

International Wine Review



Current Releases of Chianti Classico Gran Selezione

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This year, 2025, is just the second year when Chianti Classico producers can produce and sell the highest quality category wine, the Gran Selezione, using a classification that identifies the sub-region where the grapes were produced. Most of these wines come from the 2021 vintage, widely recognized as one of the best of the century so far. The 2021 Gran Selezione Chianti Classico wines are notable for their superb balance and overall sense of refinement. In this article, we review a selection of Gran Seleziones produced by some of the best-known wineries of Chianti Classico. Given the current chaos in international wine markets, fine wine lovers should seek out and buy these wines before tariffs, prices, and restrictions on the wine trade limit their availability.

Few wine regions have shown such dynamic leadership aimed at raising quality as Chianti Classico. First, it invested in the Chianti Classico 2000 project to identify the best clones, rootstocks, and vineyard management practices. Next, in 2014 it introduced a new wine category, Chianti Classico Gran Selezione, for the region's highest quality wines. Finally, in 2021 the Consorzio Chianti Classico established a sub-regional classification system (see map below) called UGAs to give formal recognition to the terroir differences within Chianti Classico...

Sofia Ruhne and winemaker Giacomo Fioravanti make Gran Selezione wines from two UGAs, Greve and Montefioralle, so we've reported both here: **Terreno 2021 Gran Selezione Asofia Chianti Classico (Greve) 95** Brick red showing ripe red berries with a hint of balsamic on the nose. An elegant wine with a silky texture. Broad and mouth filling with excellent depth of integrated flavors and a very long finish with youthful tannins. ASofia is from the fruit of the estate's oldest vines, planted in the early 1980s, and made into a wine that sees the estate's longest élevage of 30 months in neutral 30hl casks. This comes from the Terreno Vineyard (south of Le Bonille), high on the eastern flank of the Greve Valley, rich in macigno and other non-calcareous marine sandstone soils. **Terreno 2021 Gran Selezione Sillano Chianti Classico (Montefioralle) 94+** Vermillion ruby. Showing dark red fruit with savory accents on the nose, this wine is big and suave on the palate. There's good concentration of fresh fruit—raspberries, dark cherries—along with earth notes. Sourced from the San Piero a Sillano vineyard near the ancient parish church of San Piero a Sillano; it has limestone soils at 570m altitude and is the estate's highest vineyard surrounded on three sides by forest. Sillano is the highest site in the Montefioralle UGA. The bedrock is Pietraforte, a rare, stony calcareous soil. Matured for 18 months in 12hl and 24hl casks, followed by at least one year in bottle before release.