

Castellaneta, Province of Taranto

Established: 1998

Owners: Mark Shannon & Elvezia Sbalchiero

Winemaker: Mark Shannon

Production: 235,000 bottles

Viticulture: Conventional



The name 'a mano', meaning handmade, was a declaration of Mark Shannon and Elvezia Sbalchiero's mission in creating a wine from Puglia's indigenous Primitivo variety. Mark, a born and bred Californian, fell in love with Puglia and "after years of technical winemaking, had almost forgotten that the right way to make wine is with love". Together, their winning combination of passionate professionalism and Puglian tradition and terroir helped winelovers understand the potential of Primitivo. Around the same time, researchers discovered that Primitivo shares the same DNA as California's popular Zinfandel, both originating from the shores of the Adriatic.

Bianco IGT

A 50/50 blend of two classic southern Italian varieties, Fiano and Greco di Tufo. The former is very aromatic, whereas the latter gives the wine body. Grown at 375 metres, the wine is fermented in stainless steel with no oak or malolactic. The result is a crisp, aromatic wine with lifted notes of stone fruit and fresh grapes. Splendid on its own as an aperitivo or with fish and shellfish.

Rosato IGT

A blend of Primitivo and Aleatico, made in the *saignee* method and lightly coloured. There are floral notes and strawberry fruit, the palate dry with refreshing acidity.

Primitivo IGT

These old vines, 70+ years, are hand cultivated and still head-trained as they were by the ancient Phoenicians. The superb deep red and sienna coloured alluvial soil is ideal for this extract packed indigenous variety. The result is a full bodied wine with vibrant, chewy raspberry fruit with hints of blueberry, leather and anise with velvety tannins and a long finish.

Aleatico Passito IGT

Made from Aleatico, this passito is made from fruit that is dried on racks under the hot Puglian sun for 3-4 weeks. An intense nose of concentrated and overripe dark berry fruit with floral notes that would make the perfect partner for a rich chocolate based dessert.

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