

LE FONTI

This delightful estate in the heart of the Chianti Classico region has a lot to offer. It was bought in 1956 by the father of the present owners, Franca, Ferdinando and Giovanni Imberti, who also manage a wood industry business in northern Italy, which has been in the family for four generations.

Franca and Ferdinando follow the activities at “Le Fonti” together with a young and very motivated agronomist, Lorenzo Bernini, and the talented oenologist Paolo Caciorgna.

The soil here is typical of the Chianti Classico, skeletal with clay and sand, altitude is between 200 and 300 meters above sea level and the exposure of the vineyards is mainly south, south-west.

This zone is warmer in respect to other classical ones, such as Panzano, Gaiole or Radda, consequently

harvest is earlier and the berries always reach full ripening. All this makes the wines fruity, pleasant and relatively supple (one must bear in mind that all wines here are 100% Sangiovese!) in comparison to the more “austere” Chianti Classico wines and are perhaps more similar to the wines of Tuscan Maremma.

The 23 hectares of vineyards were mostly replanted in the early 1990s and the traditional cellar was completely renovated a few years ago.

The owners and the technical team believe in an extremely accurate work in the vineyards. Just as an example of how carefully viticulture is managed, different types of vegetation, chosen depending on the vigour of the vines, are sown on every other aisle between the rows of vines in order to provide green manure, and tillage of the soil

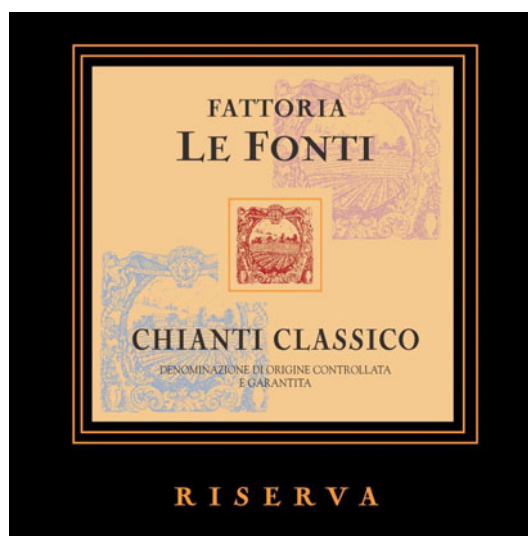
is “fine-tuned” in order to prevent hydric stress. And you certainly all know about Paolo Caciorgna’s work in the cellar!

All these efforts certainly pay off and the quality of the Chianti Classico, of the Chianti Classico Riserva and of the IGT/proprietary wine “Vito Arturo” (also strictly 100% Sangiovese) prove it. ◇



Chianti Classico

Zone: *Poggibonsi*
 Varietal: *100% Sangiovese*
 Vineyard Ext.: *16 hectares*
 Average Prod.: *50,000 bottles*



Chianti Classico Riserva

Zone: *Poggibonsi*
 Varietal: *100% Sangiovese*
 Vineyard Ext.: *16 hectares*
 Average Prod.: *6,000 bottles*