



IPO WINES

2015 Abbatucci Cuvée Collection Rouge "Ministre Impérial"

IMPORTED BY Kermit Lynch

COUNTRY
France

REGION
Corsica

APPELLATION
Ajaccio

SOIL TYPE
Granite

VARIETAL(S)
8% Aleatico
10% Morescola
12% Morescono
15% Montaneccia
18% Niellucci
22% Sciaccarellu

FARMING
Biodynamic

WINEMAKER
Jean-Charles Abbatucci

ABOUT THE PRODUCER

In the colorful, picturesque city of Ajaccio, capital of Corsica, you can't get very far without seeing the name Abbatucci. There are streets, monuments and plazas that carry the name, which is normal given that General Jean-Charles Abbatucci was a hero of the French Revolution and comrade in arms of another local hero, Napoléon Bonaparte. Step into a wine bar or a restaurant there, chances are these days they'll pour you a glass of Domaine Abbatucci. The domaine is run by Jean-Charles Abbatucci, a direct descendant of the General, who has now become a local hero of another kind—for providing the local populace with its most sought-after libation.

Corsicans are proud defenders of their traditions and environment, and with Abbatucci they indulge guilt-free. His wines are certified biodynamic, and he believes in following even the most far-out biodynamic practices to the letter. On his large estate south of Ajaccio he keeps a pristine poly-culture ecosystem in place, complete with herds of sheep foraging through his vines, groves of olive trees on ancient terraces, and large swaths of untouched forests. His vines come from cuttings of indigenous grapes, sourced decades ago high up in the isolated and mountainous interior of the island from elderly peasant farmers, effectively saving several native varieties from extinction. To keep his vines happy, he's known to bring a traditional violinist to his vineyards and play for their benefit. After the harvest he'll treat his cellar to the same music as his grapes ferment and come of age. All part of the terroir, he says. Does all this have an actual effect on the wine? Have a taste for yourself. The proof just might be in the pudding.

WINE NOTES

Vines planted from 1960-1962. Cuvée's full name is "Ministre Impérial: Jacques-Pierre-Charles Abbatucci" who was a leading military figure under Napoleon's Premier Empire, and then became a prominent consul under Napoleon III. Grapes crushed by foot and macerated 15 days. Elevage in old 600L barrel. Vines are planted at a density of 3,500 vines per hectare, natural grass ground cover between each vineyard row. Biodynamic practices have been followed since 2000. All fruit is harvested by hand. Amazingly complex and satisfying with a crisp and precise component that leaves you with a mouthwatering finish.

