

## Franciacorta Brut Vintage 2011

Franciacorta, Lombardia, Italy



Grape Varieties    **72% Chardonnay**  
                          **28% Pinot Noir**

Winemaker         **Mattia Vezzola**

Closure             **Natural Cork**

ABV                  **12.5%**

Bottle Sizes        **75cl**

### PRODUCER

This estate makes Italy's finest sparkling wines from its 200 hectares of vineyard situated in the western part of the Franciacorta zone in a natural amphitheatre. The glacial soil is full of stones, and provides the ideal environment for the Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes used in the production of their Franciacorta. Bellavista, meaning 'beautiful view' in Italian, was founded by Vittorio Moretti in the early 1970s, with the first vintage produced in 1979. In 1981, he met a young winemaker, Mattia Vezzola and this partnership transformed Bellavista into Italy's leading producer of quality sparkling wine.

### VINEYARDS

Bellavista has 200 hectares of vines across 10 communes within the Franciacorta DOCG. The vineyards have some of the best exposure in the region and produce fruit with character and great aromatic potential. For the Vintage Brut, site selection is rigorous. Fruit only comes from vineyards that are high up on the hillsides, with a south/southeast exposure. Average vine age is over 25 years old.

### VINTAGE

Some vineyards were affected not only by the high August and early September temperatures, but also by hailstorms which contributed to a reduction in production levels. The hot vintage period took skill and experience to master. The resulting wines are rich and structured but are still typically fresh and lively.

### VINIFICATION

Individual parcels are specially selected for the blend. Made in the 'traditional method', 30% of the wines that make up this Vintage Brut are fermented and matured for at least seven months in small oak barrels. No malolactic fermentation is carried out on the wines. Once blended and bottled, the wine matures in the cellars for five years before release.

### TASTING NOTES

Bellavista Brut is a vibrant green gold colour with an exuberant yet fine mousse. The nose has finesse and complexity. Crisp floral notes of hawthorn, wormwood and bay leaf support ripe white fruits. Dry and elegant on the palate, with ripe fruit and touches of incense. The silky texture and firm backbone are balanced perfectly with fresh acidity. Floral hints and white fruits linger on the finish.

### AWARDS

The Wine Merchant Top 100 2017, Wine Merchant Top 100 Winner