



The Daily Drinker

2016 Nero d'Avola Vitese, Colomba Bianca

ref. COLO160

Wine Variety: By some distance, Nero D'Avola is Sicily's most widely planted red grape variety. It is officially registered under the name Calabrese in Italy and there is a possibility that it comes from Calabria, but is more widely thought to have originated near the city of Avola in Sicily itself. It's a sun worshipper, requiring a warm spot to be happy and its assertive body and colour were historically exploited to bolster red wines from further north in Italy and beyond.

Wine Region: Sicily is one of the formative wine producing regions of Italy. Settled by Greeks in the 8th century BC, it seems likely that wine and wine making techniques spread from there to the rest of the country; Pliny records that vines were transplanted to Pompeii in the 2nd century BC. Until recently, Sicily was largely a workaday vineyard, producing masses of blending wine that was sent up country and used to strengthen overly light wines made further north. However, investment has come into Sicilian wine production and mechanisation is growing. In addition, a number of figurehead wineries are pushing the boundaries of quality. Sicily is a very productive region, producing more wine annually than Australia. As with many fortified wines, Sicily's Marsala - made in the west of the island - was a creation of the British who wanted to stabilise the local wine for export. This is a mountainous landscape and vines are planted up to 900 metres above sea level, at which height the torridity of the climate is largely avoided. The slopes of Mount Etna are increasingly exploited for the making of fine wine.

Wine Producer: Colomba Bianca is a co-operative founded in the west of the island in 1970. It has now grown to be the largest wine-producing co-operative in Sicily. They are also the biggest producer of organic and vegan wine on the island.

Single Bottle **£9,00**

member price: £8,10

Six Bottle Case **£54,00**

member price: £48,60



Style:

Red - full-bodied



Grape Variety:

Nero d'Avola



Producer:

Colomba Bianca



Serving Temperature:

16°C



Alcohol Content:

14%



Country:

Italy



Appellation:

not specified



Drink By:

2019



Bottle Size:

75cl



Region:

Sicily



Colour:

Still Red



Food:

Asian/Spicy
BBQ
Beef
Casseroles and Stews
Lamb
Pasta
Vegetables



Tasting Notes:

Pretty colour...and a pretty nose. The aromas are all spice and cherries, both red and black, a lick of cream added. There's a hint of chocolate here; perhaps even coffee (although I suspect that this wine has seen no wood). The entry is rich, yet straightaway there's a welcome freshness. Fruit echoes the cherry aromas, but adds something else very domestic, like raspberry. Distinct flavour of nuts here: hazel and almond. And everything's beautifully knit, the nutty-fresh tannin melded to the fruit. The structure enlivens the finish, cleans the palate, leaves one keen for another sip. Lovely stuff.

To buy this wine, go to www.thedailydrinker.co.uk
or call 01380 827291