



2009 Saggi
Columbia Valley
Ambrogio and Giovanni Folonari

The Folonaris are among Italy's oldest and most prestigious Tuscan wine families with a winemaking history dating back to the late 1700s.

Tasting Notes: Rich yet sleek, the 2009 Saggi delivers vibrant aromas and flavors of ripe wild strawberries, black currants and violets accented by notes of earth and spice. This wine is well-balanced, with delicious, mouth-filling acidity and a fine coating of dusty tannins that provide an expressive finish.

Vintage: The 2009 vintage was a memorable growing season that produced exceptional wines with deep color, richness and concentration. Spring was a bit cooler and wetter than usual, but the arrival of dry weather in June led to a good fruit set. Temperatures warmed considerably in July and stayed warm into September. These consistent, warm temperatures and lower than average yields caused the grapes to ripen quickly and evenly, sparking one of the earliest and fastest harvests on record.

Winemaking: The grapes were hand-picked and fermented in small, two-ton tanks for 25-35 days. This gave the Sangiovese the gentle handling it required to create a delicious richness across the mid-palate. Aged 18 months in delicate new (55%) French oak barrels to enhance the intensity of the fruit; the 2009 blend includes more Sangiovese than previous vintages as Giovanni has refined his vineyard selections following numerous visits to the Columbia Valley.

Vineyards: Two outstanding Sangiovese vineyards provide the foundation for this bright, fresh wine. Candy Mountain Sangiovese contributes intense, wild strawberry aromas and flavors. Dick Boushey's Yakima Valley Sangiovese, planted in 1993, gives the wine its wonderful liveliness. Horse Heaven Hills Cabernet Sauvignon adds structure. Wahluke Slope Syrah adds another dimension of color and dark fruit aromas and flavors. Together, these diverse sites combine for a complex, layered wine.

Blend: 62% Sangiovese
29% Cabernet Sauvignon
9% Syrah

Alcohol: 14.6%
pH: 3.55
TA: 0.59 grams/100ml
Release date: Fall 2012
Production: 1,419 cases