



IPO WINES

2021 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% Montanaccia
15% Carcaghjolu-Neru
18% Niellucciu
22% Sciaccarellu

FARMING
Biodynamic

WINEMAKER
Jean-Charles Abbatucci



ABOUT THE PRODUCER

In the colorful and picturesque town of Ajaccio, capital of Corsica, you can't go far without seeing the name Abbatucci. Streets, monuments and squares bear this name - which is only natural, given that General Jean-Charles Abbatucci was a hero of the French Revolution and comrade-in-arms to another local hero, Napoleon Bonaparte. If you walk into a wine bar or restaurant, chances are you'll be served a glass of Domaine Abbatucci. The estate is run by Jean-Charles Abbatucci, a direct descendant of the general.

His wines are certified biodynamic, and he believes in following biodynamic practices to the letter, no matter how remote. Considered one of Corsica's oldest vineyards, Domaine Comte Abbatucci today extends over 21 hectares of granite-arena slopes, in the heart of the Taravo valley in southern Corsica, at an altitude of around 150 meters. Jean-Charles Abbatucci maintains a polyculture ecosystem, with flocks of sheep grazing in the vineyards, olive groves on ancient terraces and vast expanses of maquis, all with respect for the environment.

Cultivating the desire to offer the quintessence of each grape variety of which it has an ampelographic collection, initiated by Antoine Abbatucci, Jean-Charles' father, this Corsican wine estate is constantly evolving, supported by a strong commitment to research and innovation. In fact, its vines come from native grape cuttings, obtained decades ago from old farmers in the remote, mountainous interior of the island, saving several native varieties from extinction. Also to keep his vines happy, he has been known to bring a traditional violinist to his vineyards and play for their benefit. After the harvest, he plays the same music in his cellar while the grapes ferment and age. Does all this have a real effect on the wine? Taste it for yourself. Perhaps the proof is in the pudding.

WINE NOTES

Vines planted from 1960-1962. Cuvée's full name is "Ministre Imperial: 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.

"Beyond his status as a biodynamic farming guru, Jean-Charles Abbatucci has conducted deep research into the history of Corsican wine, making him the guardian of the island's viticultural heritage. His father laid down the groundwork when he salvaged and replanted an extensive collection of nearly extinct indigenous grapes, allowing Jean-Charles to reap the benefits through cuvées such as this striking medley of Sciaccarello, Nielluccio, Carcajolo-Nero, Montanaccia, Morescono, Morescola, and Aleatico. Corsican vigneron of an era past recognized the unique qualities that each variety brought to the table, and now Abbatucci's complex blend confirms that the whole is indeed greater than the sum of its parts. Raised in foudres, this red is nuanced, finessed, and coursing with mystical biodynamic energy." - Kermit Lynch Wine Merchant.

Intense garnet-red color. The nose is powerful and complex, evoking the fragrances of Corsica with hints of ripe, tart red fruit (redcurrant and blackcurrant) and more subtle aromas of aromatic plants (myrtle). Full-bodied on the palate, with good length and fine woody notes. The characteristic mineral

note. Elegant tannins elegant, the finish is complex, with long-lasting aromatic sustained by notes of ripe fruit.