

## Tenute Rubino 2019 “Oltremé” Susumaniello, Brindisi Rosso DOC, Puglia, Italy (\$18, SoilAir Selection)

When was the last time you had a wine made from Susumaniello? Well, here is your opportunity from the Puglia region of southern Italy. Made by the Rubino family, it offers a dense, dark ruby-purple color, rich black cherry, blackberry aromas with a touch of wood spice and dark chocolate. The black fruits are rich and juicy in the mouth, encouraged by lively acidity and sturdy, dusty tannins. I was introduced to this deliciously charming grape variety while visiting Tenute Rubino in the Puglia in southern Italy a few years ago. The Rubino family acquired Susumaniello vines along with several other varieties when they purchased a vineyard in the 1980s. Luigi Rubino recognized a potential star for the region and has made it a goal to have Susumaniello considered the flagship wine of the area. Their website's home page boasts “La Casa del Susumaniello.”

**95 Points Rebecca Murphy**



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