

## A NEW CONTRADA EMERGES ON MOUNT ETNA: PASSOCHIANCHE

Posted on [May 14, 2020](#) | by [VinoeStile](#) | [Leave a comment](#)



Passopisciaro again a pioneer, with a new Chardonnay

Passochianche, the name of the latest Contrada, or distinctive growing district, recognised by **Passopisciaro** and dedicated to Chardonnay, is an ancient terraced piece of land on the slopes of Mount Etna, lying between 870 and 950 metres' elevation.

**Andrea Franchetti** had already intuited, back in 2000, that this tiny plot of ultra-fine black sand would be an intriguing habitat for Chardonnay, so he planted a high-density vineyard to that grape. From vintage 2018 the winery has decided to bottle it as Contrada PC, shorthand for Passochianche.

*“This wine embodies the experience and knowledge that we have gained over the years with our parcels of Chardonnay,”* explained Andrea Franchetti, who was a winegrowing pioneer on Etna and creator of the whole concept of Etna wine contrade. *“Over the years, during the growing season and, in particular, with the ageing of the vines, many individual terroirs began to impose their own distinctive personality and quality on the fruit. So, year after year, as we applied precision viticultural practices to the various soils, experimenting with different ripeness regimes, we started separating out the various lots of grapes during harvest and vinification. The result is Contrada PC, which is a superb demonstration of how Etna, with the same grape variety, can yield expressions and wine personalities that are so distinct and different from spot to spot.”*

The first vintage of Contrada PC, produced in an extremely limited edition, will be shortly released to the market.