

Banditella di Alberese, Province of Grosseto

Established: 1997

Owners: Gianpaolo & Justine Paglia

Winemakers: Gianpaolo Paglia & Fabrizio Moltard

Production: 200,000 bottles

Hectares under vine: 42

Viticulture: Organic



In 1997, Gianpaolo Paglia and Justine Keeling purchased a run-down property in the appellation of Morellino di Scansano in Tuscany's Maremma. The couple were ideally suited to the renovation task at hand - Gianpaolo was a qualified agronomist specializing in plant genetics and Justine a former wine marketing manager. The original farmhouse and cellar, Podere Adua, needed lot of rejuvenation and repair work but the terrain was superb, located close to the coast on free draining sandy-limey soil that receives the full heat of the Mediterranean and very little rain.

Early on, they added a second estate, called Podere Keeling, located further inland towards Monte Amiata, at a higher altitude on hilly terrain. Winemaking and maturation is carried out at Podere Adua and the consultant oenologist is Fabrizio Moltard. The three local red varieties planted are Morellino (the local name for Sangiovese), Alicante and Cilieggiolo, along with smaller amounts of Montepulciano, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Shiraz.

Morellino di Scansano DOCG 'Bellamarsilia'

Bellamarsilia, the signature wine, is a blend of 85% Morellino, 10% Cilieggiolo and 5% Alicante. Aged in stainless steel, it is fruit forward with the classic wild red berry and black cherry flavours of the Maremma, supported by a juicy freshness.

Morellino di Scansano DOCG Riserva 'Capatosta'

The word *capatosta* is slang for stubborn and the wine is a tribute to Gianpaolo's father. A selection of the best Morellino (95%) with a little Alicante (5%) from the oldest vines, fermented in old open top barrels to yield only the finest and smoothest tannins. Subsequently, the wine is aged in tonneaux (50% new, 30% second use, 20% third) for 12 months, resulting in a full bodied, gorgeously extracted, elegant blockbuster that ideally expresses the terroir of the Maremma.

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