

# vinous

# 88 pts

## Passopisciaro 2014 Contrada G

Passopisciaro, Terre Siciliane, Sicily

Red wine from Italy

Drinking window: 2018 - 2025

Saturated ruby with inky purple tinges. Very peppery, medicinal aromas of blueberry, cocoa, coffee, tobacco leaf and herbs on the tight nose. Then slightly austere and taut in the mouth too, offering a rigid, tough mouthfeel to the chocolaty and very spicy flavors of dark berries, herbs and licorice. Finishes with serious, tongue-dusting tannins and a violet note. Strikes me as an all-around darker wine (in color, fruit aromas and flavors) than the other 2014 Passopisciaro wines. Not my style of Etna Rosso. Reportedly mainly Nerello Mascalese.

Ian D'Agata. Tasting date: October 2016

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From Sicily: Moving Fast While Slowly Rediscovering its Past (Dec 2016)

### Passopisciaro

Owner Andrea Franchetti and his team turned in Sicily's (and one Italy's) best wine performances of the year. Simply put, it's nearly impossible this year to pick a favorite red wine from Passopisciaro's many offerings, with one gorgeous, ageworthy wine after another made from the single *contrada* and a truly memorable Passorosso blend that strikes me as the best of them all. The 2014 vintage will long be remembered as one of Etna's best ever, and Passopisciaro has created what look like truly epic wines.

### Grape/Blend

Nerello Mascalese

### Release price

\$75.00

# vinous

# 91 pts

## Passopisciaro 2014 Contrada P

Passopisciaro, Terre Siciliane, Sicily

Red wine from Italy

Drinking window: 2018 - 2025

Good bright ruby-red. Very pure, super-ripe aromas of dark cherry, smoked beef, mocha and menthol. Rich, ripe and sweet on the palate, offering chewy dark fruit, red cherry jam and blood orange nectar flavors. Finishes big and meaty, delivering serious but fine-grained tannins and very good length. This decidedly opulent, plush wine has a super-ripe, air-dried quality to it and will be a big favorite of those who like Amarone and similarly styled wines. Mainly Nerello Mascalese.

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### Grape/Blend

Nerello Mascalese

### Release price

\$90.00

# vinous

# 93<sub>pts</sub>

## Passopisciaro 2014 Contrada C

Passopisciaro, Terre Siciliane, Sicily

Red wine from Italy

Drinking window: 2019 - 2026

Good full red-ruby. Enticing aromas of pomegranate, red currant, strawberry and aromatic herbs. Bright and juicy on entry, then almost austere in its delivery of steely but very suave and fine-grained flavors of red berries, flinty minerals, mint and faded flowers. Offers plenty of inner-mouth perfume and a sense of impeccable elegance on the long, linear, very precise aftertaste. Mainly Nerello Mascalese.

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### Grape/Blend

Nerello Mascalese

### Release price

\$60.00

# vinous

# 94<sub>pts</sub>

## Passopisciaro 2014 Contrada S

Passopisciaro, Terre Siciliane, Sicily

Red wine from Italy

Drinking window: 2018 - 2025

Vivid red-ruby. A real essence of Etna on the perfumed nose, mixing together rich aromas of raspberry, blood orange, violet, minerals, nutmeg and white pepper. Utterly seamless on the palate; an uncanny combination of sweetness and energy and very silky tannins supports ripe, tactile, high-pitched flavors of sour red cherry, licorice and peony that carry through to the vibrant, perfumed aftertaste. Another knockout wine from owner Andrea Franchetti, this strikes me as slightly riper and creamier than the Contrada R, but less refined. Mainly Nerello Mascalese.

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### Grape/Blend

Nerello Mascalese

### Release price

\$75.00

# vinous

# 94<sub>pts</sub>

## Passopisciaro 2014 Franchetti

Passopisciaro, Terre Siciliane, Sicily

Red wine from Italy

Drinking window: 2017 - 2025

Fully saturated inky purple. Powerful aromas of cassis, blueberry, vanilla, cedar and black currant leaf. Then amazingly creamy, supple and plush, but showing outstanding energy to seamless, sweet dark berry and spicy flavors complemented by candied violet. A huge wine with a long, suave finish featuring sweet dark berry compote notes, but vibrant acidity keeps it very light on its feet. The creamy mouthfeel is a dead ringer for Franchetti's Tuscan Tenuta di Trinoro wine.

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## Grape/Blend

Petit Verdot, Cesanese

## Release price

\$135.00

# vinous

# 95+ pts

## Passopisciaro 2014 Contrada R

Passopisciaro, Terre Siciliane, Sicily

Red wine from Italy

Drinking window: 2019 - 2025

Luminous red-ruby. Blood orange, raspberry, violet, licorice and cinnamon on the refined, extremely perfumed and very pure nose and palate. Offers compelling sweetness and a fine-grained texture; complex notes of faded flowers and truffles emerge with aeration. The vibrant, extremely long finish coats the entire palate. Mainly Nerello Mascalese.

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### Grape/Blend

Nerello Mascalese

### Release price

\$60.00

# vinous

# 97 pts

## Passopisciaro 2014 Passorosso (Formerly Passopisciaro)

Passopisciaro, Terre Siciliane, Sicily

Red wine from Italy

Drinking window: 2018 - 2026

Bright red-ruby. The captivating nose combines strawberry, raspberry, minerals, violet and flint aromas. Creamy-sweet but amazingly light on its feet, offering palate-staining, perfumed flavors of soft red berries, ripe red cherry, vanilla, aromatic herbs and crushed rock. Rich, ripe and suave, but displays a penetrating, saline and energetic quality that gives this beauty a three-dimensional mouthfeel and a light-on-its-feet quality. Finishes with great length and wonderfully polished tannins. Absolute knockout wine: from a memorable vintage on Etna, this is most likely the best Passorosso ever (in earlier vintages, it used to be called simply Passopisciaro). Mainly Nerello Mascalese.

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### Grape/Blend

Nerello Mascalese

### Release price

\$40.00

