



Ciliegio Armando Gianolli Riserva Amarone della Valpolicella DOCG 2011

La Collina Dei Ciliegi SRL, Veneto, Italy



LCBO # 28722 | 15.5% alc./vol. | \$349.00 | Release: 03-Nov-2022

“Dried herbs, red cherries and spice bouquet. Great freshness on the palate with red cherries, coffee, wood spice and hint of mushrooms. The tannins are silky with fresh acidity and the finish is long.” **Score – 97p Platinum (Decanter WWA, 2021)**

Terroir:

“La Collina dei Ciliegi” winery is born in 2005 as a small-scale production, using a selection of grapes allocated for their first Amarone.

Vineyards and the estate are near Verona, on the Valpantena hills. The 45-hectare estate is adorned with vineyards and lush cherry trees, giving the brand its name. La Collina dei Ciliegi (Cherry Trees Hill) is known for its intense and strong-flavoured red wines and for its fresh and fine white wines.



Vinification:

Handpicked in late September. Grapes dry in boxes for ~4 months: this process results in a weight loss of 40% and an increase in aromatic and sugar concentration. In mid-January dried grapes destemming and gentle pressing occur, followed by fermentation starting from temperature of 5°-6° C to reach temperature of 18°-20°C in the final phase. Maceration lasts 35 days with daily delastage and pumping over. Ciliegio Armando Gianolli ages for 60 months in new French oak barriques and tonneaux and 42 months in exhausted ones. A further 6-month bottle ageing occurs.

Varieties: Corvina 50%, Corvinone 45%, Rondinella 5%

Residual sugar: 3.4 g/L

Serving suggestion and food pairing: Decant and serve at 17°C. Extraordinary with the great dishes of Italian tradition, from braised meat to roasted game. Enjoy Armando Gianolli on its own: its complexity makes it perfect as a meditation wine.

Decanter WWA, 2021

97p Platinum

Michael Godel, Wine Align, 2021

96p





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Amarone della Valpolicella DOCG 2011

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CANADIAN ACCOLADES

Michael Godel '21	La Collina dei Ciliegi winery is the work of businessman Massimo Gianolli and Stefano Falla. The 45-hectare estate is near Verona in the Valpantena hills and while the name actually means "Cherry Trees Hill" it also invokes the song. Continuing on the theme it's almost as if Lucio Battisti's lyrics were written to describe this landscape and these wines. "E respirando brezze che dilagano su terre senza limiti e confini, Ci allontaniamo e poi ci ritroviamo più vicini ," meaning "and breathing breezes that spread over lands without limits and border." This is Valpolicella and Riserva 2011 speaks to that poetry. This was a very good vintage and Ciliegi Riserva has stood the first 10 years test of time. Ripe fruit persists, following the cherries and now here with a briny olive, earthy forest mulch and autumn porcini haul. Balance is impeccable, time has been kind, the wine continues to evolve and secondary limits remain unconstrained. Drink 2021-2028. Score – 96p. www.winealign.com
David Lawrason '21	This is a very rich, elegant, off-dry amarone with some age. Pours fairly deep garnet-brick. The nose is very generous, almost lavish with tertiary nutty character, very ripe dried cran-cherry fruit, tarragon, wood spice and a touch of leather. It is obviously full bodied at 15.5%alcohol. The tannins are still quite firm but not austere; the length is outstanding. Some nutty bitterness on the finish. Score – 93p. www.winealign.com
Steve Thurlow '21	This 2011 riserva is still quite fresh and lively with a nose of black cherry and blackberry fruit with oak spice that is well integrated plus woodsmoke and some earthy mushroom notes. It is full bodied but feels lighter due to the balancing acidity though there is some bitterness on the finish and harshness from the alcohol though at 15.5% it does not dominate the palate. Finely divided tannin has not yet folded into the wine. Score – 93p. www.winealign.com
John Szabo '21	Heavily inflected by toasted coconut, and sweet, candied fruit, this is a hugely extracted, still tannic and astringent Amarone, crafted in a take-no-prisoners style. It's still so tightly wound, I'd say another 4-6 years away from the window opening. Dark, raisined fruit flavours have yet to evolve and emerge from the tannic shell; it's a big, chewy mouthful of wine, though essential balance is not quite on. Score – 92p. www.winealign.com