Tiberio

COLLE VOTA MONTEPULCIANO D'ABRUZZO - 2022

REGION: ITALY - ABRUZZO

TIBERIO

The story of Azienda Agricola Tiberio rings more like a new world tale than one from the old world of the ancient lands beneath the Majella and Gran Sasso mountains in Abruzzo. At 1150 feet/350 meters, twenty three miles inland from the seaside city of Pescara near the hillside town of Cugnoli, Riccardo Tiberio found an old plot of Trebbiano Abruzzese vines roughly 50 years old so impressive that he decided to change his and his family's destiny. Over a decade ago, Cristiana and Antonio, daughter and son of Riccardo, took over reins of Tiberio. Cristiana, a chemistry specialist who also teaches college sommelier and enology classes, handles winemaking and is the global brand ambassador. Antonio leads grapegrowing and viticulture. The dynamic team have established Tiberio, and Abruzzo, in the forefront of leading-edge wine making and renown in this central part of Italy. Today, Tiberio farms 74 acres/30 hectares of vines.

THE WINE

Vineyard Profile

Colle Vota a single vineyard Montepulciano d'Abruzzo DOP wine. Montepulciano from the Colle Vota vineyard has different characteristics that separate it neatly from all the other Montepulciano we grow at Tiberio. The bunches and berries are much smaller, with crunchier and thicker skins. Colle Vota Montepulciano also takes longer to mature, and this vineyard's specific microclimate provides a longer hang time, producing a truly unique Montepulciano wine.

The Colle Vota vineyard tends to perform amazingly well in especially cooler, even rainy vintages. Montepulciano d'Abruzzo wine made from Colle Vota grapes are uniquely refined and light on its feet, combining elements reminiscent of Burgundy's Pinot Noir and Piedmont's Nebbiolo, while maintaining a Montepulciano backbone and soul. For this reason, we decided to bottle this wine on its own as it is a unique expression not just of place, but of what the Montepulciano variety can deliver. Planted in 2000 using massal selections from the oldest Montepulciano vineyard on the property. Original Montepulciano clone adapted to its specific, new environment made up of different soils, subsoils and microclimate, leading to the development of a new Montepulciano biotype that expresses itself with a very distinct, more perfumed and refined wine.

- Vineyard Area: 4 acres/1.6 ha
- Altitude: 1150 feet/350 meters
- Soil: Limestone, marly-clay over a sandstone-rich bedrock
- Vines Planted: 2000
- Vine Training method: Single Guyot
- Planting Density: 4,000/ha

Harvest Notes

- Hand harvested the end of October
- Fermented using only indigenous yeasts in stainless steel tanks for 20 days
- Spontaneous malolactic fermentation in tank
- Aged in tanks
- Bottled unfined and unfiltered
- Aged in bottle before release

Winemaker's Notes

Brilliant light ruby red. Intense, expressive, highly complex flavours of yellow peach, sage, cedar, cinnamon, marzipan, spices, dried oregano and soil. Long, deep, creamy, mouthfilling texture with refined, silky tannins and saline character. Finishes with intense energy.

Technical Information

- 100% massal selection Montepulciano d'Abruzzo
- Alcohol: 14.5%
- Total Acidity: 5.10 g/l
- pH: 3.21
- Residual Sugar: 0.60 g/l
- Extract: 27.98

REVIEWS

Colle Vota Montepulciano d'Abruzzo – 2022

95 Points - Vinous, June, 2026

The 2022 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Colle Vota is darkly alluring and pleasantly earthy. A beguiling bouquet of crushed ashen stones and smoky grilled herbs gives way to crushed blackberries and ground cloves. This is elegant in feel, like liquid cashmere on the palate, with brisk acidity supporting its notable weight as tart wild berry fruits slowly saturate. This finishes youthfully firm and structured, with nuances of licorice and edgy tannins that add a crunchy sensation. This vintage of Colle Vota will require patience. 2028 – 2040

The Tiberio vineyards look fantastic after the struggles of the 2024 vintage. While several vines did not recover, most of the ancient Trebbiano Abruzzese and Montepulciano vines are thriving thanks to a balanced and slightly rainy 2026 season. Spirits are high. On this trip, I toured all of the parcels planted with massal selections, as well as a new parcel planted entirely to trees. The idea behind this is to create a forest that will bring balance to the vineyards. As for the new releases, Tiberio's Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo is once again a standout in the category. I also tasted every vintage of the Colle Vota, from 2014 to the newly minted 2022. Its aging potential is commendable, and the 2014 is still fresh as a daisy. Tiberio plans to release mixed six-packs of this wine in the near future, with two bottles each of 2018, 2019 and 2021. The 2023 Bianco Fonte Canale, now in bottle, no longer bears the name Trebbiano d'Abruzzo. After years of research and genetic testing, Cristiana Tiberio no longer believes that the DOC accurately represents her wine. Whereas most Trebbiano d'Abruzzo is a blend of Trebbiano Toscano and other varieties, the Fonte Canale is genetically confirmed to be 100% varietal Trebbiano Abruzzese. The 2023 is one of the best renditions of Fonte Canale I've ever tasted.

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THE SORTING TABLE

GENERAL INFO

Country	Italy
Region	Abruzzo
Appellation(s)	Abruzzo
Proprietors	Riccardo, Cristiana, Antonio Tiberio (father, daughter, son)
Founded	2000
Winemaker	Cristiana Tiberio
Annual Production	8,300 9L cases
Farming (Sustainable, organic, biodynamic)	Sustainable