



TENUTA DELL'ORNELLAIA
BOLGHERI

Ornellaia 2006

Bolgheri DOC Rosso Superiore

56% Cabernet Sauvignon

27% Merlot

12% Cabernet Franc

5% Petit Verdot

Climate and Harvest

The 2006 growing season was marked by rainy winter and by warm spring days, which extended the bloom period well beyond the first week of June. April through August saw practically no rain at all, which resulted in the vines' producing clusters somewhat smaller than the norm. A not overly-hot summer allowed the vines to develop fine aromatic components and a good crop. Excellent weather during the ripening period, combined with the smaller size of the berries, produced fruit with exceptional concentration. The start of harvest witnessed wonderfully sound, ripe fruit, with good concentration.

Vinification and Ageing

Selecting only the best quality fruit in the vineyards, the clusters were carefully hand-picked into small, 15-kg boxes and transported to the winery where a second quality selection was carried out on a double sorting table, both before and after the grapes were de-stemmed. The grapes were then given a gentle pressing, and each separate grape variety and each vineyard block was fermented separately, for a total of 66 different base wines. The wines remained in barriques for 18 months in Tenuta dell'Ornellaia's temperature controlled cellars. After 12 months, the final blend was assembled from the base wines, and underwent six months of further ageing in barriques. The wine was then aged for 12 months in the bottle before release.

Winemaker's notes

The main characteristic of Ornellaia 2006 is without a doubt its lush depth and 'exuberance' ("L'Esuberanza"). Here is a powerful, concentrated wine whose intensity is immediately obvious. Its complex, rich bouquet is complemented by sweet, dense-packed tannins and a lively acidity, and all of its components are in admirable harmony creating a very elegant wine.

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