

DONNA LAURA ALI SANGIOVESE TOSCANA ROSATO 2021/\$11.99



Donna Laura Winery

DESCRIPTION

The story of Donna Laura Wines is a nomadic discovery of heritage and matriarchal devotion as linear as the winding roads that weave through the hillsides and vineyards of Tuscany. The history follows vintner Lia Tolaini Banville from her birthplace in Canada to her ancestral home outside the city of Lucca, where at the age of six on her family's annual summer holiday, Lia met her Aunt Laura who would become a driving force in her life. Laura was mother to three rough-and-tumble boys and immediately bonded with Lia. Thus began the tradition of yearly visits where during the warm summer days and nights Laura would instill in Lia an appreciation for Italian culture, history, music and most of all art. Laura's presence in Lia's life would inspire her as a mother, cook, vintner and businessperson and after graduating with degrees in art and economics and starting a family of her own, Lia would continue to visit her Aunt Laura with her own children growing this family bond.

In 2004 an opportunity arose to write a new chapter in the story, this time at Tolaini Winery in Castelnuovo Berardenga with the production of Lia's own wine label Donna Laura. A loving tribute to the woman whose lessons of family, tradition and honor would share double billing with Lia's own heritage. Roman gods Venus, Bacchus and Cupid personifying Lia's children adorn the labels of Donna Laura Wines, celebrating this legacy of devotion to family and affirming the adage 'Chi si volta, e chi si gira, sempre a casa va finire' – no matter where you go or turn you will always end up at home.

The name Ali means "wings" in Italian and it is also the name of the winery owner Lia Tolaini-Banville's "little angel": her daughter. The artwork from the label is a detail of Cupid from the original artwork for the Bramosia Chianti Classico label by Rik Olsen.

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Many people mistakenly think that rosé is a blend of finished red and white wines. It is not. In fact, in France, such practice is illegal - except in the Champagne region. And even there, this blending is rarely used. Rosé is instead made by altering or shortening a key step in the making of red wine - the "grape skin contact" stage. The winemaker incorporates the red-color of grape skins during winemaking, and stops that process before it fully goes to red-wine levels.

Here's the thing -- nearly all grape varieties *yield clear juice*. The color in nearly all wines comes from the *skins*, not the juice. With a rose, the color usually comes from grape-skin-contact with the juices, but the process is aborted (and skins removed) before it would qualify as a red wine.

This rose 100% Sangiovese, the grapes are harvested at the end of August. The bunches are selected in the fields and by an optical sorter as soon as they arrive at the cellar. Then the berries are crushed and the juice is left in contact with the skins for two hours. Fermentation takes place in stainless steel tanks.

Tasting Notes

NOSE:

Donna Laura Ali Rosato is a pure Sangiovese showing a light pink color. The nose displays hints of strawberry, red cherry and pink grapefruit.

PALATE:

The palate is fresh with notes of strawberry and has a pleasant and long lasting finish.

PAIRING:

Appetizers like melon with prosciutto, seafood, fish dishes, turkey, quiche, pizza, chicken and hamburgers.

WINERY WEBSITE: [Main Home - Donna Laura \(donnalaurawines.com\)](http://donnalaurawines.com)

Rosato I.G.T., Tuscany, Italy



