

Highlight Portrait

Wine stop at Baglio Assuli

di: **Giulia Monteleone**

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A visit to the vineyards, that's how the first "winestop" of the day begins. We are at **Baglio Assuli**, the winery located in the province of **Trapani**, to be exact between Marsala and Mazzara del Vallo. The countryside is described by the vine rows and dotted with old farmhouses hidden in the olive groves. A zone for the growing of grapes and the production of wine where **Roberto Caruso** decided to invest, becoming part of the management of Assuli with the objective of developing this house. The ties to the territory of the Caruso family are strong ones and, after success in the marble business, he wished to stake his bets on the countryside, particularly on the vineyard. He increased the surface under vines, cultivating them with greater care and attention. "We strongly believe in the conversion to an organic viticulture and in native grape varieties" explains to us the young Michael Caruso, passionately involved in this project which he follows personally and with great enthusiasm.

A special focus, accordingly, on Grillo and Nero d'Avola. And it is precisely the red grape variety of the island which gives the most interesting wines. We were particularly struck by the Lorlando Riserva, which we tasted before release, a wine of elegance and finesse. And by Besi as well, a cru produced from selected Nero d'Avola grapes. Different soils and altitudes, which give very different wines. The cellar work is directed by young oenologist, Giuseppe Bennardo, assisted by consultant Lorenzo Landi. Current production is slightly more than 100,00 bottles, but the large spaces for the working of the grapes and the potential of the territory lead us to believe in future growth. The investments by the family also include those for hospitality in the cellars, with a strong emphasis on wine tourism. A powerful desire to do the work and do it well combined with the territory and the grand enthusiasm of the Caruso family will definitely give us many a pleasurable surprises in the glass!

Baglio Assuli

Contrada Carcitella

91026 Mazara del Vallo (TP)

Tel. +39 0923 547267 / 0923 548690

info@assuli.it

<http://assuli.it>

#SiciliaEP17
