





LOCATION/CLIMATE

- ☐ 65% Mountains, including Corno Grande, the highest point on mainland Italy
- Relatively few flat plains
- ☐ Higher Altitude = Cooler, Leaner, Mineral Styles
- Lower Altitude/Closer to Adriatic = Warmer, Riper, Fruity Styles

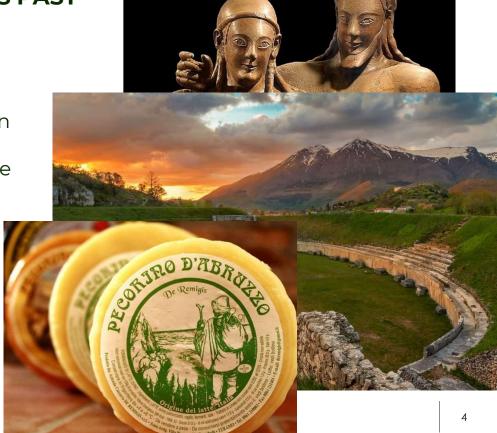






- Mountainous nature of Abruzzo has always supported nomadic cultures—settlement/farming more difficult
- ☐ 600 BC: Etruscans introduce winemaking to region
- ☐ 400-300 BC: Romans conquer Abruzzo, but remote nature of region keeps population low
- ☐ Fishing, Farming, and Shepherding primary industries...from this time until modern day (Abruzzo famous for lamb dishes and Pecorino—sheep's milk—cheeses)







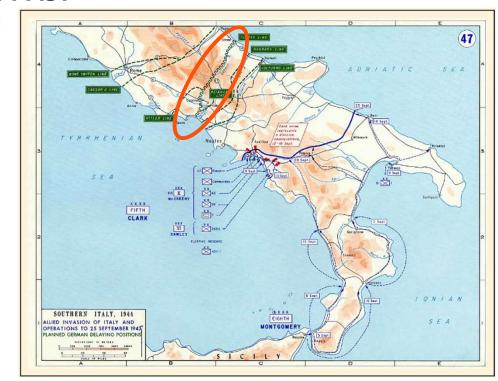
- 1000 AD: Arrival of the Norman's and French Rule
- ☐ 1526-1706: Spanish rule of Abruzzo and Southern Italy
- ☐ 1706-1796: Spanish rule gives way to Austrian rule
- 1796-1829: Napoleonic rule
- 1829-1871: Unification and creation of modern country of Italy







- ☐ Following the fall of the Roman Empire, Abruzzo ruled by a succession of foreign powers, resulting in erratic/limited economic development in region
- ☐ First Industrial Revolution (1760-1840) creates population exodus from Abruzzo to larger cities in the north and west of Italy
- World Wars (I and II) further drain population of ablebodied men to work in factories and serve in military
 - ✓ Abruzzo on the front lines of World War II (Gustav Line--German attempt to prevent Allies from reaching Rome)
 - ✓ Battle of Ortona (1943) considered one of the fiercest Italian campaigns of the War, inflicting tremendous damage to Abruzzo cities/countryside







- ☐ Post World War II: Famine/Unemployment as most Marshall Plan benefits don't reach Abruzzo until 1960's
- ☐ Second Italian Industrial Revolution creates exodus from Italy's countryside in late 1960's/early 1970's, hitting Abruzzo particularly hard
- ☐ To survive, Abruzzo (and other regions) focuses on:
 - ✓ Formation of Winery Coops (Cantine Sociali)
 - ✓ Planting higher yielding/lower quality grape clones
 ✓ Use of "Tendone" training system

 - ✓ Overly large DOC areas with excessively generous production limits
- Result: Variable quality and "Cheap Wine" image—NOT unique in Italy, but Abruzzo slower to evolve/recover from







ABRUZZO'S PRESENT

- Nearly half of Abruzzo's land area is designated as National Park or Nature Preserve
- ☐ Four (4) Administrative Provinces:
 - ✓ Chieti—75% of Abruzzo wine production
 - ✓ Pescara
 - ✓ Teramo
 - ✓ L'Aquila
- High yielding/lower quality grape clones planted in 1960's/70's have largely now been replaced with higher quality versions on modern trellising
- Abruzzo now 5th largest wine producing region in Italy, with slightly less than 6% of total production
 - √ 35 million cases per year
 - √ 250 wineries of which only 40 are Coops







ABRUZZO'S FUTURE

- ☐ Abruzzo currently in a phase of "Repositioning"
- ☐ In past 15-20 years, focus has turned:
 - ✓ From Coops to Family Estates pursuing Ultra Premium wines
 - ✓ To Sustainable, Organic, and Bio-Dynamic Farming Methods
 - ✓ To longer oak aging of reds, batonage of whites, return to clay vessels
 - ✓ From Varietal Minded to Terroir Focused winemaking, leading to...
- ☐ Updates to Abruzzo Appellational System starting with 2023 Vintage







ITALY'S REGIONS/APPELLATIONS

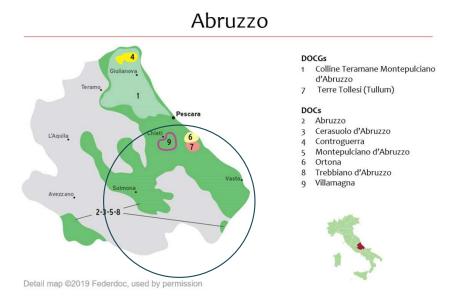






ABRUZZO'S REGIONS/APPELLATIONS









- □ In addition, Varietal names can be added to Abruzzo DOC—e.g. Pecorino d'Abruzzo DOC □ Currently 8 IGT/IGP's, but all will be combined into just 1 (Terre d'Abruzzo) starting in 2023
- ☐ "Superiore" elevated to DOC status (e.g. Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Superiore) in 2023
- Additional updates being considered at this time



GRAPES

- Montepulciano (57% of Abruzzo plantings)
 - ✓ One of Italy's most respected reds
 - ✓ Widely planted throughout Central/Southern Italy—second only to Sangiovese in total acres planted in Italy for red grapes
 - ✓ Light to full bodied, deeply colored, soft tannins, moderate acidity. Aromas & flavors of red cherry, plums, herbs, and earth
 - ✓ Produces Red, Rose, Sparkling Rose, and Red Passito Dessert wines
- ☐ Trebbiano Abruzzese (29% of Abruzzo plantings)
 - ✓ Highest quality clone of the Trebbiano family—not to be confused with Trebbiano di Toscana
 - ✓ Light to medium bodied, high acidity. Aromas & flavors of white flowers, peach, citrus, and minerals
 - ✓ Produces White, Sparkling, and White Passito Dessert wines
- Other prominent varieties planted
 - ✓ Autochthonous: Bambino Bianco, Cococciola, Passerina, Pecorino, Sangiovese
 - International: Chardonnay, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon





PREMIUM ABRUZZO PINOT GRIGIO







PREMIUM ABRUZZO MONTEPULCIANO







SUPER/ULTRA PREMIUM PECORINO







SUPER/ULTRA PREMIUM/LUXURY MONTEPULCIANO





