

# Italy, Tuscany: The Tuscan Ten – A Spotlight on Duemani

- **MONICA LARNER**
- 6th Aug 2020 | [The Wine Advocate](#) | *August 2020 Week 1*

Vintage	Wines	RP
<a href="#">2018</a>	<a href="#">Duemani Syrah Suisassi</a>	<a href="#">(95 - 97)</a>
<a href="#">2018</a>	<a href="#">Duemani G. Punto</a>	<a href="#">95+</a>
<a href="#">2018</a>	<a href="#">Duemani Cabernet Franc Duemani</a>	<a href="#">(94 - 96)</a>
<a href="#">2018</a>	<a href="#">Duemani Merlot Cabernet Franc Altrovino</a>	<a href="#">94</a>
<a href="#">2019</a>	<a href="#">Duemani Cabernet Franc CiFRA</a>	<a href="#">93</a>

Luca D'Attoma and Elena Celli are a power couple in Italian wine. From their panoramic perch above the Tyrrhenian coastline in Riparbella, Tuscany, they preside over one of the most dynamic and forward-thinking estates anywhere in the country. They are pioneers in organic and biodynamic farming and in the intelligent use of clay amphorae for fermenting and aging a growing list of Italian and international varieties.

Luca D'Attoma, or "Mr. Amphora," as some have affectionately nicknamed him, is a very successful consulting winemaker who works with an impressive span of clients ranging from Valle d'Aosta in the far north to Mt. Etna in the deep south of the peninsula.

Midway between these two extremes is Riparbella, where the couple's Duemani estate is located. With seven hectares of vines five years ago, the vineyard holdings have grown to 12 hectares today. Because all farming is organic and biodynamic, the land is given ample time to rest before any new planting is started. The growth is slow but steady.



In 2014, Duemani put in Grenache (planted in *alberello*, or head-trained bushes) in a half-hectare spot located at 350 meters above sea level with rocky calcareous soils layered with some volcanic matter. Widely planted on the island of Sardinia (where it goes by the name Cannonau), Grenache makes only scattered appearances in mainland Italy, and the grape is not

associated with a particular region or appellation outside of Cannonau di Sardegna. The fact that Luca and Elena added Grenache to their portfolio is newsworthy in its own right because it has such a limited track record in this part of Italy.

“We strongly believe in the quality potential of this grape that is very well adapted to this parcel,” says Luca.



With the 2018 vintage, Duemani is introducing its newest wine: G.Punto, a pure expression of Grenache that sees five months of skin and stems contact in Tuscan clay amphorae, or *orcio*, made by the Manetti family. No sulfites are added during fermentation or aging, and the non-filtered wine goes through a brief three months of barrique to settle.

This report includes the full range of new releases from Duemani. Among the reviews here are the 2018 Cabernet Franc Duemani and the 2018 Syrah Suisassi, which were both tasted before bottling in a preview capacity. Those wines will hit the market in May 2021.

**MONICA LARNER** : this is a series of reports that I'm calling "The Tuscan Ten." This article will be followed by at least nine additional (and maybe a few extra) feature reports that I aim to publish on a weekly basis starting today. Each one features an exceptional or benchmark estate, and collectively these producers represent the very best of Tuscany.