



Grape Varieties	<b>100% Merlot</b>
Winemaker	<b>Andrea Costanti</b>
Closure	<b>Natural Cork</b>
ABV	<b>14.5%</b>
Residual Sugar	<b>0.2g/L</b>
Wine pH	<b>3.39</b>
Bottle Sizes	<b>75cl</b>

## PRODUCER

The Costanti family has owned this 12 hectare estate for over 200 years. Andrea Costanti inherited it from his uncle in the mid-1980s, and has worked hard to take it to its current position as one of the very best in Montalcino. The style is characterised by a striking elegance and intensity, combining the power of Montalcino with the elegance that comes from vineyards situated at a high altitude in the northern part of the zone. The vineyards are planted over 400 metres above sea level, on galestro soil that is typical of the area. This friable rock soil is also found in Chianti Classico, and is particularly suited to the production of good Sangiovese.

## VINEYARDS

The wine is named for Ardengo della Gherardesca, a valiant knight who founded the Badia Ardenga convent in Montalcino. The Merlot grapes are sourced from a four hectare vineyard planted in 1990 in Monte Calbello, within the Montalcino denomination. It is just 7 kilometers away from Costanti's main vineyards in upper Montalcino and is located at an altitude of 350 meters above sea level, just a bit lower than Costanti's other vineyards. The vineyards enjoys western exposure and soil is mainly made of clay.

## VINTAGE

The 2020 vintage began with a mild winter and rainfall was sparse. March was marked by some frost at the end of the month. Summer was fairly dry and mild, some rainfall at the end of August regenerated the water reserves and replenished the soils. Harvest took place in September while the grapes were at the perfect level of ripeness. Overall, this particular year produced excellent quality wines.

## VINIFICATION

Fermentation took place in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks and lasted approximately two weeks. The wine was aged for 24 months in 2.25HL French barriques and 12 months in bottle before release.

## TASTING NOTES

The wine has an elegant and fruity nose with aromas of cherry and red berries. On the palate, it has a good structure and velvety tannins.