

# Domenis Grappa

## Tasting Notes

### Domenis Friulana

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Nose:	Flax, linen, blackcurrant leaf, asparagus
Palate:	Good texture, quite rich. Peppery entry, with honey, green apples, lemon and a vegetal character. Tongue-tingling spices
Finish:	Spices & pepper linger, then becomes sweeter. Lightly astringent.
Comment:	Much better than an entry-level grappa has any right to be. Good complexity and a long finish from the higher alcohol content.

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### Domenis Blanc & Neri Riserva

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Nose:	Pepper, quite floral and perfumed, with a nutty edge. Strongly reminiscent of white grape juice.
Palate:	Honeyed, with a hint of orange zest. The creamy texture and soft mouthfeel we expect of Domenis. Lemon notes, honey and vanilla alongside prominent floral notes and a nuttiness reminiscent of amontillado sherry.
Finish:	Very good length and remains integrated with the flavours from the palate hovering in and out of perception.
Comment:	A well-balanced blend of citrus, sweetness, floral and spicy aromas and flavours.

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### Domenis Riserva 10 years old

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Nose:	Completely unexpected, but very strong, orange aromas of all kinds: aged orange liqueur, orange oil, bitter dark chocolate orange. Fascinating. Also quite a lot of oak.
Palate:	Intense. The citrus character is still there but the oak is more dominant on the palate, with drying oaky tannins doing battle with clove, pepper and hot chilli heat.
Finish:	Very very long, slightly drying as the oak takes hold. The clove and chilli ensure plenty of heat.
Comment:	The oldest of the domenis range is also the fullest and the spiciest. The oak has a big presence here as well, but the texture is so good that this is all achieved without a suggestion of harshness.

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## Domenis Sogno di Dama Riserva

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Nose:	Quite reserved initially. Peppery, with faint floral hints. Some winery notes and a sappiness. Citrus and sweetpea.
Palate:	As always, this has a quite generous texture, but the flavours are very much more restrained as compared to some of the other products in the Domenis stable. There is a light floral palate, with a woody character, but really it's all about the mouthfeel.
Finish:	Medium-length. Elegant, floral.
Comment:	A restrained, demure, feminine grappa.

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## Domenis Storica

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Nose:	Quite wine-like, with legumes and lemon-juice and some floral notes of sweetpea and honeysuckle. Cucumber skin. Becomes very radishy. Celery and raw swede.
Palate:	Such a soft, generous texture! Strong pepper initially, then the floral and vegetal notes before a sweetness in the mid-palate. Chilli pepper and honey.
Finish:	A long continuation of the palate. Impressive length and spices.
Comment:	Along with the Stravecchia, this is my favourite of the standard range, although apparently the Storica Nera is the distillery's best-seller. I prefer this for its more upfront, intense flavours.

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## Domenis Storica Nera

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Nose:	Herby, peppery, unripe green apple flesh, clove, faint hint of cocoa.
Palate:	Very pure, classical grappa flavours. Vegetal notes of bell peppers, radishes, also displays some nutty and flowery notes. Clove developing and becoming quite prominent. Good texture
Finish:	Good length, as is a very noticeable common feature with Domenis grappas. Clove and pepper, becomes very honeyed.
Comment:	You can see why this is the distillery's biggest seller. Extremely well-crafted grappa in the classic style. Approachable and much more complex than most people would expect from this spirit.

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## Domenis Stravecchia

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- Nose: Flax, sesame oil, some oaky notes as expected - resin, sap, hint of vanilla honey. Resembles a very young whisky in some respects. Sweetened porridge, natural yoghurt.
- Palate: Big burst of pepper initially, then sweetens slightly, with marmalade, blossom and mixed peel. The resin from the nose is also present. Mid-palate some clove and then very prominent apricot flavours come through (both fresh and tinned).
- Finish: Amazingly long. The pepper and clove win out over the apricot.
- Comment: A truly complex spirit, well-balanced and with real depth.
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