

Marchesi Alfieri s.r.l.

The Alfieri family, lords of San Martino, are a part of the history of Piedmont and Italy. They include the architect Benedetto, the poet Vittorio, and the President of the Senate, Cesare Alfieri who took part in drawing up the Statuto Albertino in 1848. Giuseppina Cavour, niece of the great statesman, Camillo Benso Conte di Cavour, married Marquis Carlo Alfieri, and it was Cavour who improved wine-growing in Piedmont and brought the Pinot Noir grape to San Martino. In 1982 Marquis Casimiro San Martino di San Germano, Alfieri's cousin, received the property.

Today, his three daughters, Emanuela, Antonella and Giovanna run the Marchesi Alfieri estate.

In 1696, the Alfieri family began the works to transform the medieval fortress into a splendid Baroque residence, without excess and with simple lines well-integrated into the landscape. In 1720, an Orangery, a winter garden for the family, was built in front of the residence and decorated with delicate stucco-work by Comacine master masons. The castle was significantly modified again around 1820 to plans drawn up by Ernesto Melano, chief architect to His Majesty Carlo Alberto di Savoia.

Meanwhile in 1815, Marquis Carlo Emanuele Alfieri commissioned landscape gardener Xavier Kurten to transform the formal garden into a park in the new romantic English style. Kurten carried out his first works at San Martino, but very soon became head gardener at the Savoia court. Today, the park is the perfect place to enjoy a walk and discover the artfully shaped hedges and paths wandering up the hill. Coming here is like having the key to a secret garden created for relaxing in the shade of old cedars, lime trees, oaks and a monumental oak exactly at the point where Monferrato, Langa and Roero meet.

Accomodation:

LOCANDA – 7 bedrooms

At the foot of the castle, a carefully restored little eighteenth-century village houses an "Albergo Diffuso" with rooms scattered in different buildings of the property. It consists of seven bedrooms and a farmstead on the castle grounds. Wine enthusiasts can tour the park, the baroque Orangery and the ancient cellars, ending with a guided tasting of the winery's most representative wines. Patrons can discover fine wines, view the landscape, and experience the culture and historic residences. When combined with tasting and learning about the places and traditions that produced the wines, it becomes an unforgettable experience.

MARGHERITA – 4 bedrooms

Situated in a panoramic position within the castle grounds is a traditional Piedmont farmstead with orangery. It is comprised of four en-suite bedrooms, a living area with fireplace and satellite TV, and a kitchen and dining room looking out onto the conservatory.

One of the ground-floor bedrooms opens directly onto the garden.

In summer, breakfast is served outside or in the conservatory.