FRESCOBALDI
TOSCANA

Benefizio 2006



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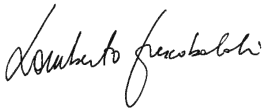
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Pomino Bianco Riserva DOC

Benefizio Riserva is the embodiment of the history of Chardonnay in Tuscany, since this grape was introduced on this Tenuta in 1855. In 1878, Pomino was awarded the Gold Medal at the Paris Exposition for the high quality of its wines, in 1973, a vineyard at 700 metres' elevation produced Benefizio, the first white wine in Italy be barrel-fermented, and in 2005 that wine became Benefizio Riserva.



Climatic trend

The spring months brought temperate conditions, with little rain and no heat stress; this in turn contributed substantially to sound, healthy fruit. At the end of May there was a sudden drop in temperatures; although it did no damage, the vine growth process was slowed and fruit set affected negatively. The result was looser clusters, with fewer grapes, but the clusters were healthier. July brought high temperatures, but August turned cool, with moderate rainfall, temperature phenomena that ensure, in both red and white grape varieties, excellent concentrations of aromatic compounds, both intense and complex. Light rains during the summer provided the vines with enough moisture to undergo veraison (change of colour) without problem. Sunny, crisp, dry days in September and October were crucial in developing in the grapes all of the qualities necessary for the production of wines of unsurpassed quality and fine structure.

Technical notes

Origin: Castello di Pomino, Pomino, Rùfina
Altimetry: From 680 m to 730 m (2230/2400 feet)
Surface: 9 Ha in the Benefizio vineyard (22 Acres)
Exposure: South-west
Soil typology: Terrain rich in sand, strong presence of stones. Very well drained. Rich in mineral elements. PH acid of lightly acid.
Plant density: Part 2.800 and part 5.000 vines/Ha
Breeding: Guyot
Vineyard age: 14 years
Wine Variety: Chardonnay
Alcohol content: 13,50%
Maceration Time: Partial, 12 hours at 5C°
Malolactic Fermentation: Mainly done
Ageing containers: New french barriques
Ageing time: 10 months in barriques and 4 months in bottles

Tasting notes

A rich straw yellow precedes fruity fragrances of banana, citrus, and pineapple, accompanied by suggestions of vanilla, followed by acacia blossom and honey. It enters with a zesty acidy and impressive weight, and unfurls a development of notable length and intensity.

Wine pairing: Vegetable soups, baked sea bream, baked salmon fillet, caviar.

Awards

I vini di Veronelli: 90 points