

# LA TUNELLA®

*Vignaiuoli nei Colli del Friuli*

## MERLOT



*The soil of the Colli Orientali - the "ponca"*

### TYPE OF SOIL

Marl and sandstone from Eocene age also known as "ponca", a distinctive characteristic from the hills of Eastern Friuli (Friuli Orientale).

### GRAPE VARIETY

Merlot.

### TRAINING SYSTEM

Traditional Friuli single inverted and French Guyot with a plant density of 5,000 vines per hectare.

### HARVEST TIME

The last week of September.

### VINIFICATION

The grapes are harvested at the perfect degree of sugar and phenol content, then destemmed and crushed. The resulting must is then allowed to macerate and ferment on the skins in steel vats. During this period, pumping over is carried out frequently to favour the transfer of colour and noble tannins from the skins to the fermenting must. After drawing-off, the end of alcoholic and malolactic fermentation is awaited and the racking is carried out with the wine pouring under gravity into 2,500 litre French oak barrels in the cellar where it matures until the month of February, when it is bottled.

### AVAILABILITY

Early spring one year and a half after the harvest.

### INDICATIVE VALUES

Total acidity 5.2 g/L; alcohol 13.50% by vol.

### COLOUR

Intense and vivid ruby red, developing into a garnet red with age.

### NOTES ON FLAVOUR AND BOUQUET

A distinctive sweet and gentle bouquet, with notes of plum jam, tobacco, hay, and coffee. The palate dry and smooth, sapid and harmonious, with fruit flavours of blackberry and plums. The meticulous vinification process has successfully extracted the varietal notes, which are perfectly amalgamated with the notes of the French oak in which the wine has matured.

### SERVING TEMPERATURE

16 - 18° C.

### PAIRING SUGGESTION

Grilled red meats, boiled meats, stews of poultry and rabbit, roasts and medium aged cheese.