



Villa Vignamaggio is located just outside the town of Greve, in the heart of the “Chianti Classico D.O.C.G.” appellation. The estate is surrounded by an elegant garden and offers an authentic testimony of the Italian Renaissance. The main part of the villa dates back to the 14th century. Mona Lisa, model in the famous portrait by Leonardo Da Vinci, was born at Vignamaggio in 1479. She was also the daughter of Anton Maria Gherardini, who owned the estate. The Gherardini family had moved to Vignamaggio from Florence after being exiled as members of the White Guelphs. A family by the name of Gherardi purchased the villa from the Gherardinis at the end of the 16th century and are responsible for its current layout. Vignamaggio reached its height of splendor towards the middle of the 17th century and was owned by the Gherardi family until 1886.

After belonging in succession to the Uguccioni and to the Alamanni families, the estate was bought in 1925 by Contessa Elena Samminiatielli, whose family restored both the gardens and the villa. Since 1988, new owners have undertaken an extensive renovation of the buildings, the gardens, and the vineyards. Moreover, the wine cellars have been equipped with modern controlled temperature vats and all the old traditional barrels have been replaced. In the last fourteen years, 35 hectares of new vineyards (86 acres) have been planted using the latest agricultural techniques. At the moment the estate encompasses about 140 hectares (almost 343 acres), of which 52 hectares (127 acres) devoted to vineyards.

Lying in the heart of the Chianti Classico region, the plantations are exposed mainly to the southeast and southwest, at an altitude between 330 meters (1,100 feet) and 390 meters (1,300 feet) above sea level. The consulting enologist is Giorgio Marone. Vignamaggio has received high ratings and prestigious awards from the international press: Gambero Rosso Vini d’Italia awarded the “Three glasses” to Vignamaggio’s Chianti Classico Castello di Monna Lisa Riserva (twice) and to Vignamaggio’s Cabernet Franc Super Tuscan.

