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HAWKSHEAD WINES

MARCATO, VENETO, ITALY

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We have long been supporters of Marcato whose characterful wines demonstrate just how good Italian wines can be. For over 140 years, the Marcato family have been making wines in the village of Roncà, in the Valle d'Alpone, 25 miles east of Verona in the Veneto province. Still very much a family business today, brothers Enrico and Andrea run the estate, overseen by their father Lino and uncle Giovanni. Andrea is responsible for the vineyards and Enrico the winemaking, and together they are meticulous in their focus on producing distinctive wines which reflect their origins.

Beginning with just 1.5ha of vineyards in the early 1870s, the family has slowly and carefully purchased additional land and now has just over 60ha of prime vineyards, all in the Veneto. At their 'I Prandi' vineyard in Soave DOC, Marcato makes mouth-watering

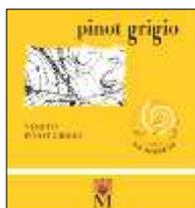
white wine. To the east of Soave in the Berici hills, the 35 ha 'La Giaretta' estate is planted with Cabernet Franc, Pinot Grigio and the indigenous strain of Grenache, Tai Rosso. Constantly innovating, Marcato also experimented with trellis systems to enhance exposure to the sun and give consistent ripening. This has all been to good effect as the wines from La Giaretta are uniformly impressive and will certainly enhance the reputation of the up and coming DOC of Colli Berici.



The new vintages of these wines are better than ever. Enrico and Andrea prove that wines of real class and excitement from small producers like Marcato need not be expensive and by importing directly, prices are very keen given the quality. We have chosen four wines from the 'I Prandi' and 'La Giaretta' vineyards, all of which offer superb value for money. Choose any twelve of the featured wines and receive FREE DELIVERY, or try them all with our discounted mixed case and save even more!

MARCATO 'La Giaretta' Pinot Grigio 2014

VENETO IGT 12%



Pinot Grigio can be somewhat bland but Marcato's version shows just how good it can be! Low yields and gentle pressing have ensured intensity and concentration, whilst low temperature fermentation and ageing on the yeast lees adds complexity.

Straw colour and lively aromas of pear, peach, lemon zest, wild herbs and a touch of spice. Good richness on the palate, the acidity is there but more noticeable are the ripe, rounded complex stone fruit flavours. Lovely power and intensity with notes of almond and pear coming through on the impressively long finish. A great aperitif or pairs delightfully with shellfish.

At Peak Now – 2017

SL44777 £7.49

MARCATO 'I Prandi' 2013

SOAVE DOC 12.5%



This dry white is an unoaked blend of Garganega (90%) and Chardonnay (10%) from the 'I Prandi' estate surrounding the Marcato winery. The family first planted vines here in the 1920s and have bottled and sold the wine under their own name since the 1960s. A premium Soave style, it is sealed with a screwcap to ensure freshness.

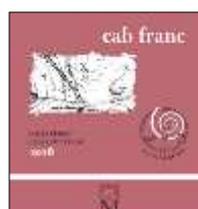
Light, bright straw colour and intense aromas of quince, lemon, pear and almond with a hint of apricot. Impressively rich and flavoursome with ripe stone fruit and floral flavours on the mid-palate and notes of almond, hazelnut and grapefruit on the very long finish. Pair with grilled fish or spaghetti carbonara.

At Peak Now – 2017

SL43011 £9.99

MARCATO 'La Giaretta' Cabernet Franc 2012

COLLI BERICI DOC 13%



Cabernet Franc is still rare as a single variety, but is gaining in popularity due to the fine, aromatic wines it produces. This example demonstrates what can be achieved in careful hands. Vinified in stainless steel, 30% of the wine was then aged in oak casks for a year to round out the flavours.

Dark cherry colour and lifted aromas of blackberry, raspberry, damson, currant leaf and a hint of sandalwood. Quite full on the palate with cassis, raspberry and savoury redcurrant flavours. Grippy tannins on the finish give definition and structure. Still young, but already vibrant with good fruit intensity and nice complexity. Delicious with roast lamb or duck.

At Peak Now – 2018

SL44785 £11.95

MARCATO 'Palladiano' Tai Rosso 2013

COLLI BERICI DOC 13%



Tai Rosso is as unique to the Veneto as the Palladian villas on the Berici hills. It is a strain of Grenache native to the region and produces a warm, inviting red with silky elegance and fine acidity. Yields are kept low and Marcato make just 1000 cases – we have received our full year's allocation. The wine is aged 12 months in oak casks.

Mid-ruby colour with cherry, ripe damson and raspberry aromas with hints of vanilla spice and almond. Fresh yet fruity to taste with plenty of juicy summer berry flavours, good acidity and a touch of cranberry and pepper on the long, mouth-watering finish. A supple red, delicious with stuffed aubergines or lasagne.

At Peak Now – 2018

SL44778 £11.95

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