



PRODUCER PROFILE

Estate owned by: Franco and Giuseppe
Argiolas
Winemaker: Mariano Murru
Total acreage under vine: 600
Estate founded: 1938
Winery production: 30,000 Bottles
Region: Sardegna
Country: Italy

Argiolas Meri 2018

WINE DESCRIPTION

Argiolas is the foremost wine estate on the island of Sardinia producing archetypal wines from native varieties. The winery was founded in 1938 by Antonio Argiolas and was the first on the island to pursue quality over quantity. Today, the Argiolas family is recognized as Sardinia's leading producer of wine.

Sardinia is the second-largest island in the Mediterranean and lies roughly 190 miles west of Italy's mainland. The vineyards of Argiolas are located in Serdiana in the Trexenta hills just north of the capital of Cagliari. Argiolas farms 600 acres of native Sardinian grapes including Nuragus, Monica, and Cannonau.

Meri Vermentino is an experimental wine conceived by Argiolas' technical director Mariano Murru along with the Italian Ministry of Research's "Project Vinex." The goal is to study and identify the most suitable harvesting techniques to preserve aromas and reduce the use of sulphur. Meri is harvested with a specially designed machine that chills the grapes with dry ice as they're picked.

TASTING NOTES

Meri (meaning "sunset" in Sardinian dialect) is a highly aromatic Vermentino with heightened aromas, lower alcohol, and minimum sulphur. The wine shows an intense bouquet of white flowers, herbs, and citrus, with minerals and juicy acidity on the palate. Meri is a pure expression of place and varietal.

FOOD PAIRING

Vermentino is an excellent aperitivo and its lemony acidity and herbal character is perfect for the Mediterranean table. Vermentino will accent langoustines or squid but carries enough weight to work with spaghetti topped with bottarga or a bowl of brothy clams and fregola. The herbal flavor of Vermentino can also highlight vegetables such as fava beans or fennel.

VINEYARD & PRODUCTION INFO

Production area/appellation:	Vermentino di Sardegna DOC
Soil composition:	Calcareous Clay-Loam
Training method:	Guyot
Elevation:	660 feet
Vines/acre:	2,200
Yield/acre:	3.2 tons
Exposure:	Southeastern
Harvest time:	August-September
First vintage of this wine:	2011
Bottles produced of this wine:	30,000

WINEMAKING & AGING

Varietal composition:	100% Vermentino
Fermentation container:	Stainless steel tanks
Length of alcoholic fermentation:	15-20 days
Fermentation temperature:	59 °F
Type of aging container:	Stainless steel tanks