

## Breaking The Glass Ceiling

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Hailing from a land rich in wine culture that stems from time immemorial, **Fattorie dei Dolfi** wines are harvested and cultivated from a territory that has been formally recognised for its optimal traits, which are essential to the achievement of superior wines.



Breathtaking Lari, down the coast of Pisa and a short drive from Florence.

In the breathtaking town of Lari, down the coast of iconic Pisa and less than an hour's drive from famous Florence, wines are still produced by refined techniques. Handed down over hundreds of years through many a generation of artisans, they were developed by early natives of the land and take cue from the lunar cycle.

Named Decanter's Man of the Year in 2011, Giacomo Tachis enriches **Fattorie dei Dolfi's** wines with wealth of experience. A meticulous traditionalist, the acclaimed oenologist believes in how the labour of love within a vineyard endows wines with body and flavor, elaborating, "Wine is made in the vineyard, not in the winery. In the winery it must not get spoiled or damaged to meet commercial demands. In fact, it may happen that a defect (because it moves away from the varietal typology) can be transformed into an appreciated uniqueness. Maybe appreciated by few, but noticeable, and this will be the reward." He shares that it is not enough to make a good wine; that wine must be the true expression of a terroir, a growing area; otherwise it will have a name, but no surname.



Tachis works in tandem with Fattorie dei Dolfi's heir, Giovanni Dolfi, who the famous Singaporean hotelier Loh Lick Peng described as a dedicated craftsman after having the honour of meeting the Italian.

A discerning connoisseur of fine wines, Loh is the mastermind behind prominent hotels of Singapore like New Majestic hotel, Wanderlust and Hotel 1929.

"I've had a good time meeting the owner Mr. Giovanni Dolfi in Singapore. Mr. Dolfi impressed me for his passion in seeking perfection and his unique project. The wines he made were really lovely with a very unusual style. I wish him all the success in introducing them into the Singapore market," Loh discloses.

The flourish of the land is given generous space to thrive naturally amid a nutrient-rich eco-system. The soil of the Lari region occurs in a golden-red hue, with a unique consistency and texture. The vines that sprout from its nurture are tended to by hand with laborious organic techniques that include continual trimming to reach an ideal harvest. Fermented in some of the most reliable vats in the world, only 50% of **Fattorie dei Dolfi's** precious yield makes the final cut.

Villa Antonietta, an eminent heritage site which dates back to the 17th Century, houses a highly esteemed ageing environment. This house of savoir-faire is also the cellar where **Fattorie dei Dolfi's** elite produce is aged for 24 to 36 months.

Amongst **Fattorie dei Dolfi's** numerous accolades, the revered winemaker was most recently acknowledged with a gold award last year for both its 2009 Imeneus Costa Toscana IGT and 2009 'l Bruno de' Venti Costa Toscana IGT wines. One of Italy's best kept secrets, it remains amongst connoisseurs as a name that implies both status and taste.

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