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Friday, 27 December 2013

## Donnafugata "Mille e una Notte" Contessa Entellina DOP (2008)

"Mille e una Notte" is one of the Donnafugata winery's "flagship" wines. Produced from primarily Nero d'Avola (probably Sicily's most important indigenous grape variety), small quantities of Pericone and Nerello Cappuccio grapes are also used to lend complexity. Fermentation was in temperature controlled stainless steel tanks, ahead of 14 months of maturation in mostly new French oak barriques and a further 12 months in bottle in the Donnafugata cellars ahead of release.



Hailing from the western part of Sicily (near Marsala), this 2008 "Mille e una Notte" from Donnafugata is a notably intense ruby colour in the glass. Powerful aromas of ripe dark cherries, cedar, tobacco and plums define the complex nose.

Concentrated and full-bodied on the palate, this "Mille e una Notte" seems richer in texture than some of Sicily's flagship Nero d'Avola-based wines and features a more subtle level of spicing too. Long, smooth and with a huge concentration of dark fruit flavours segueing perfectly into clove, pepper and nutmeg nuances, this 2008 Donnafugata "Mille e una Notte" is both an extremely accomplished and extremely accessible wine at this time. Either drink it now, or cellar through to 2020 should you desire.

**SCORE:** 93 points. (£60 UK) **STOCKISTS:** Cantina Caputo / Field & Fawcett / Italvinus

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