GIROLAMO RUSSO

‘Italy’s answer to top-tier red Burgundy!’

- David Lynch, Sommelier

Founded in 2005 by Giuseppe Russo, in memory of his late father. The family are natives of Passopisciaro, one of the key villages at the heart of the rebirth of Etna’s most important grape variety, Nerello Mascalese. This is the north face of Europe’s largest active volcano, Mount Etna, in the north-eastern corner of Sicily. The Russos have 26 hectares of land in and around Passopisciaro, with 15 hectares of vineyards surrounded by olive and hazelnut groves. The vineyards are high up, between 650 and 780 metres above sea level, inland from the beautiful town of Taormina. Many of the free-standing bush vines are over 80 years old, surviving in harmony with Etna’s black, mineral-rich volcanic soil. Giuseppe works the vineyards organically and makes the wines himself. He vinifies each parcel separately, seeking out their individual identities in a series of wines that reflect the diverse character of their terroirs. Did You Know: Some of the lava flows are so recent that you can't even plant on them!





Etna Bianco ‘Nerina’ 2025, Sicily

White wines grown on Mount Etna are some of the best in Italy, and this is a very good example. Made of a field blend of 75% Carricante and 25% a mixture of other typical white varieties found on Etna: Catarratto, Inzolia, Grecanico, Minnella, and Coda di Volpe. The Carricante comes from San Lorenzo, the other varieties were interplanted with red varieties in a number of different vineyards, which range in elevation from 650 to 800 meters (2,100-2,600 feet) above sea level. The vines are partly old (planted 50-100 years ago) and partly younger. The grapes are pressed, and the must is fermented at controlled temperature, using indigenous yeast, in used puncheons (about 1/3) and stainless steel tanks. No malolactic is carried out, and the wine is aged in the same containers on the fine lees for about six months.

94 Points – James Suckling – *“A floral wine with aromas of candied citrus, green apples, lees and subtle minerals. Medium-bodied with crisp acidity, very good weight on the palate, a silky texture, tingling acidity and a long, savory finish.”*



Etna Rosso 'a’Rina' 2024, Sicily

All estate bottled fruit. Vines range from 20-100-years of age, rooted in weathered volcanic lava flows on the north side of Mount Etna, head-trained or modified head-trained. 94% Nerello Mascalese, 6% Nerello Cappuccio. 15 days maceration, controlled low temperature fermentation in steel and plastic tanks with indigenous yeasts.
16 months in 2,500 L barrel, cement and used barrique.

94 Points – James Suckling – *“A smoky wine with aromas of graphite, flowers, licorice and vibrant red fruit. Medium-bodied, extracted and powerful, with firm, grainy tannins, crisp acidity and a dense, austere finish.”*



San Lorenzo Etna Rosso 2022, Sicily

Almost entirely Nerello Mascalese with very small amounts of Nerello Cappuccio from the single contrada, San Lorenzo. The vineyard is 8 hectares with vines 80+ years in age, at 750-780 m above sea level but only the oldest parcel of vines is selected for the single contrada bottling. Spontaneous fermentation is followed by 18 months in second passage Slavonian oak.

96 Points – James Suckling – *"Classy and perfumed, this stands out with pretty aromas of spiced plums, nutmeg and white pepper following through to a medium body. It has a polished texture, creamy tannins and a bright, fresh finish."*