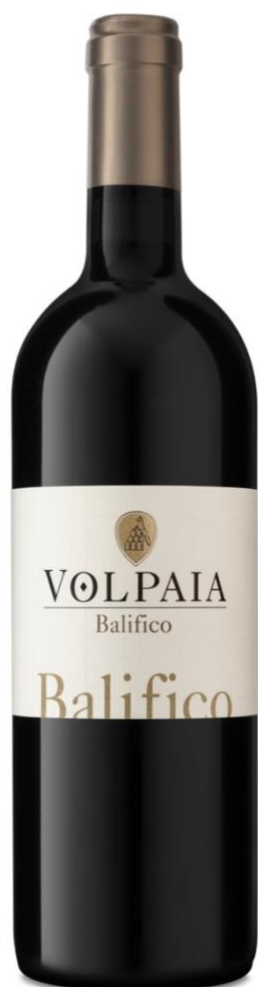




# CASTELLO DI VOLPAIA

## 2020 BALIFICO TOSCANA IGT



The Balifico vineyard, shares its name and location with a villa. The first Super-Tuscans were created in the 1970s by Chianti Classico producers who rejected government mandates that determined which grapes were required to go into their wine, especially with grapes like Trebbiano and Malvasia. The Super-Tuscans were also treated differently from Chianti, aged in small French barriques rather than large Slavonian oak casks. Because the Super-Tuscans did not follow the DOC regulations, the Super-Tuscans were entitled only to the lowest official designation of the time – *Vino da tavola*. It wasn't until 1994 that government recognized the high quality of Super-Tuscans and gave the wine its own category – IGT (*Indicazione Geografica Tipica*).

<b>COMPOSITION</b>	65% Sangiovese, 35% Cabernet Sauvignon
<b>VINEYARDS</b>	Balifico ( <i>bawl-ee-FEE-co</i> )
<b>ACRES PLANTED</b>	12.4 total (7.66 Sangiovese; 4.74 Cabernet Sauvignon)
<b>VINES PLANTED</b>	Average of 20-25 years old (ongoing planting since the 1980s)
<b>SOILS</b>	Sandstone
<b>ELEVATION</b>	1,475 (Cabernet Sauvignon)-1,542 ft. (Sangiovese)
<b>EXPOSURE</b>	South-southwest (Sangiovese); southwest (Cabernet Sauvignon)
<b>DENSITY</b>	2,200 vines/acre (Sangiovese); 2,306 vines/acre (Cabernet Sauvignon)
<b>TRAINING</b>	Guyot (Sangiovese); cordon spur (Cabernet Sauvignon)
<b>VINTAGE NOTES</b>	<p>The 2020 vintage began with a relatively warm winter and spring that resulted in the vines budding and flowering early. Temperatures only dropped in the first 3 weeks of June only to rise again immediately and remain high throughout the summer, although they never reached peaks high for long periods.</p> <p>We had a particularly dry winter, but it rained abundantly in May and the first half of June. Rain stopped almost completely over the summer, only to start again towards the end of August and during the harvest. We can say therefore that summer was generally hot and dry and the vines only underwent moderate water stress. Harvest took place about a week earlier than is usual in recent years. When harvested, the grapes were perfectly healthy with thick skins and ripe seeds, even the ones harvested last when rain had begun again.</p> <p>The 2020 vintage has produced Volpaia wines that are a bright colour and have a good acidity level without an excessive alcohol content. Compared to previous years they seem less concentrated but are more elegant.</p>
<b>HARVEST DATES</b>	September 19 <sup>th</sup> 2020 for Sangiovese and October 8 <sup>th</sup> 2020 for the Cabernet Sauvignon
<b>BARREL AGING</b>	18 months in new French oak
<b>WOOD CASE</b>	6/750ml
<b>ALCOHOL/T.A.</b>	14% / 5,4g/L
<b>TASTING NOTES</b>	The Balifico has a vivid ruby color with a dark purple tinge. The nose is elegant, displaying aromas of blackberry and blueberry with hints of oak and cinnamon. This is a smooth wine with good structure and a long finish tasting of red fruit.



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