

## **PRESSKIT**

## **OUR TERROIR**

In winegrowing, sometimes what is necessary is also just instinct. One day, Georg Weber stood at the foot of the medieval town of Capalbio in a landscape still characterized by grain fields. He looked over the slopes that gently drop to the Tyrrhenian Sea, felt the mild breeze that blew in from the water, and breathed the scent of the Mediterranean scrub, of the prolific herbs and flowers. That is when he knew: "this coast has incredible potential."

The microclimate data and careful soil analyses substantiated his first impression: beneath the grain fields lay clay soil, rich in iron and interspersed with rocks which act as natural drainage. In the winter months, which are often rainy, the loam stores moisture, which the deep-rooted vines take advantage of in the hot summers. Since Monteverro lies in a small bay, another huge asset is the constant sea breeze which swirls around the grapevines keeping them cool even in the hot August nights.

The mineral-rich terroir of Monteverro is ideal for the cultivation of grapevines. Along the path, which leads above the vineyards to a scenic overlook, an ancient natural stone wall runs, around a foot and a half high, overgrown with Mediterranean scrub — the conspicuously red earth with its deposits of rock can be examined here.

Today, Monteverro extends over around sixty hectares (150 acres) that gently climb from thirty to sixty meters (one hundred to two hundred feet) above sea level. The Tyrrhenian Sea is visible from the vineyards—it is only five kilometers (three miles) away. To the west, the impressive silhouette of Monte Argentario looms on the horizon. To the southeast, just around six miles away, lies the border with Latium. Above the winery is the town of Capalbio with its perfectly maintained medieval town center around the twelfth century San Nicola church, in which, incidentally, Julia and Georg Weber were married. Even the old name Monteverro refers to the natural setting of the location: verro is the Italian word for "boar", a reference to the fact that the Mediterranean scrub around Capalbio is home to many wild boar.