna (home of the hamlet of Custoza, hence the name of the designation), Villafranca di Verona, Valeggio sul Mincio, Peschiera del Garda, Lazise, Castelnuovo del Garda, Pastrengo, Bussolengo and Sona.

The limited extension of the DOC area smoothes the climate conditions and mitigates the weather: the summer is warm and the winter temperate. The nearby Garda Lake creates a microclimate that is conducive for the growing, blooming and fructifying of the vines and also facilitates grape maturation.

Furthermore, the soil of the gentle morainic hills is mostly made up of deposits left by the glaciers that created the Lake, and thus presents different profiles, from pebbly-sandy to clay-loam, all rich in minerals.

Custoza is a very peculiar wine, one of the first white wines to obtain a Controlled Designation of Origin in Italy, established back in 1971 with the name "Custoza White"; then, after 2005, the mention was shortened to "Custoza". The Consortium of Protection was established in 1972. Today, the Custoza DOC area is home to 572 wineries, covering over 2800 ha, and producing 12 million bottles.

The term "Custoza" DOC is used for 4 types of wine: Custoza, Custoza Superiore (coming from small parcels and selected crus), Custoza



passito (sweet) and Custozza spumante (sparkling). The history and tradition of Custozza wine in the territory is old and fascinating. Back in time, it was an after-meal wine, served during the holidays. Now the most consumed and appreciated version is the dry Custozza.

The wines of DOC Custozza must be obtained with white, autochthonous grapes: Garganega, Trebbianello (a local biotype of Friulano) and Bianca Fernanda (a local clone of Cortese). The product specification also allows a small percentage of other grape varieties: Trebbiano toscano, Malvasia, Riesling italico, Pinot bianco, Chardonnay and Manzoni bianco.

The obtained blend is a harmony of all the characteristics of the Custozza DOC, recognizable for its balance and elegance. The Trebbiano brings structure, the Garganega the typical fruity aroma, the Trebbianello and Bianca Fernanda bring florality and elegance – the union of all varieties contributes to the creation of a unique wine.



Custoza

GARDINI NOTES WINE RANKING

The targets are three: short (5-8 years), medium (10-15 years) and long (more than 15 years), which denote the aging potential of the wine.



SHORT (5-8 years)



MEDIUM (10-15 years)



LONG (more than 15 years)

95



Custoza Superiore DOC Cà Del Magro 2018 MONTE DEL FRÀ

A stunning old vineyard, a very peculiar interpretation of Custoza, made in the old-fashioned way, by using all the white grapes in the vineyard, then aged in small oak barrels. Pink grapefruit, caper, a iodized hint, then a mentolated ending at the nose. The mouthfeel is also fresh, with Mediterranean scrub nuances. The finish is both salty and fruity.



94



Custoza DOC Costantia 2020 VILLA MEDICI

A very surprising wine, made by blending Trebbiano, Garganega, Bianca Fernanda and Manzoni Bianco, a little gem aged in stainless steel. Green apple, notes of basil and hints of jasmine at the nose, that ends on a iodine nuance. The mouthfeel is very fresh, salty, with a citrusy-officinal aftertaste and a long-lasting persistence.



94



Custoza Superiore DOC Campo Del Selese 2019 ALBINO PIONA

Another successful Custoza, made by grapes of Garganega, Trebbiano, Trebbianello, Chardonnay and Bianca Fernanda. All the grapes are worked separately, a small part aged in barrique. The nose is thick and intense, white nectarine, marjoram, then a flowery hint of hawthorn. The sip is both dense and taut, savory, with a good acidity and persistence.



94



Custoza Superiore DOC Ulderico 2017 MASSIMO RONCA

A very peculiar, organic Custoza made by blending Garganega, Trebbiano Toscano, Tocai Friulano, Riesling, aged both in stainless steel both in small oak barrels. Very intense at the nose, dried apricot, then rosemary, an almond hint, then a iodized trace at the end. The mouthfeel is crunchy, salty, dense and taut. Long-lasting persistence.



93+



Custoza DOC San Michelin 2020 GORGO

From the old vineyard of San Michelin, a brilliant organic wine made by blending grapes of Garganega, Cortese, Trebbiano and Riesling. At the nose notes of melon and litchi, ending of hints of lemon thyme and white pepper, the mouthfeel is taut and thick, savory, long-lasting. Fruity-officinal notes returning in the aftertaste.



93

**Custoza DOC 2020****VILLA MEDICI**

From the morainic hills just outside Sommacampagna, another convincing interpretation of Custoza, based on the crunchiness of the fruits. Bergamot, then white nectarine and hints of hawthorn at the nose, the mouth is fresh and fruity, with a good acidity that enhances the sip. Very persistent.



93

**Custoza DOC Mael 2019****CORTE GARDONI**

Mineral and incisive, a great Custoza. Valeggio sul Mincio area, blend of Garganega, Trebbiano Toscano, Trebbianello and Riesling. The nose is distinct and intense, hawthorn, bitter orange, apricot, a touch of fresh sage. The sip is also citrusy and floral, with good acidity and saltiness. Long-lasting persistence.



93

**Custoza DOC 2020****ALBINO PIONA**

All the distinct minerality of the terroir of Albino Piona winery in this Custoza that is made by Garganega, Trebbiano, Trebbianello, Bianca Fernanda, Riesling, Pinot Blanc, Chardonnay, Incrocio Manzoni all vinified separately with a little stay on the lees. Cedar, white nectarine at the nose, ending on white pepper notes, salty, crunchy and taut is the mouthfeel enhanced by good persistence.



92

**Custoza DOC Montemagrin 2020****SANTA SOFIA**

One of the milestones of the appellation, also made in the old way, by blending Trebbiano, Garganega, Trebbianello, Cortese, Malvasia, Riesling Italic, Pinot Blanc and Chardonnay. Litchi and pineapple at the nose, with hints of sage and charming almond ending. The mouth is savory and crispy, tropical fruits returning in the aftertaste.



92

**Custoza Superiore DOC La Guglia 2018****TAMBURINO SARDO**

Another iconic bottle of this typology, made by blending Trebbiano, Garganega, Tocai, Malvasia, Cortese and Incrocio Manzoni. At the nose hints of white melon, then pineapple and touches of broom. The sip is fresh and savory, with tropical fruits reappearing in the aftertaste. Good persistence.



92

**Custoza Superiore DOC Summa 2018****GORGIO**

Organic winery since 1975, as said the company claim, vineyards located on moraine hills between Garda Lake and Verona. A peculiar wine produced with late harvested grapes of Garganega, Bianca Fernanda and others white typology. Nectarine, litchi and jasmine hints at the nose, with a white pepper ending. The sip is dense, crunchy and salty, with good persistence.



92

**Custoza DOC 2020****MASSIMO RONCA**

A good and clean interpretation of Custoza enhanced by a good 'hand' in the wine cellar. Blend of Garganega, Trebbianello and Trebbiano Toscano all of them vinified separately. White peony at the nose, with hints of nectarine and lemon thyme. The mouthfeel is iodized, the density and thickness of the sip are significant. The aftertaste is fruity-officinal.



92

**Custoza Superiore DOC San Pietro 2017****LE VIGNE DI SAN PIETRO**

Blend of Garganega, Trebbiano, Trebbianello, Cortese, Manzoni Bianco, a very balanced Custoza, with thickness and density. The nose is multifaceted, lemon, then kiwi and hints of white pepper and Mediterranean scrub. The sip is both salty and fruity, enhanced by a convincing persistence.



92

**Custoza Superiore DOC Amedeo 2019****CAVALCHINA**

A picture of a splendid vintage, showing a good olfactory and gustatory balance, as the well-built project of Piona family. A blend of Garganega, Bianca Fernanda, Trebbianello and Trebbiano, ripe nectarine at the nose, then scents of hawthorn and a iodized ending. The sip is well-balanced and elegant, the ending is fruity.



91+

**Custoza DOC 2020****MENEGOTTI**

A young and highly skilled winery, very focused on reaching the perfect phenolic ripeness. A blend of Bianca Fernanda, Garganega, Trebbiano, Tocai Friulano, cedar zest and thyme on the nose, then white flowers, the mouthfeel is dense and crunchy, savory, with a good persistence. Citrusy finish.



91+

**Custoza Superiore DOC Custodia 2019****CANTINA DI CUSTOZA**

From the hearth of the typology, a blend of Garganega, Trebbiano, Friulano and Incrocio Manzoni. Litchi and passion fruit at the nose, touches of fresh grass cuttings, then an almond ending. The sip is taut and salty, the persistence is long lasting. Tropical fruits reappearing in the aftertaste.



90+

**Custoza DOC Val dei Molini 2020****CANTINA DI CUSTOZA**

A wine cooperative originally founded back in 1968, that now has 200 members, several product lines focused on reaching the highly quality possible. That is a blend of Tocai Friulano, Garganega, Trebbiano Toscano, Cortese and Chardonnay, the nose is multifaceted, apricot and marjoram, then jasmine, the mouthfeel is thick and intense, the closing is fruity.



90+

**Custoza Superiore DOC Elianto 2018****MENEGOTTI**

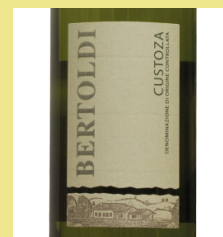
Blend 50-50 of Bianca Fernanda and Garganega, 8 months on the lees in stainless steel. Orange peel, touches of lemon and jasmine, then a mentholated ending. The mouthfeel is dense, thick and taut, enhanced by good acidity and also good persistence.



90

**Custoza DOC 2020****BERTOLDI**

A solid vinery with a long successful history, here in a fresh and official interpretation of Custoza. A blend of Trebbiano, Garganega, Cortese, Trebbianello, lemon, sage then jasmine at the nose, the mouth is crunchy, savory, taut. Citrusy aftertaste.



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AUGUST 2021

CUSTOZA WINE RANKING BY
LUCA GARDINI
THE WINE KILLER

TASTING PERIOD
JUNE/JULY

