

## 2017 Podernuovo Argirio Cabernet Franc Tuscany, Italy

The quest for excellence and love for nature has always been a passion of the Bulgari family and has brought about intense research and development of the different potentialities of the local terroirs, which have generously given back three different qualities of harmonious red wines. Giovanni Bulgari, chief executive of Podernuovo and the creative soul of this venture, is naturally drawn to all environmental issues and considers respecting nature an essential element while creating his wine. Finding balance and harmony by reducing carbon dioxide while processing the grapes is the company's objective.

"I wanted to create elegant wines respecting the diversity of their character: the common denominator among them is elegance, harmony, and respect of their soil. The vines and their soil have specific needs, which must be interpreted and respected in order to obtain the best wines." ~ Giovanni Bulgari

The new, modern wine cellar in Tuscany is in the Chianti DOC, but Bulgari opted to use the IGT designation (just as Antinori did with Tignanello). Bulgari also owns a property in Umbria near Lago di Corbara, where he is producing Chardonnay and Grechetto white wine. However, since that wine is produced at the winery in Tuscany, it's labeled as a vino da Tavola.

The main vines that are grown at Podernuovo a Palazzone are Sangiovese, Cabernet Sauvignon, Montepulciano, Cabernet Franc, and Merlot.

Argirio is a Cabernet Franc whose name comes from "argilla" which translates into "clay soil".

100% Cabernet Franc. Fine and elegant, intense ruby red color with purple highlights. On the nose can be perceived intense aromas of plum jam and cherry with delicate hints of black pepper, licorice, and cocoa. The palate is powerful and rich with elegant tannin and soft balsamic and mineral notes.

Notes from [www.podernuovoapalazzone.com](http://www.podernuovoapalazzone.com)



## 2015 Cadence Bel Canto Red Mountain, Washington

A coveted source of top-quality red grapes among premier Washington producers, the Red Mountain AVA is the smallest appellation in the state. As its name might suggest, it is neither a mountain nor is it composed of red earth. Instead, the appellation is an anticline of the Yakima fold belt, a series of geologic folds that define several viticultural regions in the surrounding area. It is on the eastern edge of Yakima Valley with slopes facing southwest towards the Yakima River, ideal for the ripening of grapes. The area's springtime proliferation of cheatgrass, which has a reddish color, actually gives the area the name, "Red" Mountain.

Red Mountain produces some of the most mineral-driven, tannic and age-worthy red wines of Washington and there are a few reasons for this. It is just about the hottest appellation with normal growing season temperatures commonly reaching above 90F. The soil is particularly poor in nutrients and has a high pH, which results in significantly smaller berry sizes compared to varietal norms. The low juice-to-skin ratio in smaller berries combined with the strong, dry summer winds, leads to higher tannin levels in Red Mountain grapes.

The most common red grape varieties here are Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, and Syrah, among others. Limited white varieties are grown, namely Sauvignon blanc.

The reds of the area tend to express dark black and blue fruit, deep concentration, complex textures, high levels of tannins, and as previously noted, have good aging capabilities.

Notes from [www.wine.com](http://www.wine.com)



*"A blend of 56% Cabernet Franc and 44% Merlot, the 2015 Bel Canto offers up notes of sweet red and black fruit, dried herbs and cedar that are a touch more sun-kissed than usual, no doubt reflecting the balmy vintage. On the palate, the wine is medium-bodied, rich and ample, with chewy tannins that assert themselves on the generous finish. Based on this bottling's track record, I wouldn't be surprised to see it come together further with several years in the cellar. Drink 2020-2030."* **Wine Advocate 92+**



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