Winemaker: Salvatore Lovo
Generation: 2nd

Pinot Grigio Sicily

Overseen by Pinot Grigio expert Salvatore Lovo - whose own estate lies not in Sicily but in the Veneto region - this north-south take on the popular grape variety is sure to please everyone at the table. After an expressive nose of warm citrus, peach pit and almond skin, the palate offers up ample fruit, a pleasing, straightforward acidity, and a crisp, food-friendly finish... by sourcing his grapes on the island of Sicily and labeling the wine IGT (vs DOC) Salvatore also guarantees an extra affordable price point for such a well-made wine!

WINEMAKER BIOGRAPHY

The father-daughter team of Salvatore and Silvia Lovo continue to shine bright as they expand their family's repertoire beyond Prosecco and Moscato. A short distance from Venice, they consistently take their cool climate wines in new directions that both surprise and impress.

ENOLOGIST

Salvatore Lovo and Andrea Senigallia

TASTING NOTES

Color	Light straw
Nose	Warm lemon, orange blossom and slate with hints of peach pit and almond skin
Palate	Good weight, with a pleasing, straightforward acidity
Finish	Crisp and food-friendly

VINEYARD & VINIFICATION

	12
Vineyard Location	Terre Siciliane IGT, Sicily
Varietals List	100% Pinot Grigio
Farming Practices	Sustainable
Maturation Summary	Bottled for months
Alcohol	12.0 %

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LOVO

An enologist himself, winemaker Salvatore Lovo long worked as a consultant in other areas of Italy, including Tuscany, the Marche, and Abruzzo. Today, alongside his daughter, Silvia, Salvatore focuses on historic varietals that help to define his own region in the hills near Padua. One of these is Fior d'Arancio, verily the estate's crown jewel. A rare clone of Moscato Giallo, Fior d'Arancio (trans. "orange blossom"), grows in a tiny zone of just a few square miles, and is famous for its stunning, citrus-driven aromatics. It's estimated that no more than a dozen estates here work with Colli Euganei Fior d'Arancio, and Salvatore's own family helped elevate its status to DOCG. Written records going back to the 1300s have traced Fior d'Arancio to the eastern Mediterranean, and old-timers still refer to it as Moscato Sirio (Syrian Moscato).

In addition to the 17 hectares of high-altitude vines that Salvatore Lovo owns, the winemaker also has long-term contracts with a number of local, organic-minded families who all farm tiny parcels of 1-3 hectares. In this way, he is able to produce both single estate wines and also pursue a series of other projects – including La Perlina Moscato – and partner with the likes of Andrea and Alberto Bocelli.

Rising up from the flat, expansive Po River Valley where so much of the Veneto's white wine is produced, the ancient Colli Euganei, or Euganean Hills, stand alone in a multitude of ways. Most notably, this green archipelago of hills has long been known for producing wines with pronounced acidic poise and aromatics. The mounts themselves emerged some 2 million years ago, as seawater receded around the site of great, underwater volcanoes. The resultant combination of volcanic and calcareous soils today invests the region's wines – even the reds – with a minerality, freshness and persistency that can't be repeated in the surrounding lowlands.

REGION

SICILY

A Mediterranean crossroads and Italy's largest autonomia, Sicily has been home to winemaking for some 6000 years. In the 8th century BC, the Greeks brought more advanced viticultural techniques to the island, and a brisk trade with Phoenicians and Romans ultimately followed. In more recent centuries, Sicliy has been known mainly as a bulk provider of wine grapes – with the focus primarily on quantity – but that reputation is swiftly changing. In the 1980s and 1990s, Sicily's unusual terroir and potential for fine wines finally began to garner attention. Much of the acclaim was initially directed at international staples like Chardonnay and Syrah, but starting in the 2000s, natives like Nero d'Avola and Nerello Mascalese began taking their rightful place center-stage.

A trio of red grapes in particular are driving Sicily's growth today: Nero d'Avola, with its brambly fruit, juicy acidity, and softer tannins, is the most widely planted and wines are often fresh, unoaked, and affordable; Frappato, another easy-drinker with supple tannins, is mostly used as a blending grape; Nerello Mascalese, the powerful, elegant, and sometimes spicy or mineral-driven baseline for Etna reds, is second in volume to Nero d'Avola, but has been rising along with the DOC's popularity. White varietals of note include Cataratto, the most widely planted and often a starting point for Marsala; Grillo and Insolia, a pair of medium-bodied grapes that provide dry but substantive wines; and Carricante, the lush but zippy force behind Etna Bianco. With its dry, Mediterranean climate, Sicily affords its 23 DOCs and single DOCG abundant sunshine, moderate winter rainfall, and constant coastal breezes. As a result, the island's also well-suited to organic farming and the natural wine movement.

TERRE SICILIANE IGT

Translated as "Sicilian Lands", the Terre Siciliane IGT canvasses the entire region of Sicily. Created in 2011, it replaced the Sicilia IGT and was designed to sit just underneath the Sicilia DOC. With no aging requirements and virtually any style of wine permitted (red, white, rosé, sparkling, sweet), producers are afforded a wide array of freedoms. That established, the designation is limited in one primary way: as of 2017, the island's two main varietals, Nero d'Avola and Grillo, must be classified as Sicilia DOC. This leaves Terre Siciliane's focus on the region's other principal varieties, including whites like Catarratto, Insolia, Malvasia, Manzoni Bianzo, and Zibibbo, alongside reds such as Frappato, Gaglioppo, Cabernet Sauvignon, Nerello Mascalese, and Syrah.