

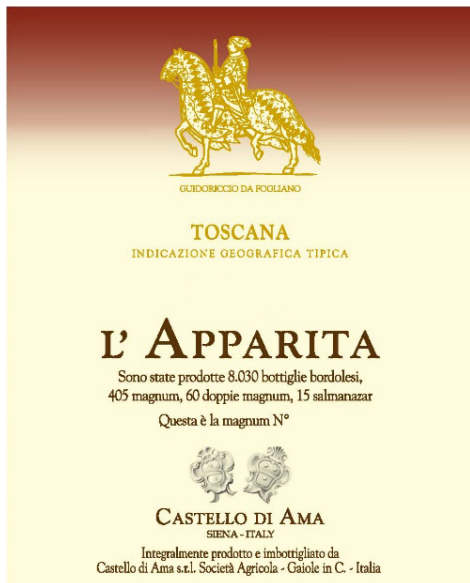
Castello di Ama

L'APPARITA - MERLOT - 2017



CASTELLO DI AMA
SIENA - ITALIA

REGION: ITALY - TUSCANY



CASTELLO DI AMA

Castello di Ama was founded in 1976, and is located in Gaiole in Chianti, within the additional geographical unit of the same name (UGA), located in the heart of Tuscany. It is located about 12 miles northeast of Siena in the hills of Gaiole. This is the heart of Chianti Classico, a bucolic rolling landscape of woods, vineyards and olive groves. The estate is currently helmed by CEO Lorenza Sebasti, a member of the second generation of one of the four founding families. Marco Pallanti, who was once the President of the Chianti Classico Consorzio, has been the winemaker and technical director at Castello di Ama since 1982. The goal of the estate is to have each bottle of Castello di Ama express the uniqueness of the terroir, and be an authentic expression of the vintage. Ama has practiced sustainable viticulture since the end of the 1990s, and recently received *Equalitas* (Italy) certification.

REVIEWS

L'Apparita – Merlot – 2017

96+ Points - Vinous - Antonio Galloni, September, 2020

The 2017 L'Apparita, Ama's 100% Merlot, is silky, polished and exceptionally beautiful. In 2017, L'Apparita is restrained and elegant more than it is powerful. I have seen L'Apparita blossom with a few years in bottle. I imagine it will be the case here too. Today, L'Apparita is decidedly nuanced and elegant.

96 Points - © Wine Advocate, May, 2020

I am immediately struck by the power and concentration of the Castello di Ama 2017 L'Apparita. This is an exuberant and gregarious expression of Merlot that has absorbed every last sunbeam of the hot summer season. On the nose, the wine shows beautiful fullness and generosity that spills richly across the senses. Blackberry syrup and cherry liqueur are followed by smoke, tar, toast and sweet chewing tobacco. You taste that extra density in a similar manner, and the rich concentration of the fruit has consequently shaped a more apparent tannin and a little snap of astringency on the close. My sample bottle does not show a reading of the wine's alcoholic content, but you feel some heat as well. This edition of L'Apparita is extra dark, succulent and firm. When the wine has been given another five to ten years of cellar age, then I'd suggest guinea fowl or one of those delicious roasted pigeon dishes you find in Tuscany. Some 7,300 bottles were made.

97 Points - [jamessuckling.com](https://www.jamessuckling.com), July, 2020

Intense and exotic on the nose with blackberry, blueberry, violet and walnut aromas that follow through to a full body with layers of ripe tannins and a beautiful finish of polished and well poised fruit. It goes on and on. I am impressed by the freshness here, as well as the intensity for the vintage. Drink in 2023 and onwards, but a joy to taste now.