

Radda in Chianti, Province of Siena

Established: 1981

Owners: Widmer family

Winemaker: Barbara Widmer

Production: 400,000

Hectares under vine: 26 + 20

Viticulture: Organic

Vegan Friendly



Swiss couple Brigitte and Bruno Widmer, together with daughter Barbara, run this property better than clockwork. Podere La Brancaia is one of Tuscany's leading wine estates, each year winning national and international awards. The winery is located in the heart of the Chianti Classico zone at Poppi, in Radda in Chianti, and draws on its own fruit from Poppi and La Brancaia in Castellina. The vineyards have ideal south facing hillside locations at between 230–400 metres, planted to 6,000 vines per hectare on lean, stony, calcareous soil. Yields are naturally low, giving Barbara great ammunition in the three level gravity feed winery.

Chianti Classico DOCG

100% Sangiovese aged in stainless (2/3) and concrete, this is medium bodied with bright cherry fruit, the plate juicy and refreshing with crisp tannins. light, bright and juicy with fresh red cherry and spice.

Chianti Classico Riserva DOCG

A selection of their best Sangiovese, with 20% Merlot. The Sangiovese is aged in tonneaux for 16 months and the Merlot in barriques. Following blending the wine is aged for a further twelve months in the bottle. Loaded with ripe fruits of dark cherry and plum, the Merlot gives the wine mid-palate depth and richness to make this a great wine for drinking now or cellaring over the medium term.

2016. The 2016 Chianti Classico Riserva is bold, powerful and explosive, with superb depth and tons of intensity. The addition of 20% Merlot in the blend and copious new French oak give the Riserva a decidedly modern, opulent feel, and yet all the elements are impeccably balanced throughout. This is Brancaia at their best. 93, Antonio Galloni

Il Blu IGT

In 2021 Il Blu celebrates its 30th year. One of the trail blazing SuperTuscans, it's the wine that put Brancaia on the map. Today the blend has changed a little to be 80% Merlot with 10% each of Sangiovese and Cabernet. The grapes, all grown in Chianti Classico, are fermented and aged separately in barriques (two thirds new) for eighteen months, then blended and aged in concrete for three months before one year in the bottle.

Il Blu is rich with inky dark red-blue fruits and notes of chocolate, liquorice and spice. The tannins are smooth and silky and the wine has an impeccable track record of cellaring 15-20 years years. Sensational wine and sensational package.

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