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## Archaeometric analysis of building ceramics and 'dolia defossa' from the Roman Imperial estate of Vagnari (Gravina in Puglia, Italy)

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<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>This paper concerns the archaeometric analysis of ceramic finds dating to the Roman Imperial period, brought to light during the excavation campaigns conducted at Vagnari (Puglia) in south-east Italy. On the site of the central village ( vicus ) of this imperial estate, established by the Roman Emperor in the early 1 st century A.D., large dolia (wine vats) sunk into the floor of a winery of the 2 nd century A.D. recently were brought to light. Other discoveries include kilns for the production of ceramic roof tiles and also kiln waste such as misfired tiles. The purpose of the analytical approach was therefore twofold: 1) to establish the composition of local ceramic products and of raw clay resources available nearby; 2) to prove that the dolia were imported and not produced locally (as macroscopic observations of the ceramic vessels would suggest) and to offer a hypothesis concerning their provenance through petrographic observations and chemical analysis. The results show that roof tiles for the settlement were manufactured locally from readily available clay deposits, but the dolia were imported, by sea and/or land, from distant workshops in volcanic zones on the west coast of Italy around Rome or south of Rome near Minturno on the Campanian border.</p>

## Highlights

- Petrochemical analysis of tiles and *dolia defossa* (Roman Imperial period)
- Building ceramics for local use manufactured by sourcing nearby clay deposits
- New hypothesis concerning *dolia* production sites in Italy
- New insight into Roman wine storage and supply dynamics

# 1 Archaeometric analysis of building ceramics and ‘*dolia defossa*’ from the Roman 2 Imperial estate of Vagnari (Gravina in Puglia, Italy)

3  
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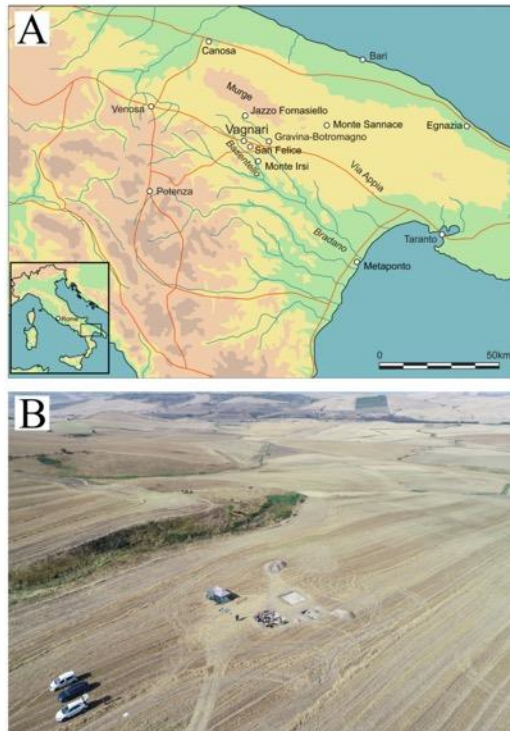
## 15 16 Abstract

17  
18 This paper concerns the archaeometric analysis of ceramic finds dating to the Roman Imperial  
19 period, brought to light during the excavation campaigns conducted at Vagnari (Puglia) in  
20 south-east Italy. On the site of the central village (*vicus*) of this imperial estate, established by  
21 the Roman Emperor in the early 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D., large *dolia* (wine vats) sunk into the floor of  
22 a winery of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century A.D. recently were brought to light. Other discoveries include kilns  
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25 ceramic products and of raw clay resources available nearby; 2) to prove that the *dolia* were  
26 imported and not produced locally (as macroscopic observations of the ceramic vessels would  
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32  
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## 35 36 1. Archaeological Background and Aims

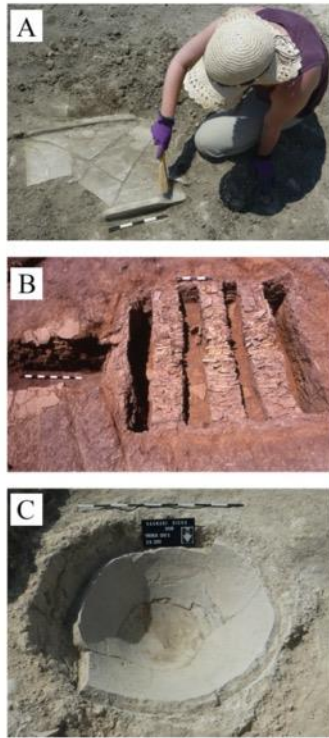
37  
38 From the 4<sup>th</sup> century B.C., the growing city-state of Rome embarked on a series of aggressive  
39 campaigns of annexation of independent territories in Italy. One of these regions was Apulia  
40 (modern Puglia) in the south-east of the peninsula, traditionally a zone of commercial and  
41 cultural exchange, due to its geographic position and access to Italic peoples in the west and  
42 north, to the Greek colonies on the Ionian coast in the south, and to the Illyrians and mainland  
43 Greeks across the Adriatic Sea to the east. Central and eastern Apulia was inhabited by the  
44 Italic Peuceti whose major settlement at Botromagno (today Gravina in Puglia) was sacked by  
45 the Romans in 306 B.C. (Diodorus Siculus 20.80). From the 3<sup>rd</sup> century, life temporarily ceased  
46 at Botromagno, and it also ended at other smaller Peucetian settlements (Small 1992; Small  
47 2001; Lambrugo and Pace 2017; Depalo 2017). Excavations by the University of Sheffield  
48 have shown that a rural settlement at Vagnari also was abandoned at this time (Carroll 2019),  
49 but the second century B.C. ushered in a new phase of occupation here as a result of the Roman  
50 exploitation of the land (Fig. 1).



51  
 52 **Figure 1.** A) Map showing the location of Vagnari in southern Italy (Drawn by I. De Luis); B) Drone image of the *vicus*  
 53 excavation on the Vagnari plateau and the ravine from which the raw clay samples were taken (Photo by G. Ceraudo and V.  
 54 Ferrari).

55 In the early 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D., the Roman Emperor acquired the land at Vagnari and expanded  
 56 it to encompass an area of at least 25 sq km, as indicated by field-walking and surface collection  
 57 of material (Small 2011; C. Small 2011). Roof tile fragments found at Vagnari and the vicinity  
 58 were stamped with the name of an imperial slave (*Gratus Caesaris*) responsible for tile  
 59 production, confirming that the estate was indeed owned by Rome's highest ranked citizen  
 60 (Small et al. 2003). Its purpose was to generate revenues for the imperial coffers. At the heart  
 61 of the estate at Vagnari lay the central village (*vicus*) through which it was managed. This  
 62 imperial settlement had a diverse economy, ranging from cereal crop cultivation and sheep  
 63 grazing and transhumance management, to ceramic building tile and pottery(?) production, and  
 64 metal-working, especially in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries A.D. (Figs. 2A-B). An important addition  
 65 to the *vicus* in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century was a *cella vinaria*, or winery, indicating indirectly that vineyards  
 66 were part of the imperial exploitation of the landscape and that the production of wine had  
 67 become a staple of the estate economy (Carroll 2016).

68 The wine at Vagnari was stored in up to 18 globular wine vats (*dolia defossa*), each with a  
 69 capacity of several hundred litres, inserted in rows into the mortar floor of the winery, of which  
 70 only ten have left traces archaeologically in the ground (Fig. 2C). These are large vats, but not  
 71 as large as the enormous transport *dolia* carrying up to 3000 litres each on specially built tanker  
 72 ships plying the western Mediterranean (Dell'Amico and Pallarés 2005; Sciallano and Marlier  
 73 2008; Heslin 2011). The *dolia* at Vagnari were permanently buried up to their necks in the  
 74 ground, in accordance with Roman agrarian customs, thereby keeping the temperature of the  
 75 wine constant and cool, a necessary measure in hot climate zones (Pliny the Elder, *Natural*  
 76 *History* 14.27). The unroofed storage room of the winery was modest in size, measuring 5.50  
 77 by 8.20 m internally (ca. 45 sq m.). It compares roughly in size to some private wineries in the  
 78 Vesuvius region, such as the Villa Carmiano at Stabiae (6 x 8 m, with at least 12 *dolia*) and the  
 79 Villa Regina at Boscoreale (6.60 x 8.47 m, with 18 *dolia*), but was much smaller than a  
 80 contemporary *cella vinaria* at the rural villa of San Giusto in Puglia (6.10 x 14.40 m, with 26  
 81 *dolia*) (De Caro 1994; Pietropaolo 1998; Bonifacio 2004).



82  
83 **Figure 2.** A) Excavating a Roman roof tile (*tegula*) at Vagnari (Photo M. Carroll); B) An excavated Roman tile kiln (Kiln 2)  
84 at Vagnari (Photo A.M. Small); C) Remains of a Roman *dolium* inserted in the floor of the winery at Vagnari (Photo M.  
85 Carroll).

86 By the middle of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century, the Vagnari winery appears to have gone out of use, and the  
87 *dolia* were either removed completely, to be re-used elsewhere, as in the Villa of Augustus at  
88 Somma Vesuviana, or smashed into pieces to be used secondarily as building material, as they  
89 were at the villa of Settefinestre (Celuzza 1985; Aoyagi et al. 2018).

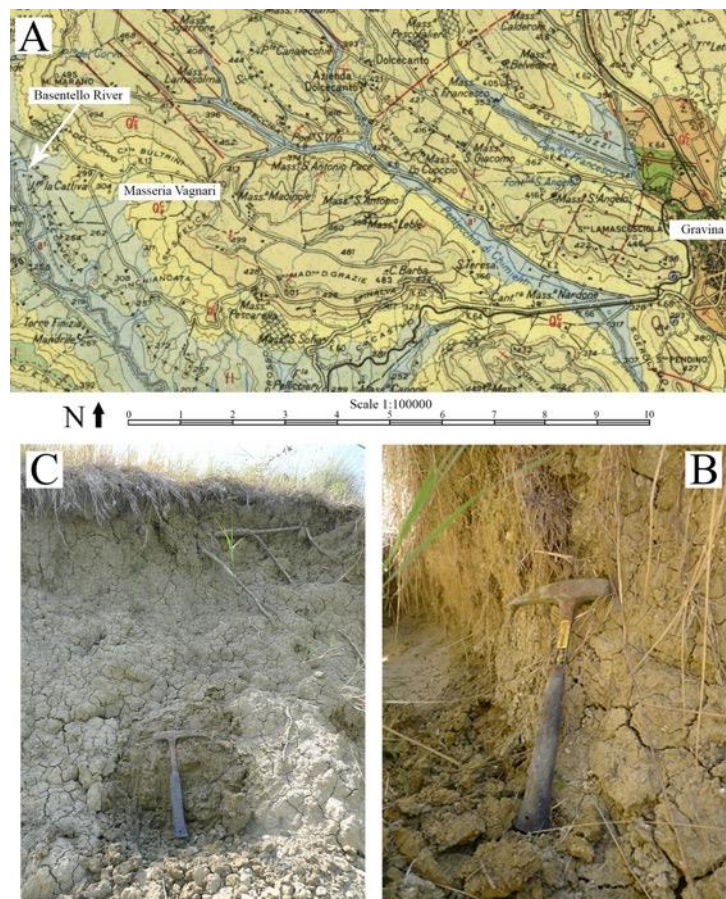
90 This paper concerns the archaeometric analysis of a wide set of ceramic finds representative of  
91 both *dolia* and locally produced roof tiles. The collected ceramic sherds were all subjected to  
92 petrographic analysis (thin-section microscopy) and chemical analysis (ICP-EOS + ICP-MS),  
93 together with clay samples representative of the raw materials available near the settlement  
94 (subjected to experimental firing). Some *dolia* samples (VD-4, VD-5, VD-6, VD-7 and VD-8)  
95 were selected for the chemical analysis of the clinopyroxenes contained in the paste, by SEM-  
96 EDS (major elements) and ICP-MS Laser Ablation (trace elements). The objectives of the  
97 analyses are both the compositional characterization of local ceramic pastes and the  
98 identification of the production area of the *dolia*, which appear as imported products even at  
99 the scale of macroscopic observation due to the presence of coarse volcanic inclusions.

## 101 2. Geological setting

102  
103 The Murge Plateau is a large tabular relief, elongated in the same direction as the Bradanic  
104 Foredeep (which delimits it to the south-east) and gradually degrading to the north-east towards  
105 the Adriatic Sea. From a lithological point of view, the north-western Murge is distinguished  
106 by the presence of extensive outcrops of carbonate rocks from the Cretaceous period (such as  
107 the platform limestones belonging to the "Calcare di Bari" and "Calcare di Altamura"  
108 formations). The shallow-water Plio-Pleistocene calcarenites known as "Calcareniti di  
109 Gravina" lay with angular discordance on the Cretaceous limestones.

110 The settlement of Vagnari is located in the Basentello valley about 15 km west of the town of  
111 Gravina (ancient Botromagno), in a strategic location near the Roman road, the Via Appia. The  
112 study area is a large plateau of deposits uplifted during the mid- to late Pleistocene and it

113 consists of a spectrum of depositional environments from deep water marine through shallow  
 114 coastal to shoreline (beach) conditions of coastal and marine origin. Geologically, these  
 115 deposits are part of the Adriatic – Bradanic Foredeep (Pieri et al. 2012). Marine deposits,  
 116 primarily marls of upper Pliocene age, are overlain by marly clay hemi-pelagites (Argille  
 117 Subappennine Formation) and coarse-grained regressive coastal deposits.  
 118 In particular, the area between the town of Gravina and the Masseria Vagnari, the modern  
 119 agricultural estate on which the Roman site is located, according to the geological surveys of  
 120 the surface (Azzaroli et al., 1968), is characterized by Plio-Pleistocene deposits consisting of:  
 121 1) silty clays with an important microfaunistic content, represented by benthic and planktonic  
 122 foraminifera (“Argille Subappennine”, locally also known as “Argille di Gravina”); 2)  
 123 calcareous-quartz sands with arenaceous and fossiliferous levels; 3) polygenic conglomerates  
 124 with pebbles of crystalline rocks; 4) fine quartz-micaceous sands. Near the town of Gravina,  
 125 the Pleistocene (Calabrian) fossiliferous calcarenite known as "Tufo di Gravina" crops out. The  
 126 area is also characterized by the presence of extensive Pleistocene and Holocene alluvial  
 127 terraced deposits mainly composed of clayey silts with sand and pebble levels (Fig. 3A).  
 128



129  
 130 **Figure 3.** A) Geological map of the area of Vagnari (simplified after Foglio 188 – Gravina di Puglia, Azzaroli et al., 1968).  
 131 Codes of Formations that outcrop in the territory of Vagnari are provided here:  $Q_a^C$  = Argille Subappennine, locally also  
 132 known as Argille di Gravina;  $Q_s^C$  = Sabbie di Monte Marano (calcareous-quartz sands with arenaceous and fossiliferous  
 133 levels);  $Q_c^C$  = Pleistocene (Calabrian) fossiliferous calcarenite known as "Tufo di Gravina";  $f^1$  = Pleistocene alluvial terraced  
 134 deposits;  $a^1$  = Holocene alluvial terraced deposits. The full legend is accurately reported in Azzaroli et al., 1968; B) VC-1  
 135 sampling point; C) VC-2 sampling point.  
 136

137 Therefore, in light of the geological evidence, it is possible to state that in the immediate  
 138 vicinity of the Masseria Vagnari geological deposits are easily available from which the raw  
 139 material for ceramic production can be supplied (Apennine clays and alluvial deposits).  
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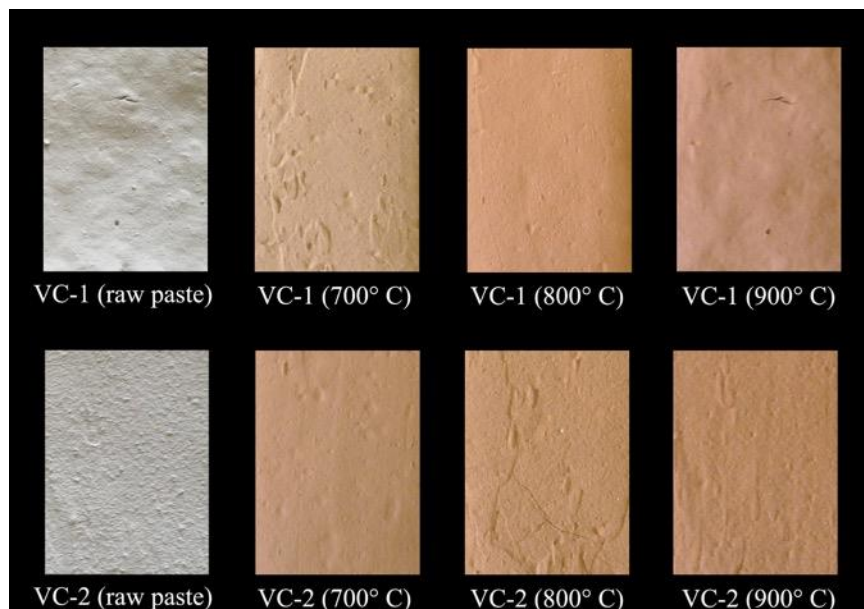
### 142 3. Material sampling and analytical methods

143

144 In order to define the compositional features of locally produced tiles and the imported *dolia*  
145 recovered at the site, representative samples of both the ceramic classes were selected. Twenty-  
146 four ceramic samples were selected from a large number of ceramic sherds that had been  
147 carefully examined by visual analysis to be subjected to the analytical routine. Twelve tile  
148 samples, 10 *dolia* samples and 2 pieces of overfired kiln waste (tiles) were considered (Tab.  
149 1). Moreover, clayey raw materials were sampled after a geological field survey in the close  
150 vicinity of the site. These clay deposits occur at several points near the settlement, especially  
151 along the alluvial dumps of the Basentello River. Clayey materials were carefully collected  
152 from a fresh surface, and any soil covers were removed beforehand (Figs. 3B-C).

153 The raw clays (after air-drying and quartering routines) were mixed with water and molded  
154 into experimental briquettes, then oven-dried fired in a muffle furnace at increasing  
155 temperature, 700°C, 800°C, 900°C, under fully oxidant conditions (Tab. 1, Fig. 4).

156



157  
158

Figure 4. Clayey materials experimental briquettes after firing test.

159 Thin-sections were made from the fired experimental briquettes to be observed under a  
160 polarizing microscope and compared with the archaeological ceramic sherds in order to  
161 identify local production by the petrographic markers. The petrographic markers are  
162 represented by the main compositional and textural characteristics involving both aplastic  
163 inclusions and groundmass which are currently used for the definition of a given ceramic paste  
164 group. (Montana 2020). For thin-section microscopy, a Leica DC 200 polarizing microscope  
165 equipped with a digital camera was employed. The relative abundance of non-plastic inclusions  
166 (modal composition) was carried out at a semi-quantitative level and expressed through ordinal  
167 variables (frequency intervals), through conventional point counting techniques (Matthews et  
168 al. 1991).

169 Bulk chemical compositions of ceramic samples were determined by the Activation  
170 Laboratories Ltd. (Ontario, Canada), using the fusion inductively coupled plasma optical  
171 emission spectrometry (ICP-OES) technique for major oxides and inductively coupled plasma  
172 mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) for trace elements (Package 4LITHO). The samples were run for  
173 major oxides and selected trace elements on a combination simultaneous/sequential Thermo  
174 Jarrell-Ash ENVIRO II ICP or a Varian Vista 735 ICP. Fifty-six elements were here considered

175 with detection limits in brackets): Na (0.01), Mg (0.01), Al (0.01), Si (0.01), P (0.01), K (0.01),  
176 Ca (0.01), Ti (0.001), Mn (0.001) and Fe (0.01), given as oxides (mass%), and Cr (20), V (5),  
177 Cu (10), Zn (30), Rb (2), Sr (2), Y (1), Zr (2), Ba (2), Pb (5), Ce (0.1), Nb (1), La (0.1), Sc (1),  
178 Be (1), V (5), Y (2), Co (1), Ga (1), Ge (1), As (5), Mo (2), Ag (0.5), In (0.2), Sn (1), Sb (0.5),  
179 Cs (0.5), Pr (0.05), Nd (0.1), Sm (0.1), Eu (0.05), Gd (0.1), Tb (0.1), Dy (0.1), Ho (0.1), Er  
180 (0.1), Tm (0.05), Yb (0.1), Lu (0.01), Hf (0.2), Ta (0.1), W (1), Tl (0.1), Bi (0.4), Th (0.1), U  
181 (0.1) and Ni (20), given as element (ppm). The results concerning the major elements oxides  
182 were recalculated on LOI-free basis.

183 Micro-chemical analyses were carried out on selected *dolia* samples (VD-4, VD-5, VD-6 and  
184 VD-7), in order to define the composition of the clinopyroxene crystal present in the ceramic  
185 paste. Major elements were determined by an Electron Probe Micro Analysis (EPMA) JEOL-  
186 JXA 8230 coupled with 5 WDS Spectrometers XCE type equipped with a LDE, TAP, LIF and  
187 PETJ analyzing crystal. Working conditions were: 15 KeV HV; 10 nA probe current; 11 mm  
188 working distance; ZAF quant correction. A variety of mineral standards (jadeite, olivine,  
189 diopside, orthoclase, tugtupite, pyrite and galena) and pure metals (Fe, Ti, Mn) were used for  
190 calibration and quality control. For measuring trace elements concentration (Sc, V, Sr, Y, Zr,  
191 La, Ce, Pr, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Er, Tm, Yb and Lu) the Laser ablation ICP-MS technique  
192 was employed, by using a Elan DRC-e (Perkin Elmer SCIEX—Canada) plasma mass  
193 spectrometer, coupled with a New Wave UP213 (solid state Nd–YAG laser operating at a  
194 wavelength of 213 nm). Analyses were performed on 80 µm thin cross sections. Calibration  
195 was obtained on standard glass NIST SRM612 (trace elements at nominal concentrations of 50  
196 ppm after Pearce et al. 1997). CaO concentrations, obtained from previous quantitative electron  
197 microprobe analyses, were used as internal standardization to correct instrumental instability.  
198 Ablation was performed by 50 µm spots, with a constant laser repetition rate of 10 Hz and  
199 fluence of ~20 J/cm<sup>2</sup>. In all analyses, a transient signal of intensity vs. time was obtained for  
200 each element using a 60 s background level (acquisition of gas blanks) followed by 40 s of  
201 ablation and then 60 s of post-ablation at background levels. Data were processed by the Glitter  
202 program. Accuracy was evaluated on BCR 2G Basalt Glass reference material, and the  
203 resulting element concentrations were compared with reference values from the literature (Gao  
204 et al. 2002). Accuracy, as the relative difference from reference values, was always better than  
205 10%. A minimum of three spot analyses for each clinopyroxene crystal were performed and  
206 the average was considered for the final elemental concentration.

207

## 208 **4. Results and discussion**

209

### 210 **4.1 Petrography**

211 The results derived from the observation by polarized light microscopy of all the ceramic  
212 samples (24) and the experimental firing tests obtained from on-site available plastic clayey  
213 raw materials (6 samples in total) are reported in detail in Supplementary Material – Table S1.  
214 Specifically, results relating to local production (primarily represented by roof tiles, kiln waste,  
215 and firing tests) are commented on below. Following this, the petrographic results relating to  
216 the *dolia* are discussed.

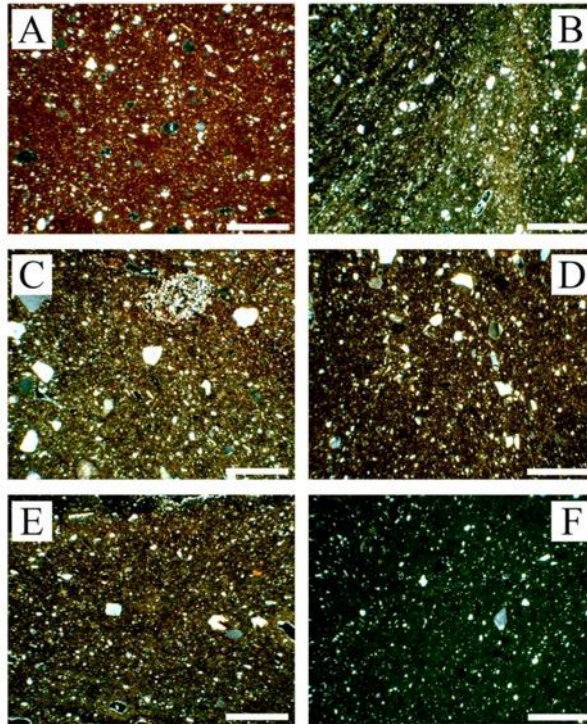
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#### 218 **4.1.1 Ceramic tiles, tile waste and experimental clay briquettes**

219 The cross-examination of the data reported in Supplementary Material – Table S1, specifically  
220 concerning kiln waste (samples: VW-1, VW-2), tiles (samples: VT-1, VT-2, VT-3, VT-4, VT-  
221 5, VT-6, VT- 7, VT-8, VT-9, VT-10, VT-11, VT-12), and firing tests obtained from the on-site  
222 available raw clay (samples: VC-1A, VC-1B, VC-1C, VC-2A, VC-2B, VC-2C), allows us to  
223 report a more than satisfactory match in terms of their textural and compositional



224 characteristics. Consequently, this can be assumed as representative of local ceramic  
225 production (at least during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries A.D.).  
226 From the textural point of view, this locally produced ceramic paste is characterized by a  
227 moderately homogeneous and serial distribution of aplastic inclusions. The abundance of  
228 inclusions (packing) is rather poor (generally not higher than 10% area). They are, moreover,  
229 represented by relatively small particles (mainly within 0.06 mm and 0.2 mm in size). In fact,  
230 inclusions size ranges from coarse silt (0.04-0.06 mm) to very fine (0.06-0.125 mm) and fine  
231 sand (0.125-0.25 mm). Greater sizes are essentially sporadic to rare.  
232 As regards the composition, the aplastic inclusions are mainly composed of monocrystalline  
233 quartz (angular grains prevalent), followed by polycrystalline quartz, tiny lamellae of  
234 muscovite (both common constituents), and smaller quantities of K-feldspar and plagioclase.  
235 Minute clinopyroxene crystals were found as accessory constituents (one or very few  
236 individuals) in about the 50% of the samples representative of this ceramic paste. Lithic  
237 fragments were also recognized as common constituents or, more frequently, sporadic to rare,  
238 being mainly composed of acid crystalline rocks and (subordinately) chert. The calcareous  
239 component is well represented (from abundant to common), consisting of microfossils or  
240 micrite clots which are the result of (partial/total) transformation of microfossils after the firing  
241 process at temperatures higher than 800 °C (Cau Ontiveros et al. 2002; Gliozzo 2020; Maritan  
242 2020). The groundmass (fine plastic matrix) is more often optically inactive and characterized  
243 by common lumps. The latter are generally an index of a rough maturation and/or mixing of  
244 the raw clay. The pores have mainly an irregular to subregular shape (subrounded cast of  
245 microfossils completely decomposed by firing). Most of the observed samples appear to be  
246 impregnated by variable quantities of secondary calcite, which precipitated in the pore network  
247 during the period in which the sherds were in the ground (Figs. 5A-F).  
248 The comparison between the archaeological finds and the experimental tests deriving from the  
249 controlled firing of the clays sampled in the surroundings of the Masseria Vagnari confirmed  
250 without any doubt that locally available ceramic raw materials were used. These materials  
251 belong to the Apennine Clays Formation, characterized by Upper Pliocene-Calabrian fossil  
252 associations, or to terraced fluvio-lacustrine alluvial deposits of the Pleistocene age, consisting  
253 of clayey-sandy terraced sediments (Fig. 3A). The characteristics of the Sub-Apennine Clays,  
254 well described by Di Pierro (1981) for an area belonging to the Bradanic Foredeep and located  
255 about 40 km west of Gravina, are satisfactorily coincident with what has been observed in the  
256 materials collected in the vicinity of the Masseria Vagnari. These are gray-blue clays with the  
257 fraction less than 63 microns, which represents about 90% of the total (similar quantities of  
258 clay and silty fraction). From a mineralogical point of view, the Sub-Apennine Clays consist  
259 of clay minerals, carbonates, quartz, feldspar, micas, and iron oxide/hydroxide. Clay minerals  
260 are represented by illite, montmorillonite, kaolinite, chlorite, and illite-smectite mixed layers  
261 (Di Pierro 1981). It should be flagged up here that the employment of Sub-Apennine Clays  
262 and/or Pleistocene alluvial deposits as raw material for ceramic use has been attested recently  
263 by Gliozzo and coauthors (2018) at several Apulian archaeological sites located about 60 km  
264 north of our site at the Masseria Vagnari.



**Figure 5.** (A) Local raw clay (sample VC1-1) after firing test at 800°C (crossed nicol, scale bar = 0.5 mm); (B) tile sample VT-2 (crossed nicol, scale bar = 0.5 mm); (C) tile sample VT-6 (crossed nicol, scale bar = 0.5 mm); (D) tile sample VT-10 (crossed nicol, scale bar = 0.5 mm); (E) tile sample VT-12 (crossed nicol, scale bar = 0.5 mm); (F) tile waste sample VW-1 (crossed nicol, scale bar = 0.5 mm).

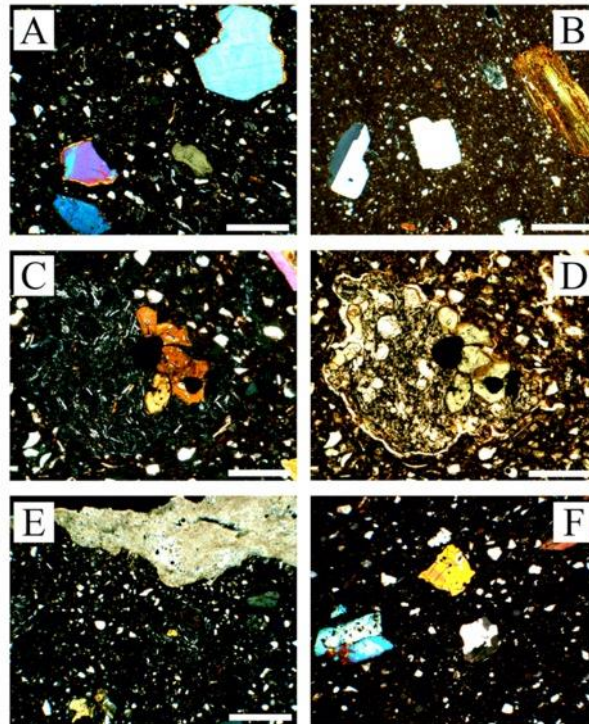
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#### 270 4.1.2 *Dolia*

271 The samples carefully selected as representative of the *dolia defossa* at Vagnari (VD-1, VD-2,  
272 VD-3, VD-4, VD-5, VD-6, VD-7, VD-8, VD-9, VD-10) showed truly comparable  
273 compositional and textural characteristics under the polarizing microscope, both in  
274 qualitatively (e.g. nature and sorting of aplastic inclusion) and quantitatively (e.g. abundance  
275 ratio and grain-size). For this reason, they reasonably may be considered to belong to a single  
276 petrographic ceramic paste. Furthermore, no minero-petrographic matching with the above-  
277 described local ceramic production and clayey materials (experimental firing tests) could be  
278 discerned. Hence, it can be deduced that the *dolia*, which even macroscopically show a  
279 distinctive abundance of coarse volcanic inclusions, were unquestionably imported to the site  
280 of Vagnari.

281 On average, this ceramic paste is characterized by a medium-high frequency of aplastic  
282 inclusions (prevailing 20-25% area) with an apparent bimodal sorting (Supplementary Material  
283 – Table S1). Only samples VD-6 and VD-8 showed serial or serial to bimodal sorting. Coarse  
284 and very coarse sand grains (0.5-2 mm) prevail on one mode and very fine grains (0.04-0.1  
285 mm) on the other mode. Maximum grain size (MGS) ranges between 1.3-2.5 mm. This  
286 characteristic bimodality supports the suggestion that the raw clay was intentionally tempered  
287 by adding coarser sand inclusions, with the purpose of improving the physical and mechanical  
288 performances of the finished product. The presence of abundant inclusions of volcanic nature  
289 is the peculiar compositional characteristic of this ceramic paste, consisting of both  
290 monomineralic grains and lithic fragments. The aplastic inclusions of volcanic origin constitute  
291 the most part of the coarser fraction (0.5-2.5 mm) in the ceramic fabric and are unquestionably  
292 prevalent over the component of sedimentary origin, which is limited to the finest sand fraction  
293 (mainly 0.06-0.2 mm). As far as the monomineralic volcanic grains are concerned,  
294 clinopyroxene prevails over sanidine (generally common to sporadic component) in almost all  
295 cases. Only the samples coded VD-6 and VD-8 (subordinately, with respect to VD-6) showed

296 slight divergence, the sanidine being relatively more abundant than clinopyroxene and also  
 297 represented by large subhedral crystals (rarely twinned). Plagioclase, amphibole, biotite,  
 298 garnet, opaque minerals, leucite, olivine, apatite, and titanite are sporadic to rare constituents,  
 299 by far less abundant with respect to the above-mentioned phases. Among the volcanic lithic  
 300 fragments recognized in this ceramic paste, hypo-silicic volcanic rocks such as leucite-bearing  
 301 tephrites to phonolites are by far the most frequent, while trachytes, trachyphonolites, and  
 302 latites are subordinate to rare (Figs. 6A-D).



303 **Figure 6.** Subhedral clinopyroxenes composing the largest aplastic inclusions in sample VD-2 (crossed nicols, scale bar =  
 304 0.5 mm) (A); twinned sanidine and biotite in sample VD-6 (crossed nicols, scale bar = 0.5 mm) (B); augite and opaque  
 305 oxides cluster in a glomeroporphyritic leucitic tephrite rock fragment, under crossed (C) and parallel nicols (D) (scale bar =  
 306 0.2 mm); coating of secondary “burial” calcite in the external surface of sample VD-10 (crossed nicols, scale bar = 0.5 mm)  
 307 (E); polycrystalline quartz inclusion in sample VD-5 (crossed nicols, scale bar = 0.5 mm) (F).  
 308

309 The finest aplastic inclusions are mostly composed of sedimentary monocrystalline and  
 310 polycrystalline quartz (common), mica flakes (rare), sericitized K-feldspar (rare), and chert  
 311 (rare). Furthermore, polymineralic granules composed of quartz, K-feldspar, and mica are also  
 312 part of this sedimentary component (acid crystalline lithic fragments in Supplementary  
 313 Material – Table S1). Calcareous bioclasts, or rather what remains of them after the firing  
 314 process (micrite clots and/or cast pores), are poorly represented (Figs. 6E-F). All the above  
 315 mentioned “detrital” minerals/lithoclasts can be considered as natural (intrinsic) components  
 316 of the clayey deposit originally used as ceramic raw material. The groundmass is characterized  
 317 by the presence of clay lumps (deriving from an approximate mix of the raw material) and by  
 318 the absence of any optical activity. Macropores are mostly represented by shrinkage cracks,  
 319 which have already formed in the drying phase (before firing), especially at the contact point  
 320 with the largest aplastic inclusions. It should be emphasized that all the samples are affected  
 321 by incrustations of secondary calcite with rather variable thickness, up to a maximum of about  
 322 1 mm; this is due to the sherds being buried in the ground. Pores in the groundmass are may be  
 323 partially filled with secondary calcite.

324 In general, the results derived from thin-section microscopy highlight that this ceramic paste  
 325 potentially holds significant minero-petrographic markers which might give useful insights for  
 326 narrowing down the provenance area of the studied *dolia*. In fact, the presence of the aplastic

327 inclusions of leucite-bearing SiO<sub>2</sub>-undersaturated magmatic rock fragments (common to  
328 sporadic), together with clinopyroxene (abundant), sanidine (common to sporadic),  
329 plagioclase, olivine, amphibole, biotite, and melanite garnet (sporadic to rare), strongly  
330 supports the hypothesis of provenance from the wide volcanic region which covers most of the  
331 regional territory of Latium, from the Vulcini Mountains and Bolsena Lake areas (Tuscan  
332 border) southwards towards to Rome and up to the mouth of the Garigliano River (Campanian  
333 border). This territory constitutes the Roman Magmatic Province and the Ernici-Roccamonfina  
334 Magmatic Province, and it is markedly characterized by recent (Quaternary) volcanism with  
335 prevalent silica undersaturated and ultrapotassic eruptive products belonging to the HKS  
336 ultrapotassic volcanic series (after Peccerillo 2005). The mineralogical compositions of these  
337 volcanic products match more than satisfactorily with the aplastic inclusions found in the  
338 ceramic paste of this study. Relevant to mention here are two recently discovered *dolia defossa*  
339 found at San Giovanni (Portoferraio, island of Elba, Italy) during the archaeological  
340 excavations of a Roman farm (late 2nd century B.C.-1<sup>st</sup> century A.D.) that have been attributed  
341 to the same volcanic area on the basis of the mineral-petrographic and chemical analyses  
342 (Manca et al. 2016). The compositional comparison of the aplastic inclusions between the *dolia*  
343 found on the Island of Elba with those of the Vagnari excavations (minerals and rock  
344 fragments) highlights a very good textural matching (grain size distribution and packing) but  
345 some compositional differences as well. These latter consist of a different ratio of abundance  
346 between K-feldspar and clinopyroxene (relatively more abundant sanidine in the *dolia* of Elba)  
347 and, above all, in the classification of the lithic fragments (tephrites and leucite phonolites of  
348 the HKS series more abundant in the *dolia* from Vagnari). Other potential provenance areas  
349 characterized by volcanic products, and even closer to the site of Vagnari, could be  
350 theoretically considered, such as the Campanian and Monte Vulture (Puglia) magmatic  
351 provinces. However, the Campanian volcanic products from the Phlegraean Fields, Ischia, and  
352 Somma-Vesuvio are characterized by the relative prevalence of silica undersaturated potassic  
353 rocks (KS series), ranging from trachybasalt to latite and trachyte, over the products of  
354 ultrapotassic series (HKS, leucite tephrite to phonolite). Moreover, in the Roman wine  
355 amphorae produced in the 1<sup>st</sup> century B.C. at Mondragone and in the Falerno region in  
356 Campania, a comparatively more abundant detrital sedimentary component was recognized  
357 (Thierrin-Michael et al. 2018), compared to the ceramic paste representative of the Vagnari  
358 *dolia*. Finally, Monte Vulture, which is located only 80 km north-west of Vagnari, is  
359 characterized by volcanic products that are easily distinguishable from the previous ones, above  
360 all by the typical presence of hauyna (feldspathoid belonging to the sodalite group), being  
361 abundant both as a phenocryst or in the groundmass.

362

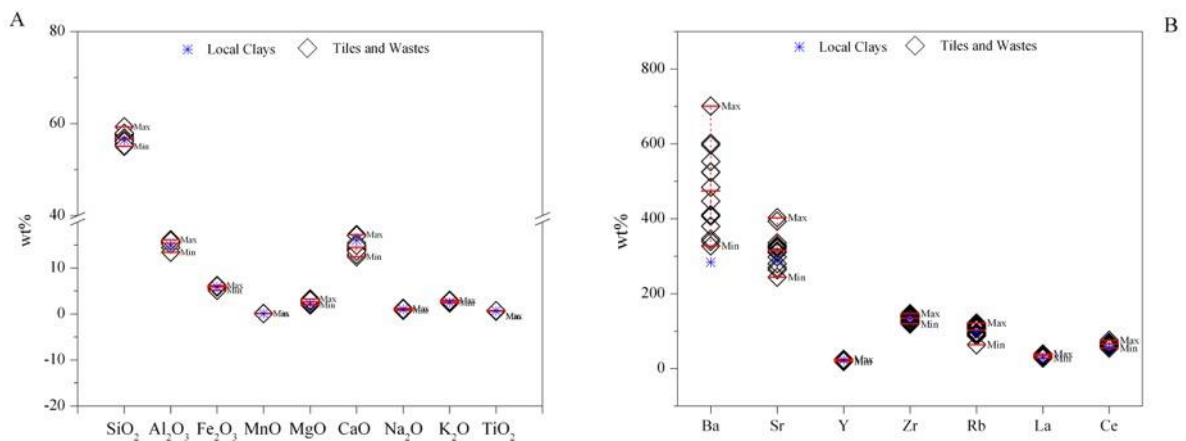
## 363 **4.2 Chemistry**

364

### 365 **4.2.1 Ceramic tiles, tile waste and clays**

366 Table 2 shows the concentration values of the major and trace elements relative to the local  
367 tiles (VW and VT-series) and to the clayey raw materials (VC-series) sampled near the site of  
368 Vagnari. After a rapid comparative examination of all the elemental values (major elements  
369 have been normalized against loss on ignition) it is immediately clear that the compositional  
370 homogeneity of the pottery produced locally in the imperial age, already highlighted through  
371 the microscopic observation of thin-sections, is additionally established by chemical analyses.  
372 At the same time, the excellent compositional matching between the building ceramics and the  
373 “Apennine Clays” (a good ceramic raw material available at a short distance from the place of  
374 use, here represented by samples VC-1 and VC-2) is clearly confirmed. Due to this  
375 compositional homogeneity, tiles, kiln waste, and raw clays are hereafter considered as a single

376 "chemical group". Accordingly, average values can be used as a first significant reference for  
 377 future discernment of local ceramic productions (even diachronically).  
 378 Based on the abundance of the major elements, it is possible to confirm that the local ceramics  
 379 were produced using "calcareous clays" as raw material. In fact, the average concentration of  
 380 CaO is equal to 14.50% weight (wt) despite showing a modest variability in the set of samples  
 381 analysed (variation range = 12.48-17.26% wt, RSD = 10%). The concentration of SiO<sub>2</sub> is  
 382 represented by an average value of 56.68% with a relatively modest range of variation  
 383 compared to that of CaO (55.21-57.71% wt, RSD = 2%). The average content of Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> stands  
 384 at 5.41%, an absolute value that is not particularly high, however, with quite limited variations  
 385 (5.16-6.23% wt, RSD = 4%). The same considerations can also be extended to Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (mean =  
 386 15.37, RSD = 4%), K<sub>2</sub>O (mean = 2.81, RSD = 6%) and TiO<sub>2</sub> (mean = 0.71, RSD = 5%)  
 387 concentrations, both with relatively small variation ranges and more than acceptable RSDs  
 388 values. All the remaining oxides representative of the major elements, i.e., MgO (mean = 2.63),  
 389 Na<sub>2</sub>O (mean = 1.06) and P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (mean = 0.23), are characterized by relatively broad ranges of  
 390 variation with RSDs ranging from 13% to 15%.  
 391 The two representative samples of the local clays (VC-1 and VC-2) show contentment values  
 392 satisfactorily corresponding to each other, with small differences mostly limited to the CaO  
 393 content (around 2% on average). The good correspondence of the variation intervals between  
 394 archaeological ceramic finds and clayey raw material is shown in Fig. 7A.



395 **Figure 7.** A) Variation intervals of major elements between archaeological ceramic finds and clayey raw material; B)  
 396 Variation intervals of trace elements between archaeological ceramic finds and clayey raw material.  
 397

398 Between the trace elements no significant chemical markers can be recognized. At the same  
 399 time, as in the case of the major elements, a good homogeneity of the concentration values  
 400 within "paste group" is confirmed. In fact, a large number of analysed trace elements show  
 401 RSDs values below or slightly above 20 %, including V (10%), Ba (20%), Sr (14%), Y (9%),  
 402 Zr (6%), Rb (16%), La (8%), Ce (8%), Pb (21%), Th (8%), U (13%). Barium (mean = 475  
 403 ppm) and Rubidium (mean = 103 ppm) and zirconium are between the relatively more  
 404 abundant trace elements, whose concentration values could be correlated to the relative  
 405 incidence of aplastic poly/monomineralic inclusions deriving from acid crystalline rocks  
 406 (granitoid or metamorphic medium-high grade). The abundance of strontium (mean = 315  
 407 ppm), geochemically correlated to the abundance of calcium, is generally linked to the  
 408 calcareous component of the "ceramic paste". In Fig. 7B the variation intervals of some trace  
 409 elements selected in the ceramic finds and in the local clayey raw materials (VC-1 and VC-2)  
 410 are compared. The wide compositional overlap between ceramic products and clay raw  
 411 materials is apparent for most of the elements here considered, with some slight discrepancies  
 412 limited to Ba and Sr (potentially coarser temper added to raw clay).  
 413

#### 414 **4.2.2 *Dolia* bulk compositions**

415 On the basis of the abundance of the major and trace elements, and in full agreement with what  
416 was found during the microscopic observations, the studied *dolia* appear to be an acceptably  
417 homogeneous "chemical group" as well (Hein and Kilikoglou 2020). An excellent correlation  
418 between the mineral-petrographic and chemical data has accordingly been confirmed.

419 In general, the RDSs are well below 10% in the case of SiO<sub>2</sub>, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and TiO<sub>2</sub>. For MnO,  
420 MgO and K<sub>2</sub>O they are between 10% and 15%, while CaO, Na<sub>2</sub>O and P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> have RDSs values  
421 higher than 15% (Table 3). The SiO<sub>2</sub> content varies from a minimum of 54.75% (VD-6) to a  
422 maximum of 61.38% by weight (VD-1), with an average value of 58.88%. An RSD of 4%  
423 suggests a good consistency for the analysed set of samples. Equally narrow ranges of variation  
424 have been recorded for Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3(T)</sub> and TiO<sub>2</sub>, with average concentrations of 14.79%,  
425 6.69% and 0.84% (by weight) respectively.

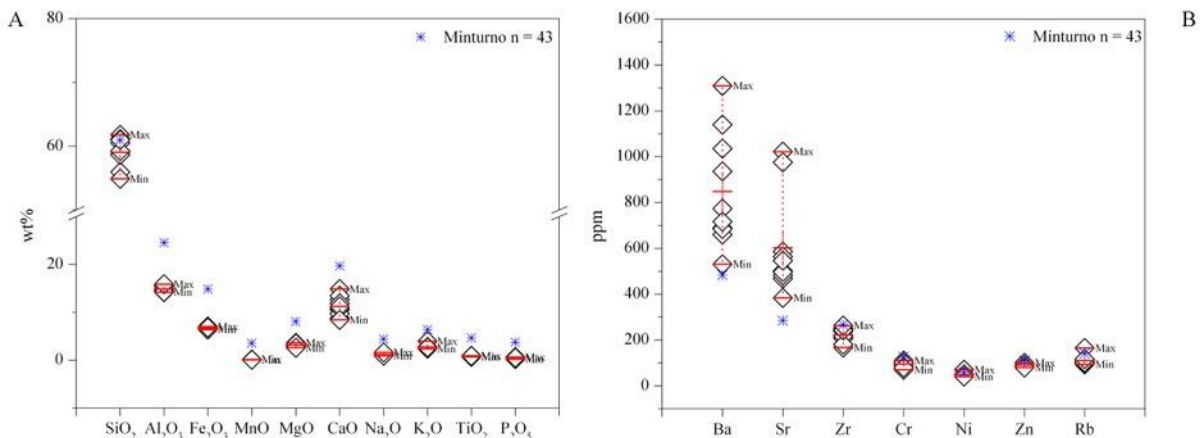
426 Relatively wider ranges of variation can be observed for alkaline earth metals on the one hand  
427 and alkali metals on the other. For MgO an average value of 3.16% by weight has been  
428 observed with RDS slightly higher than 10%, while the CaO varies from a minimum of 8.39%  
429 by weight (VD-10) up to 14.73% (VD-3) with an average value equal to 11.19% by weight  
430 (RDS = 18%). Among the alkali metals K<sub>2</sub>O shows a concentration equal to 2.81% by weight  
431 (RDS = 15%). It should be emphasized that, unlike all the other samples, only VD-6 shows a  
432 visibly different (higher) K<sub>2</sub>O value than the average value, i.e. 3.96% by weight (VD-8 only  
433 in a minor extent with 2.95 by weight). This result is not surprising at all, considering the  
434 differences in terms of abundance of K-feldspar (mainly sanidine) among the aplastic  
435 inclusions highlighted only in this sample through microscopic observations (in quantity  
436 almost equivalent to clinopyroxene, see Table 2). The average K<sub>2</sub>O value of the "paste group",  
437 recalculated without considering samples VD-6 and VD-8 is, in fact, equal to 2.64% while the  
438 RDS drops to 5%.

439 Na<sub>2</sub>O and P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> show average values respectively equal to 1.15% and 0.35% by weight, with  
440 rather high RDS (25% and 37%). Also in this case, a correlation between chemical composition  
441 and mineralogy of the aplastic inclusions could be considered realistic. In fact, the unusual  
442 P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> concentration in this ceramic paste of samples VD-1 and VD-10, where clinopyroxene  
443 are particularly abundant could be explained considering the prismatic apatite inclusions that  
444 characterize larger clinopyroxene crystals. To be noted that P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and TiO<sub>2</sub> are relatively less  
445 abundant in samples VD-6 and VD-8 (richer in sanidine crystal).

446 Equally interpretable in the light of the mineral-petrographic analyses are both the variability  
447 and the absolute value of the CaO concentrations. In this regard, all the analysed fragments  
448 show clear evidence of the presence of secondary calcite, both as an impregnation in the  
449 groundmass and/or as an external incrustation of variable thickness, which form during the  
450 long submergence of the *dolia* in the soil. The presence of a relevant quantity of calcium oxide  
451 not directly correlated to the initial composition of the ceramic paste should, therefore, be  
452 considered. Ceramic clay sources from continental deposits are generally much poorer in  
453 calcareous inclusions (microfossils) than clay sources from marine deposits.

454 Unfortunately, no comparison with the bulk chemistry of the ceramic pastes of the *dolia* found  
455 in S. Giovanni (Portoferraio, Elba Island) can be made, as Manca and co-authors (2016) did  
456 not carry out this analysis, but focused their research to the chemical analysis of the  
457 clinopyroxene with the electron microprobe. Comparison could only be made with the data  
458 recently reported by Thierrin-Michael and co-authors (2018) and concerning pottery  
459 production centres located along the Tyrrhenian coast of Italy, from Etruria to the Bay of  
460 Naples. However, as previously underlined, these data refer not to *dolia*, but rather to ceramic  
461 products that are quite different in terms of average size of the inclusions, i.e. wine amphorae  
462 (mostly type Dressel 1b and Dressel 2-4 produced from the 2nd to the 1st century B.C.). Fig.  
463 8A compares the variation intervals and the average values of some major elements of the

464 Vagnari *dolia* with the corresponding data relating to the amphorae produced in Minturno and  
 465 taken from Thierrin-Michael et al. (2018). In light of the above considerations, the slight shift  
 466 in terms of average chemical composition could be likely interpreted as due to textural (aplastic  
 467 inclusions are more abundant and with coarser size in *dolia*) and/or compositional differences  
 468 (inclusions of sedimentary origin are relatively better represented in wine amphorae than the  
 469 studied *dolia*) between the considered ceramic pastes.  
 470 Considering the trace elements (Tab. 4), it is possible to observe that for a part of them, in the  
 471 *dolia* group, there are no significantly wide ranges of variation in concentration around the  
 472 average values, as for Y, Sc, Cr, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Ga, As, Cs, Ta, Th and U. For another group  
 473 of elements (Be, Ge, Mo, Ag, In, Sb, W, Tl, Bi), there is a generally very low concentration,  
 474 comparable in the different samples, and relatively close to the instrumental lower detection  
 475 limit. Samples VD-1 and VD-10, by contrast, differ in visibly higher concentrations in Ba and  
 476 Sr than all other *dolia*, approximately 60% and 50% respectively. Instead, the VD-6 (mainly)  
 477 and VD-8 samples are characterized by relatively low concentrations (about 30%) of V, Zr,  
 478 Nb, Hf and rare earth elements, while the Rb is relatively more abundant (about 50%).  
 479 As for the major elements and even more so for the trace elements, the compositional  
 480 comparison with the data relating to Roman wine amphorae (Thierrin-Michael et al., 2018)  
 481 appears tricky. In fact, for trace elements, even the analysis procedure, in terms of precision  
 482 and accuracy, can be more decisive. While our analyses were carried out by coupling ICP-OES  
 483 and ICP-MS (after alkaline fusion and acid digestion), the analyses by Thierrin-Michael and  
 484 co-authors were carried out by X-ray fluorescence spectrometry (XRFS). At any rate, in Fig.  
 485 8B it is possible to note an acceptable correspondence between the concentration values  
 486 relating to the amphorae from Minturno and the *dolia* from Vagnari, specially in case of Rb,  
 487 Zr, Y and Nb, while not negligible differences are recorded for Ba, Sr and some transition  
 488 metals (Cr, Ni, Zn).



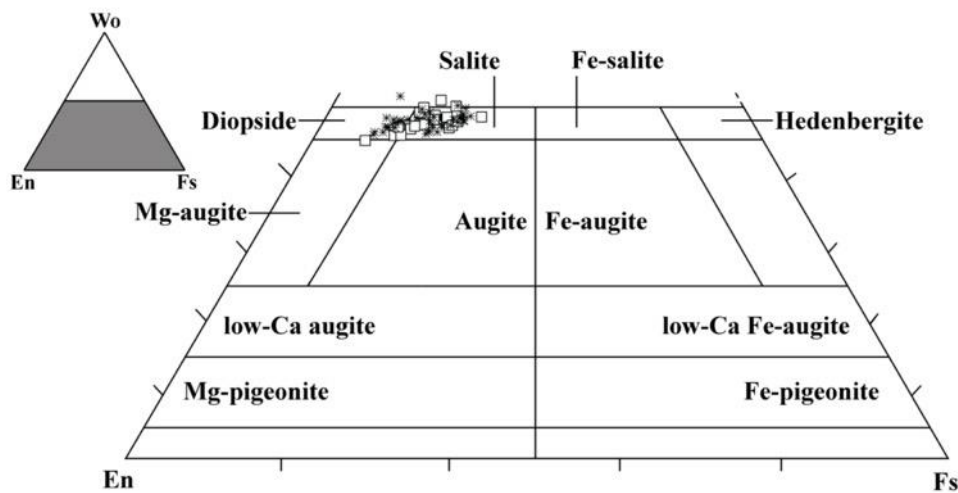
489 **Figure 8.** A) Variation intervals of major elements between *dolia* and ceramic products from Minturno; B) Variation  
 490 intervals of trace elements between *dolia* and ceramic products from Minturno.  
 491

492  
 493 **4.2.3 Chemical composition of clinopyroxenes**

494 To obtain further confirmation and restrict as much as possible the potential area of production  
 495 of the *dolia*, it was considered appropriate to perform chemical microanalysis on the  
 496 clinopyroxene inclusions in the *dolia* pastes (major elements using EPMA and trace elements  
 497 using ICP-MS with laser ablation). The obtained results suggest a satisfactory correspondence  
 498 of the contents in rare earth elements with the clinopyroxene of the rocks characterizing the  
 499 regions known as the Roman Magmatic Province and the Ernici-Roccamonfina Magmatic  
 500 Province, where KS series consist of trachibasalts, latites, and trachytes, while ultrapotassic

501 rocks and the HKS series mainly consist of leucite-bearing tephri-phonolites and leucitites  
502 (after Peccerillo 2005).

503 Major element analyses of representative clinopyroxenes (cpx) from the studied *dolia* are  
504 presented in Supplementary Material – Table S2. Small differences are observable between the  
505 cpx compositions of the analyzed *dolia*. The clinopyroxenes composing VD4, VD5, VD6 and  
506 VD7 ceramic paste display a relatively small range in composition, respectively Wo44-49  
507 En34-50 Fs6-17 for VD4, Wo47-49 En36-43 Fs10-15 for VD5, Wo45-47 En35-43 Fs11-18  
508 for VD6, Wo47-50 En29- 43 Fs10-22 for VD7, while sample VD8 slightly differs (Wo51-52  
509 En32-37 Fs12-17). If plotted in the classification diagram of Morimoto et al. (1988) showed in  
510 Fig. 9, the measured compositions fall between the fields of diopsidic and salitic  
511 clinopyroxenes, showing a rather homogeneous SiO<sub>2</sub> abundance (from about 46 to about 49  
512 wt. %) and magnesium number (Mg#) ranging from 0.70 to 0.77. In the same figure it is  
513 possible to note a good correspondence with the composition of the clinopyroxenes of the *dolia*  
514 found on the island of Elba and archaeometrically attributed by Manca et al. (2016) to a  
515 production centre located in the Roman Magmatic Province or in the adjacent Ercini-  
516 Roccamonfina Magmatic Province (Minturno).

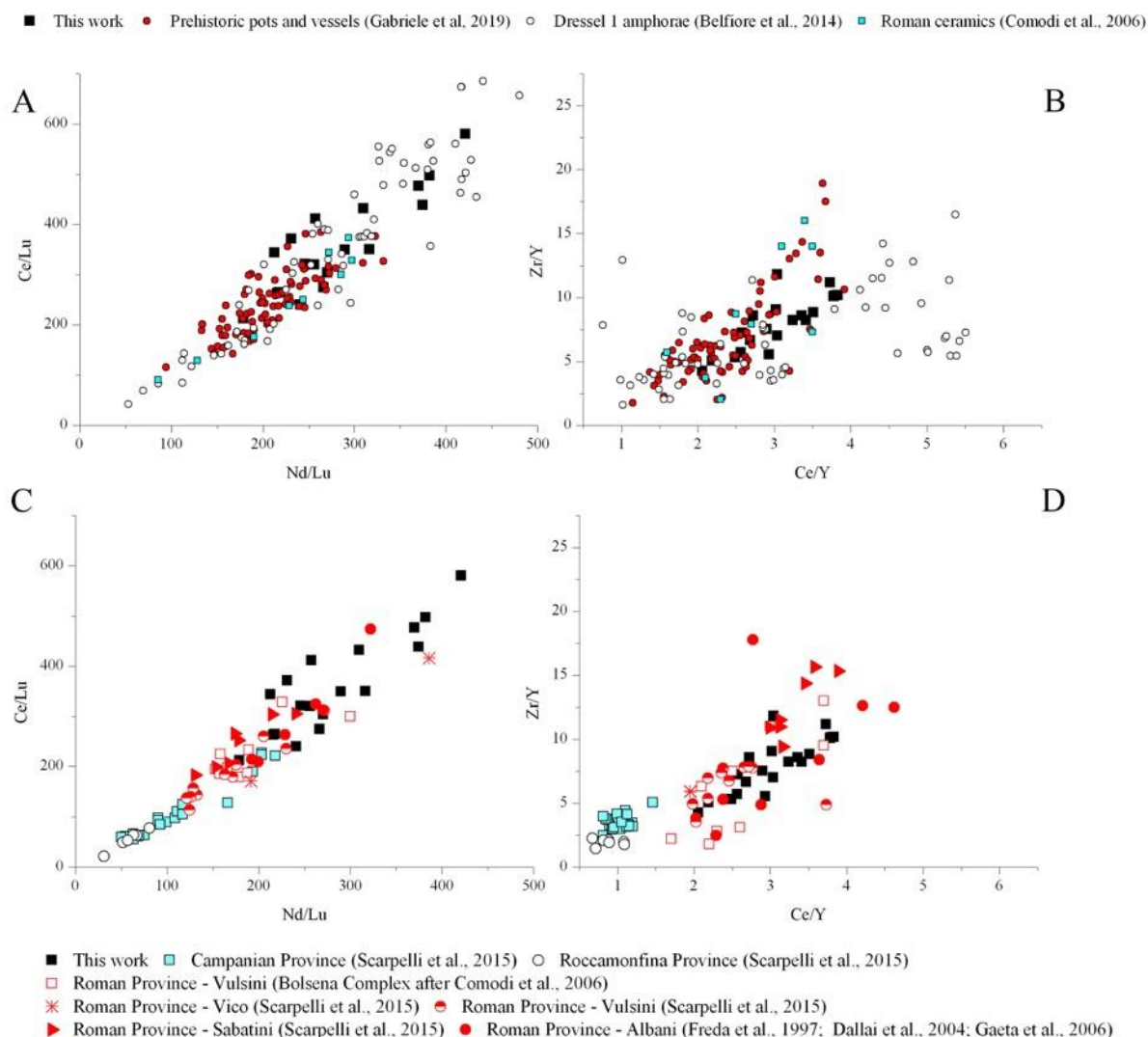


517 **Figure 9.** Plot of Cpx composition into the classification diagram for Ca–Mg–Fe pyroxenes (Morimoto et al., 1988): asterisk  
518 stands for Cpx composition from Manca et al., 2016.  
519

520 Trace element abundance of the same clinopyroxenes (determined by laser ablation ICP-MS)  
521 are listed in Supplementary Material – Table S3. The elemental ratios of some selected trace  
522 elements in clinopyroxenes are renewed to be effective for fingerprinting magmatic  
523 provenance, because they are related to magma composition from equivalent tectonic settings  
524 as well as relevant for tectonic setting identification and geochemical sourcing (Peccerillo  
525 2005). Specifically, ratios between elements Zr/Y vs Ce/Y and Ce/Lu vs Nd/Lu were used and  
526 compared with data available in the literature. They concern clinopyroxene analyses carried  
527 out from archaeological ceramic samples attributed to production centres located in the Roman  
528 Magmatic Province (Comodi et al. 2006; Belfiore et al. 2014; Gabriele et al. 2019) as well as  
529 pyroxenes of the volcanic rocks of the Magmatic Provinces most concerned in this study, i.e.  
530 Roman, Campanian and Ernici-Roccamonfina (Freda et al. 1997; Dallai et al. 2004; Comodi et  
531 al. 2006; Gaeta et al. 2006; Scarpelli et al. 2015). From the graphs in Figs. 10A-B, the  
532 acceptable correspondence between trace element ratios shown by the clinopyroxenes, which  
533 characterize the ceramic paste considered in this study, and those shown by the archaeological  
534 ceramic samples is quite evident. Similar trends (same trace elements ratios) can be also found  
535 by comparing the clinopyroxenes of this study with those present in the volcanic rocks of the  
536 above-mentioned Magmatic Provinces (Figs. 10C-D).

537





538 **Figure 10.** A-B) clinopyroxene trace elements ratios concerning the studied *dolia* and other archaeological ceramic samples;  
 539 C-D) clinopyroxene trace elements ratios concerning the studied *dolia* and the volcanic rocks from some Italian Magmatic  
 540 Provinces.  
 541

## 542 Conclusions

543  
 544 The analysis of tiles, misfired tiles, and raw clays at Vagnari shows that the natural resources  
 545 needed for the production of roof tiles essential for the buildings of the central village on the  
 546 Roman imperial estate took place in and around the village. Earlier discoveries of tile kilns at  
 547 Vagnari further confirm this industrial activity which was important not only for Vagnari *vicus*,  
 548 but probably also for other settlements in the region that were located on the property owned  
 549 by the Emperor since the early 1<sup>st</sup> century A.D. The *dolia*, on the other hand, were made of  
 550 clay that came from the Tyrrhenian coast of Latium and Campania, from the Roman Magmatic  
 551 Province (with Rome at its centre) or the Ernici Roccamonfina Magmatic Province (with  
 552 Minturno as a key site). This is of particular importance for an understanding of the Roman  
 553 economy, the mobility of manufactured goods, and supply networks. Normally, the kilns and  
 554 manufacturing centres for *dolia* were located at or near the sites at which wine was produced,  
 555 as at Giancola near Brindisi (Puglia), which is not very far from Vagnari (Manacorda and  
 556 Pallecchi 2012). But the Emperor as landowner of the Vagnari estate did not procure the  
 557 equipment for his 2<sup>nd</sup>-century winery locally from these or other private providers. In Latium,

558 especially around the capital city of Rome, heavy ceramics, including *dolia*, were manufactured  
559 in vast quantities in production centres in private ownership, many of them gradually being  
560 transferred to imperial ownership (Lazzeretti and Pallecchi 2005; Gliozzo and Filippi 2005; Lo  
561 Cascio 2005). The estates in the hinterland of the Roman town of *Minturnae*, modern Minturno,  
562 on the border between Latium and Campania, also were particularly active in the production  
563 of wines, the *dolia* for winery storage, and the very large *dolia* for bulk transport of wine by  
564 ship in the western Mediterranean, although it is unknown whether any of the properties were  
565 in imperial possession (Johnson 1933: 126-128; Lazzeretti 1998; Bellini and Trigona 2013;  
566 Gregori and Nonnis 2013; Heslin 2011: 165-166). The workshops around Rome or around  
567 Minturno are the likely source of the Vagnari *dolia*, although Minturno is a better match for  
568 the fabric of the *dolia*. It is likely that the *dolia* destined for Vagnari were shipped by sea around  
569 the toe of the Italian peninsula, perhaps to the Adriatic coast or up the rivers draining into the  
570 Ionian Gulf, and then brought overland to Vagnari. Why this seemingly inconvenient provision  
571 of equipment from the other side of Italy took place is unclear, but distance and expense clearly  
572 played little role in the Emperor's decision to establish a winery at Vagnari.

573

### 574 **Acknowledgements**

575

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**Table 1. List of analyzed samples.**

<b>Sample code</b>	<b>Typology</b>	<b>Analytical methods</b>	
VW-1	Kiln waste	OM, ICP-MS/OES (bulk)	
VW-2	Kiln waste		
VT-1	Roof tile	OM, ICP-MS/OES (bulk)	
VT-2	Roof tile		
VT-3	Roof tile		
VT-4	Roof tile		
VT-5	Roof tile		
VT-6	Roof tile		
VT-7	Roof tile		
VT-8	Roof tile		
VT-9	Roof tile		
VT-10	Roof tile		
VT-11	Roof tile		
VT-12	Roof tile		
VD-1	Dolium	OM, ICP-MS/OES (bulk) LA-ICP-MS (clinopyroxenes)	
VD-2	Dolium		
VD-3	Dolium		
VD-4	Dolium		
VD-5	Dolium		
VD-6	Dolium		
VD-7	Dolium		
VD-8	Dolium		
VD-9	Dolium		
VD-10	Dolium		
<b>Raw clays</b>	<b>Location of sampling point (coordinates)</b>	<b>Firing Temperature (°C)</b>	<b>Munsell Color (before/after firing)</b>
VC-1		raw paste	light greenish grey 8/1 10Y
VC-1.1	Lat: 40,833831	700 °C	reddish yellow 7/6 5YR
VC-1.2	Lon: 16,271315	800 °C	reddish yellow 6/8 5YR
VC-1.3		900 °C	light red 7/8 2.5 YR
VC-2		raw paste	light bluish grey 8/1 5PB
VC-2.1	Lat: 40,835975	700 °C	reddish yellow 6/6 5YR
VC-2.2	Lon: 16,2740238	800 °C	reddish yellow 6/8 5YR
VC-2.3		900 °C	reddish yellow 6/8 5YR

**Table 2. Major and trace elements concentrations relative to the local tiles (VW and VT-series) and to the clayey raw materials (VC). LOI normalized chemical compositions.**

Oxides (%)	VW-1	VW-2	VT-1	VT-2	VT-3	VT-4	VT-5	VT-6	VT-7	VT-8	VT-9	VT-10	VT-11	VT-12	MEAN	ST. DEV	RSD (%)	VC-1	VC-2	MEAN
SiO <sub>2</sub>	56.09	55.21	57.42	55.06	57.71	56.24	59.28	57.90	56.89	56.90	56.04	56.84	56.38	55.55	<b>56.68</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>2.02</b>	55.25	57.50	<b>56.37</b>
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	16.17	15.88	15.77	14.46	13.42	15.79	15.39	15.73	15.41	15.36	15.56	15.27	15.69	15.24	<b>15.37</b>	<b>0.69</b>	<b>4.49</b>	16.00	13.77	<b>14.88</b>
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (T)	6.06	6.05	6.11	5.67	5.16	6.23	6.02	5.84	5.83	5.90	5.90	5.88	6.04	5.99	<b>5.91</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>4.34</b>	6.42	5.38	<b>5.90</b>
MnO	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.13	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.11	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>9.12</b>	0.10	0.10	<b>0.10</b>
MgO	2.86	2.99	2.62	3.30	1.94	2.64	2.01	2.46	2.32	2.67	2.34	3.10	2.77	2.87	<b>2.63</b>	<b>0.39</b>	<b>14.85</b>	2.90	1.69	<b>2.30</b>
CaO	13.65	14.95	12.82	17.26	17.06	13.96	12.48	12.97	14.74	14.09	15.43	14.25	13.93	15.44	<b>14.50</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>9.92</b>	14.59	17.51	<b>16.05</b>
Na <sub>2</sub> O	1.24	1.08	1.17	0.85	1.18	1.16	0.99	1.11	1.00	1.14	0.80	0.89	1.17	1.08	<b>1.06</b>	<b>0.14</b>	<b>12.87</b>	1.10	0.94	<b>1.02</b>
K <sub>2</sub> O	2.90	2.83	3.02	2.42	2.57	2.94	2.74	2.89	2.73	2.93	2.92	2.75	2.92	2.74	<b>2.81</b>	<b>0.16</b>	<b>5.79</b>	2.75	2.30	<b>2.53</b>
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.75	0.73	0.75	0.68	0.62	0.73	0.71	0.72	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.70	0.74	0.71	<b>0.71</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>4.52</b>	0.74	0.65	<b>0.70</b>
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.20	0.19	0.22	0.21	0.25	0.21	0.26	0.28	0.27	0.21	0.19	0.21	0.27	0.28	<b>0.23</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>14.14</b>	0.16	0.15	<b>0.15</b>
Element (ppm)	VW-1	VW-2	VT-1	VT-2	VT-3	VT-4	VT-5	VT-6	VT-7	VT-8	VT-9	VT-10	VT-11	VT-12	MEAN	ST. DEV	RSD (%)	VC-1	VC-2	MEAN
Sc	14	14	14	12	11	14	13	13	12	13	12	12	14	13	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	12	10	<b>11</b>
Be	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	3	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>	2	2	<b>2</b>
V	134	133	106	99	99	113	109	108	108	104	111	106	112	107	<b>111</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	117	96	<b>107</b>
Ba	340	346	447	524	602	380	553	484	525	411	597	701	407	328	<b>475</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>24</b>	285	283	<b>284</b>
Sr	329	403	325	394	310	321	264	298	270	314	280	244	326	336	<b>315</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>14</b>	309	268	<b>289</b>
Y	25	25	23	21	19	23	21	23	21	22	21	19	24	23	<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	24	22	<b>23</b>
Zr	142	145	141	126	136	140	147	137	123	138	128	119	133	134	<b>135</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	127	140	<b>134</b>
Cr	110	120	100	100	90	100	100	90	100	100	90	90	110	110	<b>101</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	90	80	<b>85</b>
Co	12	12	12	10	9	12	13	11	10	12	11	11	12	12	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	10	9	<b>10</b>
Ni	50	50	50	50	40	60	50	50	50	50	50	50	60	50	<b>51</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	50	40	<b>45</b>



<b>Cu</b>	30	30	30	30	20	30	30	20	30	30	30	20	30	30	<b>28</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>15</b>	20	20	<b>20</b>
<b>Zn</b>	100	110	100	90	80	100	90	90	90	100	90	90	100	140	<b>98</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	90	70	<b>80</b>
<b>Ga</b>	21	21	20	18	15	20	19	19	18	19	18	17	21	20	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	17	15	<b>16</b>
<b>Ge</b>	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>35</b>	1	1	<b>1</b>
<b>As</b>	6	10	11	9	9	9	10	11	8	9	8	10	10	10	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	8	9	<b>9</b>
<b>Rb</b>	121	122	117	64	88	112	95	113	92	112	97	89	106	109	<b>103</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	107	87	<b>97</b>
<b>Nb</b>	16	17	16	15	13	17	16	16	15	16	16	15	17	17	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	14	12	<b>13</b>
<b>Mo</b>	<2	<2	<2	<2	4	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2	<b>4</b>		<b>0</b>	<2	<2	
<b>Ag</b>	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5				<0.5	<0.5	
<b>In</b>	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2				<0.2	<0.2	
<b>Sn</b>	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	3	2	<b>3</b>
<b>Sb</b>	0.6	0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	0.5	0.8	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	0.5	<0.5	0.5	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>	<0.5	<0.5	
<b>Cs</b>	6.5	6.8	6	2.6	4.2	6	4.7	6	5.1	5.8	4.6	4.1	5.8	6	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22</b>	5.8	4.4	<b>5</b>
<b>La</b>	35.8	39.2	35.5	32.5	28	35.6	35.4	34.5	31.1	34.5	34.3	30.3	36	35.5	<b>34</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	29.6	27.3	<b>28</b>
<b>Ce</b>	69.9	75.7	69.4	63.3	55.1	70.2	69.1	67.6	60.9	67.7	66.7	59.3	70.1	69.4	<b>67</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	58.1	56.5	<b>57</b>
<b>Pr</b>	8.22	8.68	8.06	7.28	6.35	8.06	7.77	7.77	7.06	7.8	7.66	6.84	8.07	7.89	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	6.78	6.2	<b>6</b>
<b>Nd</b>	30.7	32.7	30.1	27.3	24.2	29.8	28.8	28.3	25.6	28.4	27.9	25.5	30.1	29.4	<b>28</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	24.4	22.8	<b>24</b>
<b>Sm</b>	6.3	6.5	6.1	5.6	4.9	6.2	5.7	6	5.2	5.8	5.7	5.1	6.1	5.9	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	4.9	4.8	<b>5</b>
<b>Eu</b>	1.24	1.36	1.29	1.1	1.07	1.28	1.27	1.2	1.07	1.18	1.14	1.06	1.31	1.24	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	1.06	0.97	<b>1</b>
<b>Gd</b>	5.1	5.5	5.2	4.6	4.3	5	5.1	4.9	4.3	5	4.5	4.4	5.1	5	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	4.3	3.9	<b>4</b>
<b>Tb</b>	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.8	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	0.6	0.7	<b>1</b>
<b>Dy</b>	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.3	4	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.1	4.8	4.3	3.9	4.8	4.5	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	4	3.8	<b>4</b>
<b>Ho</b>	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.9	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	0.8	0.7	<b>1</b>
<b>Er</b>	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.2	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.2	2.6	2.5	2.2	2.7	2.6	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	2.2	2	<b>2</b>
<b>Tm</b>	0.4	0.4	0.38	0.34	0.33	0.36	0.38	0.36	0.32	0.38	0.34	0.31	0.4	0.35	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	0.32	0.31	<b>0</b>

<b>Yb</b>	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.1	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.6	2.2	2.1	2.7	2.5	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	2.1	2	<b>2</b>
<b>Lu</b>	0.36	0.39	0.39	0.35	0.32	0.39	0.36	0.37	0.34	0.38	0.31	0.34	0.37	0.36	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	0.32	0.31	<b>0</b>
<b>Hf</b>	4.3	4.9	4.5	4.1	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.2	4	4.4	4.1	3.8	4.4	4.4	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	3.8	4.3	<b>4</b>
<b>Ta</b>	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.1	1	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.3	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	1	0.9	<b>1</b>
<b>W</b>	1	1	1	<1	10	9	<1	1	1	1	1	1	1	<1	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>135</b>	1	1	<b>1</b>
<b>Tl</b>	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>59</b>	0.4	0.3	<b>0</b>
<b>Pb</b>	8	13	17	10	15	16	16	18	16	17	17	14	16	20	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>	15	12	<b>14</b>
<b>Bi</b>	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4				<0.4	<0.4	
<b>Th</b>	11.6	12	11.5	10.1	8.9	11.3	10.5	11.2	9.8	10.9	10.3	9.5	11.3	11.1	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	9.7	8.4	<b>9</b>
<b>U</b>	2.8	3	3.3	2.6	2.9	2.7	2.3	3.3	2.3	3.1	3.4	2.4	2.7	2.7	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	2.6	2.2	<b>2</b>

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**Table 3. Major elements concentrations relative to the *dolia* (VD). LOI normalized chemical compositions.**

Sample code	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (T)	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na <sub>2</sub> O	K <sub>2</sub> O	TiO <sub>2</sub>	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>
<b>VD-1</b>	61.38	14.69	6.69	0.11	2.60	8.68	1.64	2.73	0.86	0.64
<b>VD-2</b>	58.69	14.17	6.54	0.14	3.28	12.60	0.92	2.55	0.81	0.26
<b>VD-3</b>	55.75	14.28	6.43	0.14	3.60	14.73	1.26	2.39	0.84	0.42
<b>VD-4</b>	60.32	14.20	6.63	0.13	3.48	10.52	0.92	2.63	0.89	0.28
<b>VD-5</b>	60.85	14.68	6.70	0.12	3.00	9.70	1.01	2.71	0.83	0.35
<b>VD-6</b>	54.75	15.61	6.76	0.11	3.20	13.43	1.21	3.96	0.70	0.24
<b>VD-7</b>	58.84	14.86	7.00	0.13	3.51	10.78	0.96	2.71	0.92	0.28
<b>VD-8</b>	58.50	15.41	6.39	0.13	2.85	11.89	1.02	2.95	0.79	0.23
<b>VD-9</b>	59.03	14.23	7.00	0.17	3.46	11.21	0.91	2.74	0.90	0.34
<b>VD-10</b>	60.66	15.80	6.80	0.11	2.59	8.39	1.62	2.69	0.87	0.49
<b>MEAN</b>	<b>58.88</b>	<b>14.79</b>	<b>6.69</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>3.16</b>	<b>11.19</b>	<b>1.15</b>	<b>2.81</b>	<b>0.84</b>	<b>0.35</b>
<b>ST. DEV</b>	<b>2.17</b>	<b>0.62</b>	<b>0.21</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>2.03</b>	<b>0.28</b>	<b>0.43</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>0.13</b>
<b>RSD (%)</b>	<b>3.69</b>	<b>4.16</b>	<b>3.14</b>	<b>13.95</b>	<b>11.97</b>	<b>18.11</b>	<b>24.51</b>	<b>15.39</b>	<b>7.76</b>	<b>36.68</b>

**Table 4. Trace elements concentrations relative to the *dolia* (VD).**

Element (ppm)	VD-1	VD-2	VD-3	VD-4	VD-5	VD-6	VD-7	VD-8	VD-9	VD-10
Sc	12	17	15	17	15	15	18	14	17	12
Be	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	3
V	128	133	135	133	137	120	136	105	132	120
Ba	1309	660	773	689	684	936	716	531	835	1140
Sr	1022	468	586	482	502	563	497	384	546	975
Y	33	30	29	30	29	26	33	29	33	35
Zr	251	215	207	238	217	167	244	181	242	263
Cr	70	100	90	110	100	110	110	90	100	80
Co	13	14	15	15	13	14	17	15	16	14
Ni	40	50	50	50	40	70	50	50	50	40
Cu	20	20	30	20	20	20	20	30	20	20
Zn	90	90	90	90	90	100	90	100	90	80
Ga	22	20	19	20	20	20	21	20	20	23
Ge	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2
As	9	9	11	9	8	11	8	8	5	12
Rb	113	98	94	99	100	165	105	142	102	117
Nb	36	20	26	21	19	15	22	18	21	37
Mo	< 2	< 2	2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2
Ag	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5
In	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2
Sn	4	4	3	4	17	4	4	4	4	4
Sb	0,5	0,6	0,5	< 0.5	0,7	0,8	< 0.5	< 0.5	< 0.5	0,7
Cs	6,5	5	5,3	4,9	4,7	9,6	5,3	5,6	5,2	6,7
La	104	58,6	70,9	59,1	54	47	64,3	44,1	66,1	104
Ce	194	118	137	121	107	96	130	87	133	192
Pr	21,2	14,2	15,7	14,3	12,6	10,5	15,5	10,1	15,9	21
Nd	75,5	53,8	58,3	55,3	47,6	38,1	59,9	38,1	60,3	75,3
Sm	13,6	10,6	11	10,6	9,5	7,3	11,7	7,9	11,4	13,7
Eu	3,05	2,29	2,37	2,32	2,01	1,48	2,56	1,6	2,58	3,01
Gd	9,9	8,3	8,3	8,3	7,2	5,4	9,1	6,4	9,2	9,8
Tb	1,4	1,1	1,2	1,2	1	0,8	1,3	1	1,3	1,4
Dy	7,2	6,4	6,2	6,5	5,6	4,7	7	5,4	6,9	7,3
Ho	1,3	1,2	1,1	1,1	1	0,9	1,3	1	1,2	1,3
Er	3,3	3,1	3	3,2	2,9	2,4	3,4	2,9	3,3	3,4
Tm	0,47	0,43	0,41	0,43	0,4	0,35	0,48	0,41	0,44	0,45
Yb	3	2,7	2,8	2,7	2,7	2,4	2,9	2,6	3	3

<b>Lu</b>	0,42	0,41	0,37	0,42	0,39	0,38	0,42	0,42	0,41	0,44
<b>Hf</b>	7,3	6,5	6,1	6,9	6,8	5	7,2	5,2	7,6	7,6
<b>Ta</b>	2,4	1,4	1,6	1,5	1,2	1,2	1,6	1,3	1,6	2,3
<b>W</b>	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1
<b>Tl</b>	0,3	0,5	0,4	0,5	0,5	1	0,5	0,5	0,5	0,3
<b>Pb</b>	34	19	26	20	1640	53	21	21	27	35
<b>Bi</b>	< 0,4	< 0,4	< 0,4	< 0,4	< 0,4	< 0,4	< 0,4	< 0,4	< 0,4	< 0,4
<b>Th</b>	27,9	15,1	18,7	15,2	14,2	18,3	16,4	13,4	16,7	27,9
<b>U</b>	4,8	3,8	3,7	3,8	4,4	4,4	4	3,5	4,3	4,6

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Table S1 – Supplementary Material. Schematic description of the compositional and textural features of the studied samples.

Sample code	Aplastic inclusions								Groundmass			Secondary calcite
	Distribution	Sorting	Aplastic grain size distribution	MGS (mm)	Packing (%)	Monomineralic grains	Rock fragments	Microfossils (M) Limestones (L) Micritic clots (mc)	Clay Lumps	Optical activity	Porosity	
VW-1	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt – medium sand	0.5	5-10%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++/+), Kfs (+), Pl (r), Cpx (r)	acid crystalline rocks (r), chert (r)	-	++	inactive	vugs, cast	++
VW-2	Heterogeneous	Serial	coarse silt – fine sand	0.2	5%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++/+), Kfs (+), Pl (r), Cpx (r)	acid crystalline rocks (r), chert (r)	-	++	inactive	vugs, cast	++
VT-1	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt – fine sand	0.3	5-10%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (+++), Kfs (+), Pl (r), Cpx (r)	acid crystalline rocks (+)	+++ (mc)	++	inactive	cast	++
VT-2	Heterogeneous	Serial	coarse silt – very fine sand	0.2	5-8%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (+++), Kfs (+), Pl (r), Cpx (r)	acid crystalline rocks (+)	+++ (M)	++	inactive	cast	+++
VT-3	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt - coarse sand (sporadic)	0.8	10-15%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++) Kfs (+), Pl (+)	acid crystalline rocks (r), chert (++), sandstones (+)	+++ (M)	++	active	vugs, cast	+
VT-4	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt – fine sand	0.25	5-8%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++) Kfs (+), Pl (+)	chert (+)	++ (mc)	++	active	vugs, cast	+ / ++
VT-5	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt - medium sand	0.5	10%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++) Kfs (+), Pl (+)	chert (++), sandstones (+)	++ (mc)	++	inactive	vugs, cast	++
VT-6	Heterogeneous	Serial	coarse silt - coarse sand	0.8	8-10%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++) Kfs (+), Pl (+), Gl (r)	sandstones (++), chert (++), acid crystalline rocks (+)	++ / +++ (mc)	++	inactive	vugs, cast	+++
VT-7	Heterogeneous	Serial	coarse silt – fine sand	0.3	5-7%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++) Kfs (+), Pl (+), Gl (r)	sandstones (+), chert (+), acid crystalline rocks (r)	+++ (M)	+++	active	vugs, cast	++
VT-8	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt - medium sand	0.4	5-8%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++/+), Kfs (+), Pl (+), Gl (r)	acid crystalline rocks (++) sandstones (+), chert (r)	++ (mc)	++	inactive	cast	+++
VT-9	Heterogeneous	Serial	coarse silt – fine sand	0.3	5-8%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++/+), Kfs (+), Pl (+)	acid crystalline rocks (+), chert (+)	+++ (mc)	++	slightly active	vugs, cast	++
VT-10	Heterogeneous	Serial	coarse silt – fine sand	0.3	5-8%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++/+), Kfs (+), Pl (+), Cpx (r)	acid crystalline rocks (r), sandstones (+), chert (r)	+++ (mc)	++	inactive	vugs, cast	+++
VT-11	Heterogeneous	Serial	coarse silt – fine sand	0.25	5%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++) Kfs (+), Pl (+)	acid crystalline rocks (r), chert (r)	+++ (mc)	+++	inactive	vugs, cast	+++
VT-12	Heterogeneous	Serial	coarse silt – medium sand	0.25	5%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++) Ms (++) Kfs (+), Pl (+), Cpx (r)	acid crystalline rocks (r), chert (r)	+++ (mc)	++	inactive	vugs, cast	+++
VD-1	Moderately homogeneous	Bimodal	coarse silt/very fine sand – medium/coarse/very coarse sand (r)	1.5	25-30%	Cpx (+++), Sa (++/+), Pl (+), Grt (+), Am (+), Op (+), Ap (r), Qtz (++/+)*, mica (+)*, K-feldspar (r)*	leucite-bearing tephrites (+++), trachyte and trachyphonolites (+), quartzarenites (+/r),	+ / r (M)	+	inactive	fissures (grains/groundmass)	++ external crust (0.1-0.5 mm)

										acid crystalline rocks (r), chert (r)*					
VD-2	Moderately homogeneous	Bimodal	coarse silt/very fine sand – medium/coarse/very coarse sand (r)	2.5	25-30%	Cpx (+++), Sa (+), Pl (+), Grt (+), Am (+), Op (+), Ap (r), Qtz (+++)*, mica (+/r)*, K-feldspar (r)*	leucite-bearing tephrites (+/r), trachy-phonolites (r), quartzarenites (+), acid crystalline rocks (r), chert (r)*	+/r (M)	++	inactive	fissures (grains/groundmass)	+++ external crust (0.1-0.3 mm), pore filling			
VD-3	Moderately homogeneous	Bimodal	coarse silt/very fine sand – medium/coarse/very coarse sand (r)	1.3	20-25%	Cpx (+++), Lct (++), Sa (r), Pl (r), Grt (r), Am (r), Op (+), Qtz (+)*, mica (+/r)*, K-feldspar (r)*	leucite-bearing tephrites (+), quartzarenites (r), acid crystalline rocks (r), chert (r)*	+/r (M)	++	inactive	fissures (grains/groundmass)	+++ external crust (0.1-0.7 mm), pore filling			
VD-4	Moderately homogeneous	Bimodal	coarse silt/very fine sand – medium/coarse/very coarse sand (r)	1.8	20-25%	Cpx (+++), Sa (+), Pl (+), Grt (r), Am (+), Op (+), Kfs (+), Qtz (+), Ol (r), Qtz (+)*, mica (+/r)*, K-feldspar (r)*	leucite-bearing tephrites (+), acid crystalline rocks (r), quartzarenites (r), chert (r)*	r (M)	++	inactive	fissures (grains/groundmass)	+ external crust (0.1-0.5 mm)			
VD-5	Moderately homogeneous	Bimodal	coarse silt/very fine sand – medium/coarse/very coarse sand (r)	1.1	20-25%	Cpx (+++), Sa (r), Pl (+/r), Am (+/+), Bt (r), Op (+), Qtz (+)*, mica (+/r)*, K-feldspar (r)*, Grt (+) **	leucite-bearing tephrites (+), trachy-phonolites (r), acid crystalline rocks (r), quartzarenite (+), chert (+/r)*	r (M)	++	inactive	fissures (grains/groundmass)	+ external crust (0.1-0.5 mm)			
VD-6	Moderately homogeneous	Bimodal	sporadic finest particles up to very coarse sand	1.9	20-25%	Sa (++/+++), Cpx (++/+++), Bt (+), Am (+), Pl (+), Ol (r), Op (r), Qtz (+)*, mica (+/r)*	trachytic and trachy-phonolites (+/+++)	r (M)	++	inactive	fissures (grains/groundmass)	+++ external crust (0.1-1 mm), pore filling			
VD-7	Moderately homogeneous	Bimodal	coarse silt/very fine sand – medium/coarse/very coarse sand (r)	2.5	20-25%	Cpx (+++), Sa (+), Am (+), Bt (+/r), Pl (r), Grt (r), Op (r), Qtz (+)*, mica (+/r)*, K-feldspar (r)*	leucite-bearing tephrites (+), trachy-phonolites (r), acid crystalline rocks (+), quartzarenites (r)	r (M)	++	inactive	fissures (grains/groundmass)	+ external crust (0.1-0.2 mm), pore filling			
VD-8	Moderately homogeneous	Bimodal	coarse silt/very fine sand – medium/coarse/very coarse sand (r)	1.2	15-20%	Cpx (+++), Sa (+), Am (+), Bt (+), Pl (r), Grt (r), Op (r), Qtz (+++)*, mica (+)*, K-feldspar (r)*	leucite-bearing tephrites (+), trachy-phonolites (r), acid crystalline rocks (+), quartzarenites (r), chert (+/r)*	r (M)	++	inactive	fissures (grains/groundmass)	+++ external crust (0.2-2 mm), pore filling			
VD-9	Moderately homogeneous	Bimodal	coarse silt/very fine sand – medium/coarse/very coarse sand (r)	2.2	25-30%	Cpx (+++), Lct (+), Am (r), Bt (r), Op (+), Sa (r), Pl (r), Ap (r), Qtz (+++)*, mica (r)*, K-feldspar (r)*	leucite-bearing tephrites (++), leucitites (+), trachy-phonolites (r), acid crystalline	R (M)	++	inactive	fissures (grains/groundmass)	++ external crust (0.1-0.4 mm), pore filling			

VD-10	Moderately homogeneous	Bimodal	coarse silt/very fine sand – medium/coarse/very coarse sand (r)	2.5	25-30%	Cpx (+++), Sa (r), Am (r), Grt (r), Bt (r), Op (+), Ap (r), Qtz (+)*, mica (r)*, K-feldspar (r)*	rocks (+), quartzarenites (r) leucite-bearing tephrites (+++), leucitites (+), acid crystalline rocks (+/r)	+/r (M)	++	inactive	fissures (grains/groundmass)	+ external crust (0.1-1 mm)
VC-1 700°	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt - coarse sand (sporadic)	1.2	10%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++), Ms (++), Kfs (+), Pl (+), Cpx (r), Ol (?)	acid crystalline rocks (+), chert (+)	++ (L)	-	active	cast, irregular or rounded pores	-
VC-2 700°	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt – fine sand	0.5	5-8%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++), Ms (+++/+++), Kfs (+), Pl (+), Cpx (r), Gl (r)	acid crystalline rocks (r), chert (r)	++ (M+L rare)	-	slightly active	rounded pores	-
VC-1 800°	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt - medium sand	0.4	10%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++), Ms (++), Kfs (+), Pl (+)	acid crystalline rocks (+), chert (+)	++ (mc)	-	inactive	cast	-
VC-2 800°	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt - medium sand	0.4	10-15%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++), Ms (+++/+++), Kfs (+), Pl (+), Cpx (r)	acid crystalline rocks (+), chert (+)	++ (mc)	-	inactive	cast	-
VC-1 900°	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt - medium sand	0.4	10-15%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++), Ms (++), Kfs (+), Pl (+)	acid crystalline rocks (+), chert (+)	++ (mc)	-	inactive	cast	-
VC-2 900°	Moderately homogeneous	Serial	coarse silt - coarse sand	0.6	10-15%	Qtz (+++), Qtz pol (++), Ms (+++/+++), Kfs (+), Pl (+), Cpx (r)	acid crystalline rocks (+), chert (+)	++ (mc)	-	inactive	cast	-
<p>Legend: (+++) prevalent, (++) common, (+) sporadic, (r) rare; MGS = Maximum Grain Size; Cpx = Clinopyroxene; Kfs = K-Feldspar; Sa= Sanidine; Lct = Leucite; Grt = Garnet; Am = Amphibole; Pl = Plagioclase; Ms = Muscovite; Qtz = Quartz monocrystalline; Qtz pol = Quartz polycrystalline; Ol = Olivine; Bt = Biotite; Op = opaque minerals; Ap = apatite. (*) = mineralogical phases and / or lithic fragments present exclusively as aplastic inclusions of small size (very fine sand and coarse silt) and homogeneously diffused in the original clayey matrix. (***) = large crystals of black melanite garnet.</p>												



**Table S2 – Supplementary Material. Average major element concentrations (Avg) (wt%), standard deviations (St Dev) and calculated structural formulae (in a.p.f.u. on the basis of 6 oxygens) of clinopyroxene inclusions of five *dolia* samples.**

	VD4 (n=6)	St Dev	VD5 (n=3)	St Dev	VD6 (n=3)	St Dev	VD7 (n=7)	St Dev	VD8 (n=3)	St Dev
<b>SiO<sub>2</sub></b>	48.90	2.75	48.19	1.34	48.51	1.38	47.34	1.90	46.41	1.86
<b>TiO<sub>2</sub></b>	1.39	0.52	1.46	0.14	0.80	0.41	1.55	0.23	1.65	0.35
<b>Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub></b>	6.91	2.14	7.27	1.54	5.73	0.89	7.90	1.11	6.83	0.94
<b>FeO</b>	6.99	2.33	7.26	1.20	8.41	1.94	8.85	2.43	8.65	1.56
<b>MnO</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>MgO</b>	13.59	2.45	12.73	1.39	12.98	1.66	11.64	1.76	11.39	0.92
<b>CaO</b>	21.45	0.32	21.51	0.27	21.50	0.58	21.41	0.78	23.73	0.15
<b>Na<sub>2</sub>O</b>	0.77	0.35	1.59	0.32	2.06	1.15	1.31	0.46	1.35	0.15
<b>Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub></b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	100.00		100.00		100.00		100.00		100.00	
<b>Si</b>	1.80	0.08	1.77	0.04	1.78	0.05	1.75	0.06	1.72	0.06
<b>Ti</b>	0.04	0.01	0.04	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.05	0.01
<b>Al</b>	0.30	0.10	0.31	0.07	0.25	0.04	0.34	0.05	0.30	0.04
<b>Fe<sup>2+</sup></b>	0.14	0.08	0.04	0.08	-0.05	0.13	0.12	0.08	0.00	0.02
<b>Fe<sup>3+</sup></b>	0.08	0.10	0.18	0.06	0.30	0.19	0.16	0.08	0.27	0.05
<b>Mn</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Mg</b>	0.74	0.13	0.70	0.07	0.71	0.09	0.64	0.09	0.63	0.05
<b>Ca</b>	0.85	0.02	0.85	0.01	0.84	0.02	0.85	0.03	0.94	0.01
<b>Na</b>	0.06	0.03	0.11	0.02	0.15	0.08	0.09	0.03	0.10	0.01
<b>Cr</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	4.00		4.00		4.00		4.00		4.00	
<b>Wo</b>	46.87	1.71	47.93	1.18	46.62	1.03	48.09	1.00	51.22	0.72
<b>En</b>	41.11	5.97	39.41	3.46	39.10	4.26	36.33	4.90	34.21	2.74
<b>Fs</b>	12.03	4.31	12.66	2.35	14.29	3.61	15.58	4.56	14.56	2.58
<b>Mg#</b>	0.7714	0.0879	0.7562	0.0501	0.7319	0.0702	0.6994	0.0895	0.7013	0.0530
<b>Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub></b>	3.06		5.68		3.76		4.96		8.64	
<b>FeO</b>	4.40		2.80		3.22		4.68		0.61	

Legend: Wo = wollastonite, En = enstatite, Fs = ferrosilite, Mg# = [Mg/(Mg+ Fe<sub>T</sub>+Mn)].

**Table S3 – Supplementary Material. Trace element concentrations of representative clinopyroxenes (cpx) from the studied *dolia*.**

Sample code	VD4_1	VD4_2	VD4_3	VD4_4	VD4_5	VD5_1	VD5_2	VD5_3	VD6_1	VD6_2	VD6_3	VD7_1	VD7_2	VD7_3	VD7_4	VD7_5	VD7_6	VD8_1	VD8_2	VD8_3
Sc		82	32	107	70	77	54	55	54	86	28	49	63	71	20	99	16	54	91	82
V	211	101	191	104	154	109	186	171	305	247	301	199	133	158	328	116	280	245	126	164
Cr	272	56	19	559	37	125	144	86	15	452	19	6	41	13		38	56	25	19	84
Co	36	24	33	24	32	28	30	33	41	41	21	36	28	31	37	26	35	41	31	35
Sr	375	168	459	161	195	318	309	321	316	189	405	247	149	190	575	204	578	528	270	406
Y	39	20	40	19	31	24	37	35	38	22	61	33	19	27	67	20	47	52	23	41
Zr	324	116	399	106	222	210	334	297	199	93	429	285	95	177	677	241	479	583	170	340
Nb	3	0	4	0	1	1	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	9	1	5	4	1	4
Ba		6	4	4	5	14	8	6	5	20	6	4	1	1	5	1	0	1	4	4
La	43	15	50	25	22	25	31	36	25	13	51	26	11	20	86	17	58	64	19	42
Ce	134	52	150	56	79	83	111	116	93	45	186	91	41	71	255	62	179	194	66	134
Pr	18	8	22	10	13	13	18	18	15	8	30	15	7	12	36	10	25	29	11	21
Nd	86	43	93	45	65	64	86	84	79	45	153	82	40	63	158	53	112	139	56	104
Sm	10	11	21	10	20	14	21	18	20	12	34	20	9	15	31	15	22	27	13	24
Eu	4	3	5	2	4	3	5	5	3	3	6	4	2	4	8	3	5	7	3	6
Gd	19	10	17	8	14	10	15	16	14	7	22	14	8	11	26	12	14	23	10	18
Tb		1	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	3	2	1	1	3	1	2	3	1	2
Dy	15	5	10	5	9	6	10	9	9	6	16	8	5	8	18	5	12	14	7	10
Ho	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	3	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	2
Er	1	2	4	2	3	2	3	3	3	1	7	3	2	2	7	2	5	5	2	4
Tm		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Yb		1	3	2	1	1	2	2	3	2	5	2	1	2	5	2	4	4	2	3
Lu		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ta	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	1
Pb		1	2	1	0	0	2	4	10	3	2	1	1	1	2		1	1	1	3
Th		1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	1	3	1	1	3	1	2
U		0	0	0	0		2	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sb	5	0		1	0			1	1		1				2	4	0	0		
Rb		1	5	2	1	1	3	3		2	1	0	0		3	2		0		1
Cs		0	0	0	0	1	0	0		0	0		0	0	0		0	0		0
Ni		46	20	69	48	52	21	42		80		13	59	47	13	42	14	34	49	48
La/Sm	4	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	3	2	1	2
La/Yb		19	15	10	15	31	19	21	9	6	10	13	9	11	17	7	16	15	12	13
Sm/Yb		14	6	4	14	18	13	11	7	5	7	10	7	9	6	6	6	6	8	7
Ce/Nd	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1
Ce/Tm		166	354	647	217	628	249	250	191	599	264	236	198	247	322	127	356	340	274	332
Nd/Tm		137	220	518	180	480	191	182	160	600	217	214	192	220	199	108	223	244	234	258
Ce/Lu		263	371	320	349	321	497	580	212	240	264	350	275	304	344		412	432	439	477
Nd/Lu		216	231	256	289	246	382	421	179	241	217	316	266	270	213		258	309	375	370
Zr/Y	8	6	10	6	7	9	9	9	5	4	7	9	5	7	10	12	10	11	8	8
Ce/Y	3	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	3	4	3	4	4	3	3

CRedit author statement:

**G. Montana:** Formal analysis, Investigation, Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing, Supervision; **L. Randazzo:** Formal analysis, Investigation, Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing; **B. Barca:** Formal analysis, Investigation; **M. Carroll:** Writing - Original Draft, Writing - Review & Editing, Conceptualization, Supervision, Funding acquisition.