



# TENUTA TASCANTE

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**CONTRADA  
RAMPANTE  
2016 Etna DOC**

**91 points** "Fresh and focused, this minerally red features a streak of salinity underscoring the well-knit flavors of crushed cherry, cured tobacco, dried fig and star anise. Offers a chewy, spiced finish." - AN

**94 points** "Made with vines planted at the dawn of the new millennium, the 2016 Etna Rosso Contrada Rampante comes from one of the best-performing parcels on the northern side of the volcano, where the topsoil (consisting of eroded volcanic stone and compacted ash) is a bit thicker and deeper compared to most other sites on the volcano. This allows for deep root systems and well-draining moisture. This wine shows a dark and compact nature with ripe fruit, dried blackberry, aniseed and camphor. Like the other wines in this series, this expression ages in 25-hectoliter Slavonian oak casks for 12 months." - ML

**93 points** "Good medium red-ruby. Pure, deep aromas of cherry and spices on the youthfully reticent nose. In typical Rampante cru style, this is very big and rich in extract, but with harmonious acidity framing and intensifying the red fruit, herb, tobacco and spice flavors. Boasts impressive depth but will need time in bottle to display all of its considerable potential. Finishes chewy and very long, this is the largest-scaled of Tascante's Etna Rosso cru wines in 2016. Forget about this in your cellar for another four years at least." - ID

**96 points** "Intense and linear, this vibrant red has intriguing aromas of wild red berry, violet, dark spice, crushed stone and eucalyptus. On the lithe, racy palate, polished tannins and lively acidity frame crunchy red cherry, strawberry compote, orange zest and licorice before a saline finish." - KO

**92 points** "Usually the first to be picked, Rampante is the estate's lowest and warmest vineyard, planted in 2000 close to Passopisciaro village. The vineyard encompasses two different soil formations, defined by volcanic sands and chunks of basalt, with large rocky outcrops. The wine is fermented in stainless steel before being aged for a year in 25hl Slavonian oak barrels. Reflecting the vineyard's lower altitude and slightly warmer microclimate, this is the most approachable of the four reds in the Tascante range, rounder and riper with a warm red fruit nose. Make no mistake though, you'll still find the freshness, delicacy and complexity of the Tascante lineup here, along with a rose-petal perfume." - AW

**92 points** "Produced from vines planted in 2000, this wraps its dark cherry and plum flavors in a lithe texture. Aged for a year in large Slavonian oak casks, the wine shows beautiful freshness and precision." - SJ

**94 points** "Dried walnuts, hazelnuts, dried herbs, strawberries, red licorice and watermelon. Tangy and pretty on the medium-bodied palate, which is subtle in its delivery of orange-zest and lime undertones." - JS



**CONTRADA  
PIANODARIO  
2016 Etna DOC**

**90 points** "A sleek, medium-bodied red, with snappy acidity and light, taut tannins enlivening the flavors of wild raspberry, mandarin orange peel, smoky mineral and anise. Offers a tangy, herb-laced finish." - AN

**93 points** "One of three new single-vineyard wines introduced by Tascante's Tascante, the 2016 Etna Rosso Contrada Pianodario comes from the western-most parcel located between Montelaguardia and Randazzo. These are relatively new vines, planted in 2010, in soils representing various lava flows, the oldest in 1646 and the newest in 1981. This is a bright and accessible wine with pretty tones of wild berry and dried pomegranate followed by candied orange and pressed violets. It will no doubt be exciting to follow this wine as those vines get, proverbially speaking, older and wiser." - ML

**89 points** "Good bright red. Sappy aromas of floral red and black fruits. Juicy and precise, with a light floral nuance giving cut and clarity to the black cherry and herbal flavors. Finishes medium-long and perfumed. Not exactly the last word in concentration or depth, but polished and pure." - ID

**96 points** "Underbrush, wild berry, blue flower, camphor and wet stone aromas lift out of the glass. The smooth palate is loaded with finesse, delivering succulent red cherry, strawberry compote, blood orange, star anise and a hint of tobacco framed in taut, polished tannins. Bright acidity keeps it beautifully balanced, and a tangy mineral note graces the close." - KO

**94 points** "Pianodario is the coolest and highest of the three vineyards, at 800m above sea level. Terraced with dry stone walls to enable farming on the steeply sloping terrain, the soils are shallower here and rich in minerals consisting of volcanic sands, small- to medium-sized rocks, and pumice. The average temperature is 3°C lower than in the Rampante vineyard, and the wine is marked by higher acidity and tannins - a marked austerity. Vinified in the same way as Rampante, with 12 months in Slavonian oak, this is fresh, cool, aromatic and tightly mineral, displaying characteristics of rose petal and redcurrant. Fantastic length and power." - AW

**90 points** "This nerello mascalese came from bush-trained vines planted in 2011 on steep slopes that reach up to 2,400 feet above sea level. It's the most high-toned and floral of the new single-cru wines we tasted this year from Tascante, radiating scents of lavender and orange peel. The fresh cherry and red currant flavors are focused and lifted, the tannins refined and somewhat delicate for an Etna Rosso" - SJ

**94 points** "Plenty of smoke, pumice, cedar, pine cones and cigar box on this one, not to mention dried strawberries and red licorice. Then come hints of treacle tart and fudge. Lots of mineral drive on the palate, which is wrapped up neatly in fine tannins. Medium-bodied and quite long on the finish" - JS



**CONTRADA  
SCIARANUOVA  
2016 Etna DOC**

**92 points** "Tarry smoke and spice notes are layered with flavors of black cherry puree and raspberry fruit, wild sage and melted licorice in this expressive red. Medium-to full-bodied, with firm tannins on the finish." - AN

**94 points** "The 2016 Etna Rosso Contrada Sciaranuova is made with fruit from vines planted in 2008 at 730 meters above sea level. This is a classic expression from Etna with an even dose of wild berry, rose, mineral and spice. This wine shows an attractive level of balance and harmony, and I am especially attracted to those distinctive volcanic or mineral tones that frame this delicate, almost fragile wine. This Etna Rosso is mostly aged in large Slavonian oak casks, but a small part goes into 300-liter tonneaux. This adds a bit more volume and girth to the finish." - ML

**91 points** "Good full red. Deep musky, ripe red cherry and strawberry aromas are characterized by a mineral undertone. Then also mineral on entry, but turns just slightly tough in the middle and on the long back end that features similar flavors to the aromas. There's good sweetness here, and the stony nuances add further lightness of being to what is essentially a medium-bodied, easygoing red wine." - ID

**94 points** "Rose, violet, red berry, Mediterranean scrub and eucalyptus aromas form the nose on this fragrant red. The elegant palate is still young and nervous, offering juicy raspberry, cherry, star anise and orange slice set against vibrant acidity and taut, refined tannins. A tangy mineral note and brown spice linger on the finish. It needs time to calm down a bit, but it will age beautifully." - KO

**92 points** "Sciaranuova was planted in 2008 on deep, layered soils featuring volcanic sands, basalt and pumice, giving the most structured and ageworthy wines of the three vineyard sites. The winemaking here is slightly different: 70% of the wine is aged in 25hl Slavonian oak barrels, with the remaining 30% ageing in 300-litre French oak barrels. Expect the same minerality, crisp acidity and fragrance, with a generosity of elegant red fruits and spice. This has at least a decade ahead of it." - AW

**94 points** "Such beautiful aromas of plums and dried fruit with spice, pumice, hot stone and dried flowers. Medium body, soft and succulent tannins and a flavorful finish. Shows so much subtle volcanic character and savory fruit." - JS



**CONTRADA  
SCIARANUOVA  
VIGNA VECCHIA  
2016 Etna DOC**

**91 points** "Bright and finely balanced, this creamy, medium-bodied red features flavors of wild strawberry, pomegranate, anise and thyme. Stone and iron notes chime in on the supple finish." - AN

**95 points** "This wine is made from Tascante's oldest vines, planted in 1961. The 2016 Etna Rosso Contrada Sciaranuova V.V. (the initials stand for Vigna Vecchia or "old vines") is a beautifully polished and glossy expression with a fine and smooth aromatic presentation. It starts off with primary notes of forest berry and cassia and spans all the way over to campfire ash and camphor. That range is as beautiful as it is impressive. The mouthfeel is silky and soft with fine, powdery tannins. Put this delicate wine aside for a few more years." - ML

**93 points** "Moderately saturated ruby-red. Very pure aromas and flavors of blood orange, potpourri, red cherry nectar, minerals and sweet spices. Very light on its feet and extremely suave, with outstanding acid-sugar-tannin balance, this is actually less weighty on the palate than the regular Sciaranuova bottling. The finish is very long and pure." - ID

**97 points** CELLAR SELECTION "Aromas of wild red berry, rose petal, wet stone, Mediterranean brush and star anise shape the nose on this compelling, vibrant wine. Made with Nerello Mascalese planted in 1961, the wine has a linear, racy palate that's almost ethereal and loaded with finesse and energy, delivering sour cherry, pomegranate, licorice and orange zest before a flinty mineral close. Taut, refined tannins and vibrant acidity lend lithe support." - KO

**95 point** "VV stands for Vieilles Vignes ('old vines'), denoting that this wine is made from a plot of vines planted back in 1961. The soils are rich in rocks, formed mainly by volcanic sand with basalt and pumice. The wine is fermented in stainless steel and aged for 12 months in 25hl Slavonian oak barrels. There is seamless elegance on display here, with incredible balance, and great concentration and energy. The structured, spicy red fruits with a deep mineral core have wonderful finesse and length. Great ageing potential." - AW

**93 points** "This is one of four new single-contrada wines from Tascante d'Almerita's Mount Etna winery, all from Etna's northern slope. From a section of Contrada Sciaranuova planted in 1960 - SJ, it's impressively deep and concentrated, unfolding with flavors of fresh plum and pomegranate laced together by dark, schisty tannins. Scents of roses and violets provide a refined, delicate contrast to the wine's power." - SJ

**93 points** "A fresh, very elegant, light-colored red showing sliced lemons and plums with hints of cedar and dusty earth on the nose. Light body, fine tannins and a fresh finish. Yet, a density and old-vine nature to the wine. Contrastive." - JS