

LA STELLA

FORTISSIMO SELEZIONE DI FAMIGLIA 2010

The Winemaker's Notes

We celebrate the fact that we make wine in a region where vintage variations play an important role. Atypical growing seasons are a nightmare for commercial wineries interested in making consistent but boring wines. For us however it defines our interest in wine. We look forward to seeing what Mother Nature gives us to work with each year. It is the effects of each vintage on the finished wine that urges us to start verticals of our favorite wines then follow their evolution and discuss their merits at tastings with friends.

Fortissimo is our way of paying respect to the pioneers of Tuscany who challenged the traditions of wine making to gain recognition for their wines.

The 2010 Fortissimo is as outstanding as we thought it would be; all the components are married seamlessly together. The large format puncheons and Hungarian oak ensure that the oak's presentation is subtle in the finished wine. Overall the wine has fantastic and nuanced layers of flavour.

REVIEWS

John Szabo, MS ...The nose shows more lift and elegance than its more expensive stablemates, a prime example of a 'lesser' wine delivering more of what makes wine pleasurable: balance, freshness, florality, drinkability...
Tasted December 2012. **(91 points)**

David Lawrason ...It's medium-full bodied, dry, dusty earthy and quite refined. The length is very good to excellent. Best 2014 to 2018. **(90 points)**

FOOD PAIRING:

Veal Osso Bucco or Tuscan Roast Lamb with rosemary crust.

The Details

Grape Variety:	41% Merlot, 28% Cabernet Franc, 23% Cabernet Sauvignon, 8% Sangiovese
Region:	Black Sage Bench, Osoyoos Lake District, Golden Mile
Vineyard:	Lumeno vineyard, Crowley (North Oliver), Stagg (Osoyoos Lake District), la Feuille d'Or
Soil Type:	Varied
Age of Vines:	Average of 16 years+
Yield:	Average of 3 tons/acre
Production Size:	370 cases
Alcohol:	14.40%
Aging:	18 months in both French and Hungarian Oak barrels and Puncheons. 11% new. 20% of the blend spent 6 months in 1000L Botti

