



THE UNITED NATIONS of GOLF

**“The golf course
looks as if it has been here
100 years.” —TOM WEISKOPF**

*“I’m a guardian of something that must be preserved for future generations.
Castiglion del Bosco is a magical place.” —MASSIMO FERRAGAMO*

By Mark Pazdur, Publisher

TUSCANY, ITALY: When I first met Massimo in New York City more than a decade ago, he expressed a deep-seated sense of responsibility of what would soon become Castiglion del Bosco.

Considering there are more member states in the United Nations (193) than members of The Club at Castiglion del Bosco, exclusivity is paramount. While viticulture may have been the impetus behind Massimo and Chiara Ferragamo finding the land, their commitment to establish Castiglion del Bosco on the world stage is now complete. The best clubs have common threads of superior service and ame-

nities. What sets Castiglion del Bosco apart is what you see on the *outside* is matched *inside* the membership’s hearts.

You can imagine my excitement with an opportunity for my wife and I to visit years later. When you combine the brands of Ferragamo, Weiskopf, and Rosewood in Tuscany—expectations are high. Our visit during the Weiskopf Invitational didn’t disappoint. I did learn one lesson the hard way during competition. My foursome would provide distances to the pin. I kept over clubbing and realized on the fifth hole they were feeding me measurements in *meters*, not *yards*!

Castiglion del Bosco



Rosewood Castiglion del Bosco embodies Tuscan refinement

A FASHION ICON

When Italian shoemaker Salvatore Ferragamo arrived in New York City in 1914, at the impressionable age of 14, the movie industry in Hollywood was growing robustly. Determined to make a name for himself, he traveled to California to open a nondescript boot shop. His expertise did not go unnoticed and soon afterward, his clients included Marilyn Monroe and Judy Garland.

“I had five siblings, but unfortunately my father passed away when I was only three years old,” emotionally recalled Massimo Ferragamo, chairman of Ferragamo North America. “I grew up in a matriarchal family and was influenced greatly by my mother and two older sisters. I learned firsthand the unbelievable power of women and how they handle adversity. Without them, the Ferragamo brand wouldn’t have been around for the past century.”

Massimo excelled in sports, particularly soccer. “I loved being outside more than in the classroom, but I

did grow up with a sense of responsibility as the youngest scion of our family,” continued Massimo. “I do remember one of my fellow teammates ridiculing me after a missed goal by shouting, ‘Hey Ferragamo, go back to making shoes!’ My homelife was typical except for an annual dinner hosted by my mom at our house with the president of Saks Fifth Avenue. The department store chain was our largest customer. We knew we had to be on our best behavior, and preparations were similar to the pope coming for a visit.”

Massimo and Chiara Ferragamo



“A good product is the combination of emotional triggers and fine craftsmanship.”
— MASSIMO FERRAGAMO

Rosewood Castiglion del Bosco is situated within the Borgo, a centuries old hilltop village, exquisitely restored, offering 42 suites, 11 villas, two restaurants, a cooking school and Spa. Members of The Club enjoy privileged rates and access to hotel amenities.

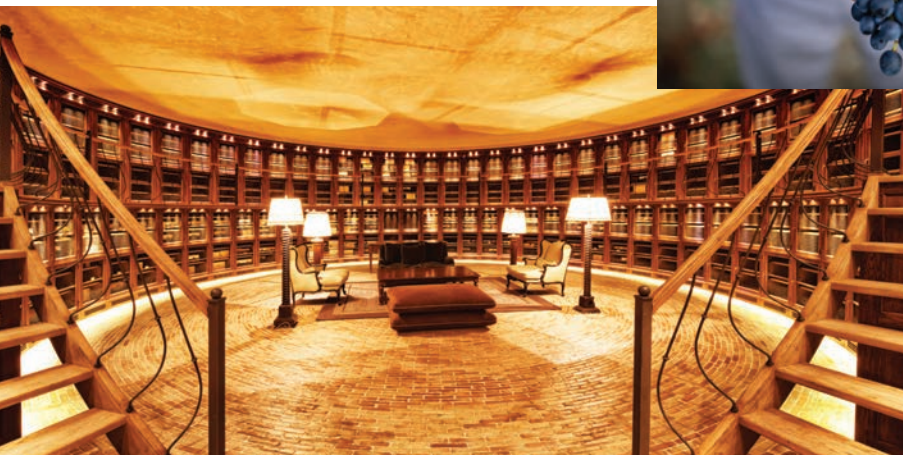


Castiglion del Bosco

“Soil surrounding

Castiglion del Bosco isn't soil, it's crushed rock, and one of the rules of Tuscany is you can't water the ground after your vineyard is established. Our region will often go long periods without moisture, so roots penetrate deep into the ground for sustenance. The end result is grapes tend to be 20 percent smaller as they try to survive, but are outstanding for making a great Brunello. Our distinctive wines are of great integrity and more complex and enduring because of the environment.”

— MASSIMO FERRAGAMO



Brunello di Montalcino 2016 received 99 points by the renowned wine critic James Suckling and came in second place in his “Top 100 Wines of Italy 2020.” Many members at The Club at Castiglion del Bosco have private wine lockers at the “Millecento Members’ Cellar” at the Winery.

Sara Conforti, who oversees the culinary team at the golf club, holds the distinction of being named the youngest female Michelin starred chef in Italy.



“There is a difference between European and American fashion styles. Europeans typically purchase one item at a time while Americans will purchase a complete outfit. It isn’t uncommon for an American to leave a store with the exact outfit on a window mannequin. I surmise Europeans are more secure in themselves, but the bottom line is that if your product doesn’t sell in America, success will prove fleeting.” — MASSIMO FERRAGAMO

FROM RUNWAY TO WINEMAKER

Over the past decade, Massimo and Chiara Ferragamo have transitioned from fashion moguls to developers by reimagining an 800 year-old dilapidated village and winery into one of the world’s most exclusive retreats. The history of Castiglion del Bosco origins are lost to time. It is one of the oldest and best preserved estates in Tuscany, located in Montalcino, in the heart of a UNESCO World Heritage Site of Val d’Orcia.

“I’ve always had a passion for viticulture and Castiglion del Bosco intrigued me because of the region’s reputation for excellent wines. While the land’s 5,000 acres had the right vines, altitude, and soil for something special, there was little infrastructure and what did exist was abandoned. Naivety got the best of me and I purchased the property,” said Massimo. “Knowing I would be a caretaker, I wanted to create something so special that everyone would have a reason to visit. We have a saying in Italian: ‘Throw your heart over the fence and the rest will follow.’ That’s exactly what I did.”

After years of work, Castiglion del Bosco now offers a private golf club, boutique Rosewood Resort, and an award-winning winery. “Chiara and I understood the task at hand and we see eye to eye on goals to establish Europe’s finest golf and wine experience and Italy’s only private members’ club. Although the two of us might slightly differ on opinions, the end result is always a better outcome. We didn’t want to build a club that resembled the Palace of Versailles, but one that paid tribute to the land’s heritage.

“During my first site visit to Castiglion del Bosco,

Did you know?

Bosco (meaning wood) and *Castiglion* (meaning walled castle) literally translates to the walled castle in the forest.



Mark and JoAnn Pazdur at the Castiglion del Bosco Winery



JoAnn Pazdur at the Rosewood Cooking School experiencing a personalized educational journey to understand the art of pasta making (with a bottle of Brunello as her sous-chef).



Many artifacts, including tempera and oil paintings, were personally sourced by Chiara Ferragamo from her trusted network of antiquarians and local artisans.

I was so incredibly moved by the limitless views and Brunello vineyards, I had no idea that such a beautiful corner of Tuscany still existed. It was love at first sight,” smiled Massimo. “I think it will be for you too.” ■

For more information, please visit CastiglionDelBosco.com.