



# UNCORKED BY THE SEA



Cellar Club June 2023

## 2020 Nicosia Monte Gorda Etna Rosso- Sicily, Italy

Sicily is a wonderful source of diverse, high quality red wines. Steadily increasing in popularity over the past few decades, Italy's fourth largest wine-producing region is finally receiving the accolades it deserves and shining in today's global market. Of particular note are the various microclimates of Europe's largest volcano, Mount Etna, where vineyards grow on drastically steep hillsides and varying aspects to the Ionian Sea. The more noteworthy red Sicilian wines that come from the volcanic soils of Mount Etna include Nerello Mascalese and Nerello Cappuccio. They share a racy streak of minerality and bear resemblance to their respective red Burgundies. Cantine Nicosia is one of the original Wineries to settle on Etna, and one of the few still shepherding their own grapes from vine to bottle. In respecting a land that has been in their family for over 120 years, Cantine Nicosia has obtained several organic certifications and are also part of VIVA for sustainability. The famous native Nerello Mascalese and Nerello Cappuccio grapes grown on high-elevation volcanic slopes of Mount Etna produce a rich and complex wine with a great minerality and flavor aromas such as red fruit, herbs, spices and licorice. On the palate, this volcanic wine is well-balanced, with refined tannins and a long balsamic finish. 94 PTS JS

Pairing: Etna rosso's, like pinot noirs, are versatile with food. Poultry, pork, salmon and tuna all go well, as would a wide variety of pastas. Tomato sauces are a natural pairing,

## 2020 COS Cerasuolo di Vittoria Classico- Sicily, Italy

Sicily is a unique island, teeming with life and home to a diverse range of indigenous grapes and forward-thinking growers. For example, Nero d'Avola is blended with the lighter and floral, Frappato grape, to create the elegant, Cerasuolo di Vittoria, one of the more traditional and respected Sicilian wines of the island. Giambattista, Cirino and Giusto are dedicated to harnessing this in their wines. The results are expressive wines that have influenced a whole generation of new producers to come. Azienda Agricola COS is the brainchild of three school friends, Giambattista Cilia, Cirino Strano and Giusto Occhipinti. They named their winery after the acronym of their surnames. COS seek to produce wines that celebrate the beauty of their surroundings. The COS Cerasuolo di Vittoria Classico is a blend of 60% Nero d'Avola and 40% Frappato, and is the only DOCG in the whole of Sicily to bring together two of the island's iconic red grapes. It has aromas of dried cherry, chocolate, smoke, wild herbs, and exotic spices. Soft, round, fruity and a medium bodied palate with a good dose of acidity, Cerasuolo di Vittoria, is a structured wine that is delicious out of the bottle but also benefits from time to breathe.

Pairings: Perfect pairing for Sicilian dishes, red sauce pasta or pizza night. It is also good with lamb and red meats