



PRODUCER

Mark Shannon and Elvezia Sbalchiero, the duo behind A Mano, have worked in the wine business for most of their lives. Elvezia is a northern Italian wine marketing expert and Mark is a Californian winemaker. They fell in love with Puglia and, when they decided to start their own label, made it their home. By producing high quality wines, Mark and Elvezia have succeeded in making Primitivo one of Italy's most talked about grape varieties. They pay high prices for the best grapes from 70-100 year old vines and focus solely on quality and a modern style.

VINEYARDS

The grapes are grown in vineyards located in the Salento area of Puglia. A rare and ancient red native variety, Susumaniello was used mostly as a blending component until a few years ago. The name means 'little donkey' in the local dialect, from the enormous load the vines bear when young, although others say that it is so called because it is stubborn and difficult to manage. The sandy vineyards are high up on the hillside, dry farmed and are over 30 years old.

VINTAGE

The 2023 vintage saw very little rainfall and a very hot summer. This meant extra care was needed in the vineyard to manage the health of the vines. Harvest timing was critical for preserving the freshness of the fruit, and was brought forward to account for the increased speed of ripening due to the hot weather.

VINIFICATION

The Susumaniello grapes were rigorously sorted to ensure only those in pristine condition were vinified. Once at the winery, they were sorted again and cold fermented in stainless-steel tanks with very gentle pump-overs, to avoid over-extraction of the aggressive tannins. Following fermentation, the final blend was bottled without fining.

TASTING NOTES

Deep, inky purple-black in colour, this wine has intense aromas of blackberry, blueberry and chocolate, supported by notes of violets, blossom and Mediterranean herbs. This is a full-bodied and well-structured wine with powerful yet fine tannins. A fantastic freshness carries through the persistent finish.

Grape Varieties	100% Susumaniello
Winemaker	Mark Shannon
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	13%
Residual Sugar	4.5g/L
Acidity	6.8g/L
Wine pH	3.6
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Practising Biodynamic, Practising Organic, Vegan