

***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.

**Il Blu IGT**

The wine the put Brancaia on the map was first made in 1988 and has gone on to become one of the great SuperTuscans. Over the years the Merlot percentage has increased as the vineyards in Castellina and Radda in Chianti have matured. Its now 80% Merlot with equal parts Sangiovese and Cabernet. The components are fermented and aged separately in barriques, 2/3 new, for 18 months before being blended and aged a further 3 months in concrete.

Dripping with dark plum and cherry fruit with chocolate and spice, the palate full bodied with velvety tannins. Its a style of wine that drinks well right out of the gate but cellars beautifully for 15+ years. Sensational wine and a sensational package.

**2019** *A terrific blend of 80% Merlot, 10% Sangiovese and 10% Cabernet Sauvignon, this is an organic red blend from the forested hills of Tuscany. It offers seamless richness, elegant intensity and dark fruit weight. Italians might use the word ruffiano to describe it. The translation falls somewhere between 'pleaser' and 'panderer' but with a positive spin.*

*95, Monica Lerner - Wine Advocate*

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