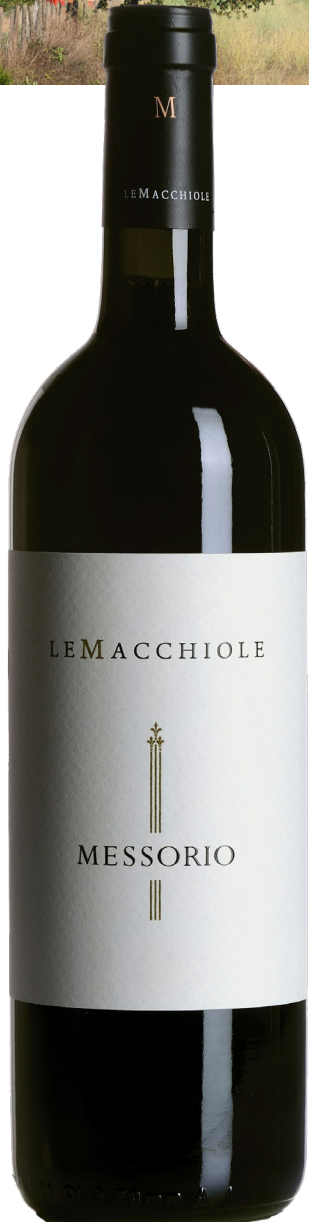


LEMACCHIOLE BOLGHERI

Messorio 2014

Toscana IGT



ESTATE

Le Macchiole can best be defined as the "Boutique Bolgheri." The estate is known above all for its single-variety wines, which have reached cult status among wine enthusiasts the world over. Le Macchiole was founded by two Bolgheri natives, Eugenio Campolmi and Cinzia Merli, who were among the pioneers of wine production in the region in the early 1980s together with Sassicaia and Ornellaia. In addition to its renowned single varieties, the winery is also celebrated for their polished, elegant, and sophisticated wines that are a result of extremely meticulous work in the vineyards.

WINE

Messorio, a Merlot monovarietal, is the winery's crown jewel. Its initial vintage was 1994, and since then it has received extraordinary acclaim, including a 100-point score from the Wine Spectator for the 2004 vintage. The name Messorio refers to the ancient Tuscan practice of wheat harvesting, the most important time of the year in the Bolgheri countryside – once it referred to wheat; these days, it is all about grape harvesting.

VINEYARD

Sourced from grapes grown on the Vignone estate parcel. Yields are managed tightly through the use of low vigor rootstocks and drastic thinning of clusters.

Vine Training: Guyot

Grape Variety: 100% Merlot

Alcohol: 15%

WINEMAKING

Fermentation: 20 days in concrete and stainless steel

Aging: 20 months in new oak barriques

VINTAGE

There is no question that the 2014 was challenging for all Italian wineries and Bolgheri was no different: rainfall, changeable weather and constant lack of sun adversely affected the harvest like rarely before. It was a vintage that required hard work and commitment, allowing those who worked carefully, accurately and with passion to make the difference. At Le Macchiole, a lot of time and hard work was put into protecting the grapes through constant canopy management to lighten the foliage, and allow for more sunlight and warmth to receive the grapes. Despite the challenges, the winery is quite pleased with the results: grape yield was lower than usual, but fruit quality was amazing.



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"Messorio feels lithe and medium-bodied in the 2014 vintage, the wet conditions during the growing season reining in some of the wine's typical depth and intensity. It opens with delicate scents of thyme and lavender that lead into flavors of dark plum and pomegranate infused with bright acidity and cool, polished tannins. Layers of dark chocolate and teriyaki emerge with time in the glass, along with a lightly bitter amaro note. The finish is dry and tight, indicating that this needs more time for the tannins to soften."