W'ELCOME

TO MY HONOURED GUESTS

Italy contains 545 registered indigenous grape varietals, though it is estimated that there are over 2,000 throughout the country. There are so many, in fact, that we don't know the exact number, but there are more wine-making grapes native to the land we call Italy than any other country in the world. It is an absolute treasure trove of wine, and we will never cease to uncover its many vinous gems.

Of Italy's 20 distinct regions, every single one contains significant wine-growing areas (an aspect also unique to the country), spanning the length of this 1,200-kilometre peninsula that covers the mountainous regions of the north to the salt-blown coastal regions of the south, and every lush green foothill in between. An astonishing array of styles and colours and flavours are produced from these native grapes, most of which are not found anywhere else in the world.

At Divino, one of our highest goals – and one of my great responsibilities as Sommelier – is to bring these one-of-a-kind, rare, and distinctly Italian wines to your table, to provide as much access as possible to this panoply of wine variety and beauty. This is no easy feat, and not one that we take lightly. But boy, is it fun: every year, we taste hundreds of wines, bringing in only those we think are best, traveling to wineries to learn more about the source behind these gems, and bring it all back to you here, on this wine list, as well as the many events we host every year here at Divino including our tasting menus, bi-monthly wine tastings, Enomatic machine, wine flights, and the many other efforts we take to give you the chance to experience these wines of passion, history, geography, heart.

I hope, wherever you're at on your wine journey or whatever the nature of your visit to Divino today, that in the following pages you will find just the wine for whatever purpose you are looking for or, perhaps, that might just surprise you too. Wine is amazing by itself, better with food, and best with people, and our goal is to combine these elements in such a way as to provide you with the best possible experience, so if there's anything that I or a member of my amazing team can do to enhance your wine or your experience, please let us know.

A couple of points to keep in mind as you peruse this list:

- *The wine world is replete with terminology requiring definition – too many to list here – so if you have a question or are unsure what a word or term means, just ask me or one of my colleagues.*
- *Wine labels (especially Italian ones) are notoriously difficult to understand, so each entry has a basic format: The Wine/Name of the Wine, Producer, Vintage.*
- *Italian wine is categorized into three tiers of Italian wine law that regulate how it's made (there is a fourth, Vino da Tavola, that does not appear on this list) and are indicated throughout this list by their acronym: the second-lowest tier, IGT (Indicazione Geografica Indica), then DOC (Denominazione d'Origine Controllata), and the highest tier, DOCG (Denominazione d'Origine Controllata e Garantita).*

So, please, read through this list, be curious and adventurous and open, ask any question you want, read my descriptors and point out my spelling errors, have fun with it and with the extraordinary range of flavours and emotions that Italian wine evokes. Italian wine is a world all to its own, and it is our great privilege to bring you just this small slice of it.

Cheers to you, your loved ones, your meal, and may whatever you drink today bring all of that together even more than it already was.

Salute

Troy D. Sides
Head Sommelier

SPARKLING • ROSE

CHAMPAGNE

PRICE

Cristal Prestige Cuvée, Louis Roederer, 2013* — 390
The 'Prestige Cuvée' of the legendary house, Louis Roederer. A blend of Grand Crus from old vines in Roederer's best vineyards and only made in the best vintages. 60% Pinot Noir, 40% Chardonnay.

Dom Pérignon, Moët & Chandon, 2013* — 360
The story goes that the first time a monk named Dom Pérignon was able to ferment his wine twice, he got so excited that he called to his friends, 'Come quickly, I'm tasting the stars!' With seven years' aging on its lees, the old monk may have a point. 60% Chardonnay, 40% Pinot Noir.

Brut Réserve, Taittinger, NV — 120
A blend of 35 Grand Cru and Premier Cru parcels, aged 4 years on its lees. 40% Chardonnay, 35% Pinot Noir, 25% Pinot Meunier. Refreshing, delicious, layered sparkling no matter how you pronounce it.

Special Cuvée, Bollinger, NV — 130
An ambitious blend that combines harvest grapes (85% of which are from Grand Cru and Premier Cru vineyards) with Reserve wines in Magnums, some of which are up to 15 years old. 60% Pinot Noir, 25% Chardonnay, 15% Pinot Meunier.

ITALIAN SPARKLING

Italian sparkling wine is undergoing a silent, delicious revolution. The entries here cover three styles of sparkling (Franciacorta DOCG in Lombardia, Trentodoc DOC in Trentino-Alto Adige, and Alta Langa DOCG in Piemonte) that utilise the Champagne or 'traditional' method of production, where secondary fermentation occurs in individual bottles, rather than in tanks. Such wines are known for having a crisper structure and mouthfeel, more concentrated flavour, and finer, more lively bubbles, as though they're happy to be there.

TRADITIONAL METHOD

Franciacorta, Ferghettina, NV — 78
Ferghettina's core sparkler, quintessential Franciacorta, aged 30 months on the lees. 85% Chardonnay, 15% Pinot Noir.

Franciacorta Rosé, Ferghettina, NV — 91
Two days on the skins to extract colour, 36 months on the lees to extract flavour and texture. 80% Pinot Noir, 20% Chardonnay.

Trentodoc Brut Cuvée, Ferrari, NV — 72
From the very first winery to produce Champagne-method sparklers in Trentodoc DOC, and with no relation to the car, though it just might get your heart racing: 20 months' aging on the lees and made entirely from Chardonnay grapes.

Alta Langa Millesimato Brut, Scrimaglio, 2021 — 65
The newest DOCG to hit the Italian sparkling scene is Alta Langa, where all sparklers are required to be Vintage wines by law. This effort by Scrimaglio is aged for 30 months on the lees. 80% Pinot Noir, 20% Chardonnay.

*ALL VINTAGES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE; ASK YOUR SERVER OR SOMMELIER ABOUT CURRENT AVAILABILITY.

SPARKLING • ROSE

PROSECCO

PRICE

Prosecco Millesimato, Biscardo, 2024 — 43
Prosecco DOC is distinct from the above styles by its use of the Glera grape and its use of the Charmat Method, where secondary fermentation occurs in tank rather than bottle, resulting in a fruitier, softer, more forward style.

Prosecco Rosé Millesimato, Biscardo, 2024 — 43
A fruit-forward style of sparkling Rosé, whose colour comes from 15% Pinot Noir to round out the Glera grapes in the blend.

ROSÉ

Frappato 'Rosæ', Pianogrillo, 2024 — 49
A short maceration of Frappato grapes lends a medium-hued, fragrant style rosé that bounces with peppers and florals and spice.

Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo, Valle Reale, 2021 — 44
A DOC devoted strictly to rosé production, Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo is 100% Montepulciano. The Valle Reale estate is situated at high elevation and this cool, gentle growing season, along with six months maturation on the lees, produces an elegant, fruity rosé.

Pinot Grigio Rosato, Cantina di Monteforte, 2024 — 38
Our palest rosé, from the Terre di Monteforte estate, which has some wonderful volcanic soils lending freshness and balance.

ORANGE

Ribolla Gialla Amfora, Gravner, 2014 — 148
What Andrea Pirlo was to the midfield, Josko Gravner is to orange-style wine: what everyone aspires to be, but never quite like the maestro himself. Ribolla Gialla grapes are left in contact with their skins in clay amphora for six months (six months!) in underground cellars and then aged in botti, above ground, for six years (six years!). In a category all its own.

Derthona Timorasso, Valli Unite, 2021 — 60
Spontaneous fermentation, low-intervention winemaking, stainless-steel maturation, and 100% Timorasso grapes from the Colli Tortonesi DOC produce a highly aromatic amber that evokes the quality and texture that Timorasso is known for as a white.

Pinot Grigio 'Pipinot', Scarbolo, 2023 — 51
From the Friuli Grave DOC where Pinot Grigio reigns, these grapes are macerated for three days and then matured for seven months in 20-hl casks, on their own lees and with bâtonnage, the result a smooth, elegant amber with florals, herbs, fruit.

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W'ORLD W'HITE

FRANCE

PRICE

BURGUNDY

Meursault Premier Cru Charmes, Henri Germain & Fils, 2006 120
From a small, 8-hectare family estate, the Germains are blessed with deep underground cellars where they mature their Premier Crus, including this Charmes, for 20 months in used barrel, on the lees. The rich, elegant, flowery bouquet is a show-stopper.

Chablis Grand Cru Les Preuses, Domaine Chanson, 2011 99
Les Preuses, one of the seven climats of Chablis Grand Cru, is renowned for its power and concentration, beautifully delivered here after 14 months aging in barrel. Chanson's vines come from the center of the climat and deliver precision, minerality.

Chablis, Domaine de Vauroux, 2023 60
Four months' aging in steel on its lees, crisp structure and mouthfeel to go with typical Chablis minerality.

LOIRE VALLEY

Amboise Sec Le Clocher, Bonnigal-Bodet, 2023 67
A dry, single-vineyard, aromatic and medium-bodied expression of Chenin Blanc from 20 year-old vines on clay flint and kaolin soils in the Amboise region of the Loire Valley. Aging is entirely in steel and on its lees.

Pouilly-Fumé, Domaine Favray, 2024 59
A smoky, minerally, concentrated style of Sauvignon Blanc from the flinty soils typical of the area.

GERMANY

Riesling Dry Schieferkristall, Weingut Karthäuserhof, 2021 68
Karthäuserhof is the 8th-oldest winery in the world and has made a name for itself along the Mosel River and its tributaries for its piercing, fresh, minerally style of dry Riesling, this one from the Schieferkristall vineyard.

Riesling Kabinett Binger Scharlachberg, Weingut Riffel, 2021 54
Most German Riesling is produced with some residual sugar to buffer the searing acidity natural to the grape; this is a balanced, fruity, floral expression of that style so unique to German winemaking.

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W'ORLD W'HITE

SPAIN

PRICE

Godello 'Louro do Bolo' Valdeorras, Rafael Palacios, 2023 — 62
Godello nearly went extinct in the 1970s but is now a rising star in northwest Spain, especially in the hands of Palacios, one of the top producers in Valdeorras. Twenty-five year-old vines at 600 metres elevation, aged four months in 35-hl French oak foudres.

Albariño Family Estate Selection, Bodegas Castro Martin, 2022 — 46
The Atlantic Ocean batters the coast of northwest Spain and, in so doing, releases fog banks that deposit salt water onto Albariño grapes hanging on the vine that will soon express that fog in its salty, fresh, minerally style of white wine so beloved worldwide.

SLOVENIA

Ribolla, Marjan Simčič, 2023 — 55
From the Brda region, the primary appellation for Ribolla in Slovenia, and just the other side of the border from Friuli in Italy, where it is known as Ribolla Gialla. Fourty-eight hours of skin-contact lend depth and expressiveness to this elegant style.

GREECE

Santorini Assyrtiko, Artemis Karamolegos, 2022 — 76
A concentrated, ashy expression of Assyrtiko, dense but without feeling heavy, with 5% each contributed from two other indigenous varietals, Athiri and Aidani. Five months aging in steel on the lees.

NEW ZEALAND

Sauvignon Blanc, Frost Pocket, 2023 — 48
The term 'frost pocket' refers to the conjunction where cooler temperatures meet ocean fog, producing this crisp, refreshing, and quintessential expression of Kiwi Sauvignon Blanc.

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ITALIAN W'HITE

TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE

PRICE

Chardonnay 'Lafóa', Colterenzio, 2023 — 96
Aging takes place in a combination of new and used oak but the style is a more lean, mineral, medium-bodied, style. Ten months aging on the lees, a further 6 months in bottle prior to release. Chablis on steroids.

Sauvignon 'Lafóa', Colterenzio, 2023 — 84
A brief cold soak on the skins, 8 months aging on the lees, and half of the wine fermented in oak barrels, yet the flavour is integrated, producing power, freshness, zest, complexity.

Gewürztraminer, Colterenzio, 2023 — 51
Dry Gewürztraminer, so that full-bodied unctuousness is pure fruit and winemaking. Aromatic, exotic, mouth-filling yet fresh.

Chardonnay Magred Cru, Nals Margried, 2022 — 62
Medium-bodied Chardonnay from a parcel the estate singled out for its white limestone gravel located at the foot of a gentle slope in the alpine foothills, aged three weeks in 30-hl barrels then another eight months on fine lees.

FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA

Friuli is possibly the most exciting white wine region in Italy right now, benefitting from some amazing soils that range from volcanic to pure limestone, from its adjacency to the Adriatic Sea, and from a menagerie of indigenous varietals that leave nothing on the table. Consistently, these are wines of dazzling elegance married to complexity of flavour that dances across the palate all by itself but also performs excellently with food, from cheese to fish to chicken.

Ciallabianco, Ronchi di Cialla, 2014 — 90
A blend of 60% Ribolla Gialla, 30% Verduzzo, 10% Picolit, all native to the Cialla Valley and entirely from the Cialla subzone of the Colli Orientali DOC. A wine of depth and complexity, showcasing that dance between richness and acidity.

Chardonnay, Vie di Romans, 2023 — 84
From Isonzo DOC, famous for its ponca soil, a mix of marl and sandstone. Nine months aging in barrel and on the lees, but they are just part of the ensemble of exotic fruit, minerality, toast, nuttiness, elegance.

Collio Riserva, Zuani, 2020 — 76
A radiant blend of Friulano, Pinot Grigio, Sauvignon Blanc, and Chardonnay, all sourced from Collio DOC's ponca soil. Fermented in steel and aged in French barriques for 10 months.

Friulano, Tenuta Stella, 2021 — 64
An aromatic and gorgeous expression of Friulano from 65 year-old vines in Collio DOC. Aged seven months in steel on fine lees.

Malvasia 'Dileo' Riserva, Castelvecchio, 2020 — 54
From Carso DOC, meaning 'rocky land' in Latin, a reference to the limestone soil that grape-growers can only dream of. This is a fruity, full-bodied expression of this storied grape, partially late-harvested and then aged in concrete. Complex and exotic.

Ribolla Gialla, Casali Roncali, 2024 — 48
Showcasing all of the floral, stony characteristics typical of the whites coming from Colli Orientali DOC, Ribolla Gialla grapes are harvested in the morning to retain acidity and then finished on the lees with regular bâtonnage. Fruity, elegant, smooth as you like.

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ITALIAN W'HITE

VENETO

PRICE

Soave Classico La Rocca, Pieropan, 2024 — 74
La Rocca is a single vineyard located on the only limestone outcropping in Soave Classico DOC and helps to produce this layered, rich, concentrated, stunning example of Garganega.

Vespaiolo, Maculan, 2022 — 55
Only about 100 HA worldwide are devoted to this ancient varietal, most of which are found in Breganze DOC, its homeland. It is naturally high in both sugar and acidity, producing a combination of full-bodied fruitiness with a lively beam of acidity.

Pinot Grigio 'Monopolio', Cantina di Gambellara, 2025 — 40
Classic, fresh, hot-summer-day expression of Pinot Grigio from a cooperative of about 200 family-growers.

Soave Classico Superiore Vigneto Montegrande, Cantina di Monteforte, 2023 — 38
This bottling comes from the 4 HA of the Montegrande vineyard, one of Soave's 33 UGAs, lush with volcanic soils that deliver all the goods in this complex, fresh, classic Soave. Aged 12 months in 15-hl barrels.

LOMBARDIA

Lugana 'Cromalgo', Corte Sermana, 2019 — 59
Some people go to Lake Garda for the villas; we go there for the wine. Lugana is a DOC for the white Turbiana grape, a local and late-ripening varietal, located right off the lake's shores, which supplies climate-moderating winds and minerality.

Lugana Riserva 'Molceo', Ottella, 2021 — 74
Luxurious stuff from Lake Garda, combining concentration and a bit of weight with an acidity that punctures through it all. Whole-bunch fermentation, partial malolactic, then 16 months aging on lees in a combination of steel and large-format tonneaux.

PIEMONTE

Roero Arneis 'Pradalupo', Fontanafredda, 2023 — 52
Only half of the Arneis grapes are de-stemmed, resulting in an herbal touch to this fresh, fruity white from the Roero DOCG.

Derthona Timorasso 'Ca' degli Olmi', Luca Canevaro, 2022 — 63
Timorasso knows how Taylor felt in her song 'You Belong with Me': underappreciated, in the background, not noticed for what it offers, but when given the chance, reveals its elegance, complexity, and that it's what you've been looking for the whole time. From the limestone hills of Colli Tortonesi DOC, this comes from the estate's oldest vines and is aged 12 months on lees, in steel.

Gavi di Gavi 'La Minaia', Bergaglio, 2025 — 49
100% Cortese, 100% stainless steel, 100% from Gavi, 100% delicious.

Gavi Vigneto Ciapon, Bergaglio, 2022 — 56
A head-turning single-vineyard expression of Cortese that marries dried fruit flavours with earthy, smoky nuances. Grapes are left on the vine just slightly longer than the rest of harvest and then finished on the lees in barriques for six months.

Gavi Riserva Vigna della Rovere Verde, La Mesma, 2020 — 74
A single-vineyard based entirely on Old Vines from a small estate in Gavi; 18 months in concrete, then 18 months in bottle, a wine that demonstrates the stunning aging potential of Cortese, both before and after bottling.

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ITALIAN W'HITE

LIGURIA

PRICE

Pigato, Laura Aschero, 2023 — 66
From the Riviera Ligure di Ponente DOC, located right in Cinque Terre country and devoted to Pigato, the local term for and expression of Vermentino. A 24-hour cold maceration, then a short aging period in steel on fine lees. Fresh, salty, seasidey, lovely.

EMILIA-ROMAGNA

Albana di Romagna 'Giovinetta', Collesanti, 2023 — 54
Probably the most famous style to come out of Emilia-Romagna, Albana grapes are harvested in the wee hours of the morning to retain that freshness, delicately piercing the fruit and heft of this flavourful white, the first white DOCG in all of Italy.

TOSCANA

Vernaccia di San Gimignano, Castellani, 2024 — 36
In the shadows of San Gimignano's famous towers are some of the most important vines in Italy: its Vernaccia was the very first DOC in the country in 1966 (it is now DOCG) and holds a hallowed place in the hearts of Tuscans for its zesty, crisp flavours.

Vernaccia di San Gimignano Riserva Vigna a Solatio, Falchini, 2014 — 73
An extraordinary single-vineyard expression of Tuscany's hallowed white grape given a layer of nuance by the extra year in barrel; the grapes for this came from the very top of the hill, where the one-two punch of optimal sun exposure with cooling breezes is maximised; balanced, complex, exquisite.

UMBRIA

'Adarmando' Umbria Bianco, Tabarrini, 2023 — 73
A jaw-dropping drinking experience whether or not full-bodied, exotic, aromatic whites are your thing: 100% Trebbiano Spoletino grapes are cryomacerated for 2 days then aged on the lees, in steel, for a full year. No Malolactic, no oak, nothing like it.

Orvieto Classico Superiore, Antinori San Giovanni della Sala, 2023 — 65
A complex wine based on Grechetto, the main grape of Orvieto DOC: 50% Grechetto, 25% Procanico, 13% Viognier, 12% Pinot Bianco. Minimal intervention as everything is finished in steel with a few months of lees aging; fresh, lovely, medium-bodied.

Cervaro della Sala, Antinori Castello della Sala, 2022 — 140
Iconic Chardonnay and possibly the most famous to ever come out of Italy. Chardonnay grapes are harvested in the very early morning to preserve purity and acidity and then fermented (but not aged) in barrel for a few months when the remaining 15% of the wine is blended with the indigenous Grechetto, which sees only stainless steel, for further freshness and aromatics. A special wine.

Montefalco Bianco, Arnaldo Caprai, 2023 — 46
A lovely peppery, salty expression of a classic white blend of the Montefalco DOC: 60% Trebbiano Spoletino, 40% Chardonnay.

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ITALIAN W'HITE

MARCHE

PRICE

The Marche is the home to the Verdicchio grape, the region's top grape and one of the white grapes of Italy with the most potential in terms of style, quality, and ageability, and is a style that is likely to only grow and grow. Grapes are concentrated around 25 towns or 'Castelli' that boast limestone, hillside vineyards with excellent sun exposure and influence from the nearby Adriatic. Verdicchio is capable of piercing freshness as well as incredible complexity and ageability, and all of these traits are on display in our offerings here, some of the best white wine values in Italy.

Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi Classico Riserva 'Passolento', La Marca di S. Michele, 2017 — 70
The Riservas of Castelli di Jesi Verdicchio is DOCG, must be aged a minimum of 18 months, and with 'Passolento', this estate's top bottling, is aged 8 months in 10-hl Slavonian oak barrels and delivers incredible poise, complexity, and texture.

Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi Classico Superiore 'Kypra', Ca' Liptra, 2023 — 59
A stunning wine, combining the mineral freshness of the Castelli di Jesi DOC with a floral elegance in the style of Burgundy; from the estate's best vineyards, 40 to 50 year-old vines, refined in cement tanks. Excellent pairing with cheese and John Coltrane.

Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi Classico Superiore, Villa Bucci, 2024 — 48
Forty year-old vines from limestone-rich clay soils produce a Verdicchio of dazzling elegance, freshness, and complexity.

Pecorino, Ville Le Querce, 2024 — 42
Fragrant and fruity Pecorino from the Falerio DOC, aged in cement to retain the grape's friendly, crisp character.

ABRUZZO

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo Vigneto di Popoli, Valle Reale, 2021 — 85
An eye-popping single-vineyard expression aged in stainless steel for 18 months using wild yeasts, from a small, family-owned winery. The vineyard, Popoli, is situated in front of an old Benedictine cellar and produces grapes of clarity, intensity, grace.

Trebbiano d'Abruzzo, Gran Sasso, 2024 — 39
Gran Sasso is the name of this winery as well as Abruzzo's most famous mountain that shields the vines from cold, Apennine winds but allows in just enough to keep the grapes from overripening in the hot summer months; fresh, citrusy, bright.

Pecorino d'Abruzzo Superiore 'La Canaglia', Fontefico, 2023 — 53
From the Terre di Chieti subregion of the Abruzzo DOC, this comes from the Vigna Bianca plot, just 1 kilometre from the sea, and lights up the palate with vivid minerality and a zing of acidity and that seems to reverberate; 48 hours on the skins, 6 months on the lees.

CAMPANIA

Fiano di Avellino Pietramara, I Favati, 2022 — 57
A lively, nutty, single-vineyard expression of one of the great white wines of Italy from one of the great producers in Campania. A short maceration on the lees but no extended aging. Exquisite mouthfeel, a touch of florals, elegant as hell, from high-elevation vineyards.

Greco di Tufo Terrantica, I Favati, 2022 — 61
Tufo is the name of the soil composed of volcanic ash from the Vesuvius (and other) eruptions compacted over time. Six months lees aging; a fruity, smoky, peppery, minerally single-vineyard expression.

Falanghina Beneventano, Cantina Sanpaolo, 2023 — 44
Vines for this indigenous grape come from the lower-lying hills of Beneventano, where weather is warmer and drier, providing some punch to Falanghina's natural crisp, citrusy, minerally side. Six months' aging in steel on fine lees.

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ITALIAN W'HITE

BASILICATA

PRICE

Il Preliminare, Cantine del Notaio, 2021 — 50
A medium-bodied white blend from a region and IGT, Basilicata, more known for its reds: 30% Aglianico grapes (a red) are pressed off the skins and accompanied by 30% Chardonnay, 20% Malvasia Bianca, 20% Moscato.

PUGLIA

Verdeca 'Talo', San Marzano, 2023 — 38
My cat, Bucket, reminds me of Verdeca: chill, playful, full of energy, a little mysterious, expresses itself to you on its own terms, and absolutely loves fish. To add some personality, the wine rests for 3 months in barrel.

CALABRIA

Pecorello, Ippolito 1845, 2024 — 44
Pecorello is native to Calabria, the southernmost point of mainland Italy, and produces distinctly fruity, exotic, and minerally wines and you can just, just, get a whiff of the nearby Ionian Sea.

SARDEGNA

Vermentino di Gallura Superiore, Sella & Mosca, 2023 — 48
From the only DOCG on Sardinia, replete with the granite soils unique to the area; this is an enticing, suave rendition of Vermentino with an impeccable mouthfeel and zing of acidity, lending freshness to the fruity, aromatic core.

SICILIA

Chardonnay, Planeta, 2024 — 77
An apex and now legendary Chardonnay: 40% new oak, 30% second-use, 30% third-use. Sensual, deep, luxurious stuff from the shores of Lake Menfi.

Grillo, Vigneti Zabu', 2025 — 36
Good luck finding a Trattoria anywhere on the island that doesn't have an option for this indigenous, fruity, medium-bodied white.

Sauvignon Blanc 'Urra di Mare', Mandrarossa 2024 — 50
From clay-limestone soils a stone's throw from the sea, this is coastal, minerally, fully ripe Sauvignon Blanc as only Sicily could produce. Urra di Mare is a reference to the vineyard area of Menfi, within the larger Sicilia DOC, right off the shores of the Mediterranean.

MOUNT ETNA

Etna Bianco 'Aedes', I Custodi, 2023 — 62
Fruit from 10 year-old bush vines, aged in stainless steel, remarkable concentration: smoke, minerals, zest, delicate acidity.

Etna Bianco Contrada Taccione, Planeta, 2022 — 51
Grapes come from a single Contrada, the Etna equivalent to a'cru', and is finished in 20% new oak, adding a subtle touch of body and flavour to the typicity of Etna's smokiness, minerality, pepper, acidity.

Etna Bianco Superiore Contrada Caselle 'Imbris', I Custodi, 2021 — 81
There's a real Burgundian poise and elegance to this gorgeous bottling, sourced at 900 metres in Milo, and aged for two years on lees, in steel, and another two years of refinement in bottle. Herbs, flowers, pepper spice, wool, ash, bliss.

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W'ORLD RED

FRANCE

PRICE

BURGUNDY

You will see the influence of Burgundy throughout this wine list: it was Cistercian monks in the 1300s that first discovered that wine made in the same way with the same grapes tasted different if they came from a different vineyard. Those monks measured out some of the most reliable vineyards in the world, and to this day, Burgundians rank the quality of their vineyards based in large part on what these monastic farmers measured out centuries ago. Monks really know their booze.

La Tâche Grand Cru, Domaine de la Romanée-Conti, 1970 3,950
Well, here we are. There's not much to be said here that hasn't already been said about this winery, probably the most renowned in the world, or this vineyard, La Tâche, owned entirely by the Domaine and the largest of their vineyards at 6.06 HA. It is slightly higher in elevation than Romanée-Conti - the other monopole of the Domaine and the only other vineyard in Burgundy/the world that could compete in terms of fame and complete deliciousness - which gives wines from La Tâche a particularly robust structure and ageability. The 1970 vintage started out cool but warmed up into the fall, ensuring a long growing season, and La Tâche was listed by Decanter as being one of the wines from the region to be 'very good' in the long-term from an otherwise challenging growing season. Perhaps the peak of red Burgundy, an experience, a lifetime wine.

Pommard Premier Cru Clos Micault, Heritiers de Baudricourt, 2009* 116
Wine of substance as well as finesse, delicacy as well as power, as only a mid-aged Pommard could do. Eighteen months aging in French barriques, 30% of which was new barrel. Gorgeous.

Morgon 'Côte du Py', Jean-Marc Burgaud, 2024* 61
From eight hectares of blue, disintegrated schist from the Côte du Py hill, Gamay grapes get the royal treatment from one of the top producers in Morgon. Whole-bunch fermentation, bottling in the spring: pepper, minerals, bramble, a deep, serious expression.

RHÔNE VALLEY

Cornas La Sabarotte, Domaine Courbis, 2006* 134
Imagine a wine with a flavour profile of dark fruits, minerality, cured meat, smoke, flowers, blood, pepper, spice. All in the same wine! That is Syrah from Cornas. This 2006 is a single-vineyard bottling by Courbis, one of the most hallowed of Cornas producers; 70% was aged in oak, 30% of which was new.

Hermitage Les Dionnières, Fayolle Fils & Fille, 2014* 89
Syrah grapes for this wine come from 70 year-old vines from the lieu-dit Dionnières, a site rich in granite that lends a remarkable mineral quality to go with Syrah's other benchmarks: pepper, dark fruits, spice, and aged one year in barrel.

Châteauneuf-du-Pape 'Les Cailloux', André Brunel, 2022* 96
The low yields harmonise with the stony soils of the Cailloux vines here with beautiful effect, winemaker Fabrice Brunel crafting a balanced style not often achieved in this region. The blend of 65% Grenache, 17% Mourvedre, 10% Syrah, and 3% Cinsault is aged 18 months in French tonneaux.

Châteauneuf-du-Pape, Château de Beaucastel, 2007* 150
The Perrin family's top bottling, a blend that uses all 18 permitted grapes in the AOC (30% Mourvedre, 30% Grenache, 10% Syrah, 10% Counoise, 5% Cinsault, 15% covering the other varietals), all of them vinified and aged separately before being blended and finished in large oak foudres for a year.

Gigondas La Colline, Domaine des Bosquets, 2022* 83
La Colline is on a slope of the Dentelles de Montmirail range that shapes so much of the terroir of this excellent estate, exposing grapes to the sun and cooling winds. 100% Grenache and a just beautiful, site-driven expression with florals, red fruits, and sun.

Vacqueyras 'Cuvée Saint Roch', Domaine le Clos des Cazaux, 2021* 66
An old vine (30 - 60 years old) blend of 70% Grenache, 25% Syrah, and 5% Mourvedre, sourced from the estate's clay-limestone marls and aged 18 months strictly in cement; all purity and stones and sense of place here. Soul-warming stuff.

*ALL VINTAGES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE; ASK YOUR SERVER OR SOMMELIER ABOUT CURRENT AVAILABILITY.

W'ORLD RED

FRANCE (CONT.)

PRICE

BORDEAUX

Saint-Julien Troisième Cru Classé, Château Langoa-Barton, 2006* 118
The elegance and savoury character of Saint-Julien is on full display in this classed growth blend of 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, and 5% Cabernet Franc, aged 18 months in a combination of new and used oak. Rich, complex, well-aged Bordeaux.

Margaux Deuxième Cru Classé, Château Lascombes, 1990* 190
This is why we play the game, for wines like this. 75% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot, 5% Petit Verdot, from one of the 14 estates awarded Deuxieme Cru status in the 1855 Classification of Medoc; a ridiculous wine, packing flavour upon flavour onto each sip, from fruits to minerals to herbs we've never even heard of, all delivered with aged Bordeaux's restrained power.

St.-Emilion, Château L'If, 2013* 104
From the same owner of the renowned Le Pin estate in Pomerol, Jacques Thienpont, this is his new operation based on the limestone soils of St.-Emilion and the seductive capacity of Merlot, 100% of this wine, aged 16 months in new and 2nd-use barrels.

CORSICA

Le Clos Rouge 'Clos Venturi', Domaine Vico, 2020* 77
It's hard to not include Corsican wine on an Italian-themed wine list - the former Italian territory is now politically part of France but the place names, and many of the grapes, are of Italian origin, including those used for this stunning, meaty, complex yet elegant blend, partially whole-bunch fermented and aged for 18 months in 40-hl barrels after a 45-day maceration of 70% Sciaccarellu (Tuscany's 'Mammolo'), 20% Niellucciu (local term for Sangiovese), and 10% Carcaghjolu.

SPAIN

Rioja Gran Reserva, Bodegas Ondarre, 2019* 62
From clay-limestone soils at 400 metres above sea level, this Tempranillo (with 10% Mazuelo) was aged 5 years in total, including 28 months in barrel on its lees, with regular bâtonnage.

Rioja Reserva 'Torre de Oña', Finca Martelo, 2016* 75
Listen, I know this isn't a Gran Reserva, but this is truly special, stunningly polished Rioja, 95% Tempranillo and touches of the other indigenous Rioja grapes (Mazuelo, Graciano, Garnacha) sourced from 60-80 year-old vines and aged 2 years in oak, bringing class, complexity, elegance, and still all the mouthfeel you could ever crave from top-grade Rioja.

GREECE

Goumenissa, Mikro Ktima Titos, 2022* 63
Sexy stuff, this, an indigenous blend of 70% Xinmavro and 30% Negoska, sourced from the sandy-clay soils of Fyliria in the renowned Goumenissa PDO, an elegant, savoury, structured style of wine that should be more well-known than it is.

ARGENTINA

Malbec 'Selección de la Familia', Humberto Canale, 2023* 58
Equal parts fruity and spicy, with Malbec's bewitching ability to combine red and dark fruit flavours, this is layered, full-bodied stuff and the estate's top bottling, from high-elevation vineyards in Patagonia, aged for 12 months in French and American oak.

NEW ZEALAND

Pinot Noir, Wild Earth, 2021* 69
From the southernmost wine region in the world, Central Otago brings a stunning floral, herbal side to Pinot Noir; this example by Wild Earth captivates with its fruit, minerality, and cool-climate acidity.

*ALL VINTAGES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE; ASK YOUR SERVER OR SOMMELIER ABOUT CURRENT AVAILABILITY.

ITALIAN RED

PIEMONTE

PRICE

BAROLO

There is just no red wine like Barolo, a spellbinding wine that combines a light to medium-bodied weight with balanced yet serious structure, tannins & acidity that together deliver a bonkers mouthfeel while also demanding that it be served with food or, at least, a little contemplation. Barolo famously, as well as its Barbaresco counterpart over the hill (& on the next page), has been legally divided into individual vineyards ('cru' is the commonly used but unofficial term), all of which will appear on the label if all of the grapes in the wine come from that cru, resulting in hundreds of distinct & delicious expressions of the noble Nebbiolo grape, capable of incredible complexity, elegance, & awe.

Barolo Cascina Francia, Giacomo Conterno, 2018* 410
Conterno is a wizard with Nebbiolo & his Monfortino is one of the most famous Barolos ever produced, but in 2018 he decided to forego the Monfortino & instead blended those barrels in with his Cascina Francia. A special bottling, & a special wine.

Barolo Cannubi, Giacomo Brezza, 2020* 108
The 'Grand Cru' of Barolo is widely considered to be Cannubi, Piemonte's most famous vineyard that sits smack in the heart of the Barolo zone, the surrounding hills shielding it from extreme weather & allowing the grapes to reach optimal ripeness & complexity with a long, peaceful growing season. From a traditional producer, Brezza: elegant, approachable, ravishing.

Barolo Vigna La Rosa, Fontanafredda, 2021* 140
You have to walk the plot of La Rosa - an awe-inducing amphitheatrical subplot of the Fontanafredda MGA - to find the wildflower that gives its distinctive, spicy aroma to this, one of my favourite notes I've ever found in a wine. Aged 24 months in French botti.

Barolo Vigna Le Rocche Riserva, Bruno Giacosa, 2001* 1,800
A wine only made in the very best of vintages & that regularly competes as the best of Italy, Le Rocche is the top wine from one of the region's top wizards, Giacosa, from one of the most valued sites in Serralunga d'Alba, whose reputationally high tannins help ensure a long life, which is just what this iconic wine was designed for, aged entirely in large, untoasted botti for three years.

Barolo Coste di Rose, G.D. Vajra, 2021* 122
A gorgeous nose transports you right to the commune of Barolo, where this prized cru originates, located beside the legendary Cannubi cru & right below a forest, which moderates temperature & ensures slow, even ripening. Fragrant & poised.

Barolo Cannubi, E. Pira & Figli, 2016* 290
Winemaker Chiara Boschis purchased this winery in 1990 & has proceeded to establish herself as one of Barolo's best. Her 0.7 hectare plot in the Cannubi 'grand cru' is complex & poised, delivered with Barolo's typical teeter-totter of power with finesse.

Barolo Cannubi Riserva, Gianni Gagliardo, 2004* 198
A refined, delicate treatment of Barolo's most esteemed cru, Cannubi, aged for six years in large Slavonian oak & then finished in bottle another six months. The expression here is less of power & more of finesse, perfume, & elegance.

Barolo Parussi, Massolino, 2020* 174
Massolino is one of those producers with an esteemed reputation across the Langhe & makes a strong argument for such high regard with this Parussi cru, which wears the Massolino badge of power, balance, & a staggering panoply of flavour.

Barolo, Fratelli Oddero, 1967* 390
From a time when the Cru system as it is today didn't even exist, & when fully-ripened Barolo could clock in at 13.5% ABV, Oddero wines are famously age-worthy, & this comes from the 5-star 1967 vintage, one of the best of the century in Barolo.

Barolo 'Undicicommuni', Arnaldo Rivera, 2013* 86
A blend of grapes coming from each of the eleven communes ('undici comuni' in Italian) that constitute the Barolo zone, a collaborative effort of many farmers coming together, the fullness of the Barolo zone in one bottling.

Barolo Bussia Riserva 'Costa di Bussia', Tenuta Arnulfo, 2019* 94
Bussia is the second-largest cru in the region at 340 hectares, so it has many expressions, here with an added layer of body & complexity with the extra year of Riserva aging: 36 months in Slavonian oak, then two years in bottle. Layered & beautiful stuff.

Barolo Vigna Rionda, Luigi Oddero, 2004* 155
A refined, herbal Barolo from one of the most historic properties in Barolo - note the 1967 'Fratelli Oddero' above - aged for 40 months in 30 & 50-hl Slavonian casks, taming the tannins of Serralunga d'Alba & delivering layer upon layer of flavour.

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ITALIAN RED

PIEMONTE (CONT.)

PRICE

BAROLO

Barolo Monprivato, Giuseppe Mascarello, 1999* 480
One of the top sites in Castiglione Falletto, Monprivato is only bottled by Mascarello in the best vintages & here crafted one of the highest-rated Barolos of the last decades, concentrating all the best fruit from the plot & aging it 30 months in Slavonian oak.

Barolo Riserva, Giacomo Borgogno, 1973* 330
A legendary name, crafting age-worthy wines since the 1700s, Borgogno is the longest continually-running winery in Barolo. Their Riserva receives traditional treatment, aging only in large-format Slavonian oak barrels, with hypnotically elegant results.

BARBARESCO

Only twenty kilometres from the village of Barolo lies the town of Barbaresco, on the other side of Alba, where the hills don't reach quite as high & so are a bit warmer, & the soils a bit more fertile, meaning the grapes don't experience as much stress, the growing season a bit shorter. The wines that result from this environment don't have the tannic bite or power of Barolo, & so Barbaresco DOCG's reputation was set in place as being the more elegant, approachable style of Nebbiolo, but still perfectly capable of going toe-to-toe in terms of complexity, flavour profile, & that inescapable wow factor that well-made Nebbiolo induces from its drinkers. Barbaresco also abides by the cru system, so vineyard names will occur after the village name, no small number of them considered among the best single-site vineyards in Italy.

Barbaresco Sorì San Lorenzo, Angelo Gaja, 1986* 470
In the world of Barbaresco, there is no name that has reached the heights of Angelo Gaja, & it shows in the bottles on offer here, starting with one of the most famous vineyards he works, Sorì San Lorenzo, released in 1967 & the first single-vineyard Barbaresco ever produced, a south-facing amphitheatre packed with pedigree, awe, & grace.

Barbaresco Asili Riserva, Bruno Giacosa, 2014* 520
Asili is widely considered the top MGA in Barbaresco - the hill it sits on is undulating, protected from weather extremes, & has a blue calcareous sandy marl composition unique in the region - but the real star here is the 'Genius of Neive', Bruno Giacosa, one of the pioneers of single-site Barbaresco; their Riserva is aged for 20 months in untoasted barrel, delivering complex, iconic fruit.

Barbaresco, Angelo Gaja, 2019* 340
You know that scene in Gladiator when Juba, Maximus's friend, first sees the Colosseum & says, 'I did not know man could build such things?' That is how I feel when I drink this wine, a blend of Gaja's best sites, aged one year in barrique, one year botti.

Barbaresco Rabaja, Bruno Rocca, 2020* 190
Rabaja is one of the most esteemed crus in the Barbaresco zone, with a soil combining clay, limestone, tuff, & marl, resulting in a wine similarly layered & multifaceted, yet woven together with such grace & seamlessness as only the Rocca family can do.

Barbaresco Roncaglie Riserva, Socré, 2015 120
The estate's most prized cru, Roncaglie, given an extra dose of aging, from the excellent, & warm, 2015 vintage. The extra year in barrel pushes this on the rich side of Barbaresco yet it's laced with savoury freshness, like tinsel across a Christmas tree.

Barbaresco Baluchin Riserva, Cocito, 2013* 135
Sourced from the highest part of Bric Micca, a cru of clay-sandy soils, so the cool climate from this high-elevation site lends a taut, precise acidity to complement the 22 months aging in oak, 10% of which was new barrel. Exquisite now & with room to grow.

Barbaresco Ovello, Cascina Morassino, 2021* 99
This is classic Barbaresco – spice, finesse, red fruits, flowers – with an extra dose of body lent to it by the high proportion of clay found in the soil of Ovello, one of the top crus in Barbaresco, & it doesn't hurt to have the pedigreed hand of Morassino behind it all.

Barbaresco, Socré, 2019* 84
Socré was founded as a winery in 1869, continues to be run within the same family, & have been sculpting wines of elegance, complexity, & precision now for over 150 years. This is a blend of their estate grapes & is properly hitting its stride.

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ITALIAN RED

PIEMONTE (CONT.)

PRICE

ALTO PIEMONTE

Gattinara, Giacomo Conterno-Nervi, 2017 — 98
Roberto Conterno purchased Gattinara DOCG's most famous estate, Nervi, in 2018 to capitalise on the cooler, volcanic vines of Nebbiolo. Conterno usually bottles his individual vineyards but in 2017 he decided to combine them all, so this punches above its normal weight. Cracking value.

Ghemme, Paride Chiovini, 2017 — 85
Just across the river from Gattinara lies the district of Ghemme, whose hills are of alluvial origin and produce a style of Spanna in a brighter, herbal, more ethereal style. Aged 18 months in 5-hl French tonneaux.

LANGHE, MONFERRATO

Langhe Nebbiolo, Ernesto Molino, 2024 — 59
This is an enticingly elegant rendition of the remarkable Nebbiolo grape, given one year aging in barrel: finesse and complexity.

Nebbiolo d'Alba Vigna Santa Rosalia, Giacomo Brezza, 2023 — 69
From a 1.2 hectare, west-facing plot, the potpourri on this wine is just ridiculous, a gorgeous array of florals, leather, and red fruits, aged for 12 months in large Slavonian oak barrels.

Barbera di Nizza 'Bansella', Prunotto, 2022 — 74
A stunning single-vineyard expression of Barbera from Nizza, where the vineyards are hillier and have higher concentrations of sand. Nine months' aging in French oak barrels.

Barbera d'Asti Superiore 'Magister', Cantine di Nizza, 2023 — 49
Barbera as its fullest, darkest, fruitiest self. In Alba, the best sites are devoted to Nebbiolo, but in Asti, this privilege belongs to Barbera and is part of the reason Barbera d'Asti is a DOCG. From calcareous clay soils and prime south-facing slopes.

Barbera d'Alba, Eraldo Viberti, 2019 — 67
Excellent Barbera for its depth, full body, and layers of flavour; from the Alba district and DOC, where Barbera is typically more structured and masculine, this is a cracking mix of savoury backbone with Barbera's signature dark fruits.

Barbera d'Alba Vigna Francia, Giacomo Conterno, 2013 — 138
Most of the best plots in Barolo are planted to Nebbiolo, but Conterno releases several Barbera's from these cherished sites, none more dazzlingly potent, elegant, or nuanced than this from the Francia cru in Serralunga, aged 20 months in large botti.

Dolcetto d'Alba Bricco Bastia, Conterno Fantino, 2022 — 52
Dolcetto is what Piemontese winemakers drink when they're not making Barolo; round, supple, fruity, entirely satisfying. This is a lush, single-vineyard bottling, accented by florals and a lovely, soft acidity.

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ITALIAN RED

TOSCANA

PRICE

CHIANTI

Chianti is divided into nine subzones, the most famous of which is Chianti Classico, the central, older, and hillier subzones, where loads of those ridiculously romantic photos of cypress-lined roads come from. Here the Albarese soil, limestone and clay, contributes acidity and structure, so there is freshness with its rustic, countryside frame. The quintessential wine of Tuscany and the most legendary Sangiovese worldwide.

Chianti Riserva, Bonacchi, 2021 48
A lovely, layered introduction to the endless wonders of Chianti, 100% Sangiovese aged for two years in barrel.

Chianti Classico Riserva, Castello di Meleto, 2021 65
Imagine a Tuscan hillside with wildflowers all around and an ancient clay pot sticking out of the red, iron-laced dirt nearby, wild tomato vines trying to sprout. That is this wine. Includes 5% Merlot, but it's the Sangiovese that sings: 20 months in 54 hl barrels and concrete.

Chianti Rufina Riserva Vigneto Bucerchiale, Selvapiana, 2022 73
If Chianti Classico is the popular older sibling that gets all the attention, Rufina is the less outgoing younger sibling that's wildly compelling when given the chance to shine. The smallest and coolest of the Chianti subzones, this is an elegant effort from the estate's prized cru: finesse, fragrance, freshness.

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione 'Monna Lisa', Vignamaggio, 2019 84
Aged 30 months in a combination of small French and large Slavonian oak barrels, this is 100% Sangiovese and Vignamaggio's top bottling, displaying wonderful concentration, power, intensity, with this gorgeous, feral edginess to it.

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Castellina 'Le Prese', Sergio Zingarelli, 2020 97
It is hard to imagine a more quintessential, delicious, or awe-inducing expression of the Chianti hills than what the Zingarelli family have crafted here from the Le Prese plot on their Rocca delle Macie estate. A 31-day maceration is followed by 20 months aging in 25-hl French barrels, refined in bottle a further 18 months, and comes flying out of the gate with flavour, pomp, and elegance.

MONTEPULCIANO

Renaissance-era nobility adored the wines of Montepulciano so much that they requested that plantings of the grape – a biotype of Sangiovese known as Prugnolo Gentile – be increased, so the grape was planted in the Peligna Valley in Abruzzo, where local farmers referred to it as 'that Montepulciano grape' and the moniker stuck, resulting in the mass confusion, to this day, between the wines of the Montepulciano grape in Abruzzo and the wines of the Montepulciano town in Tuscany, one of the great DOCGs for Sangiovese in Italy. Once you account for the unlucky name, however, what you get is a more aromatic and rounded style of Sangiovese, coupled with extraordinary aromatics, balance, and depth. Wine fit for a king, it turns out.

Vino Nobile di Montepulciano, Tenuta Valdipiatta, 2021 73
One of those wines they should make a candle out of. Prugnolo Gentile with 15% Canaiolo and aged 18 months in barrel.

Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Vigna d'Alfiero, Tenuta Valdipiatta, 2020 87
From the estate's most treasure vineyard, planted in the 1960s and produced only in exceptional years, 100% Prugnolo Gentile macerated for 4 weeks, aged for 18 months in large barrels, and refined in bottle another year.

Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva, Il Macchione, 2017 106
Pure Sangiovese glory here, 100% Prugnolo Gentile aged for 36 months in large barrels that seem to only help the Sangiovese along towards what it does best: savoury, complex, meaty power reined in by Tuscan rusticity and finesse.

*ALL VINTAGES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE; ASK YOUR SERVER OR SOMMELIER ABOUT CURRENT AVAILABILITY.

ITALIAN RED

TOSCANA (CONT.)

PRICE

MONTALCINO

Montalcino is a walled town sitting on the precipice of a hill - no small metaphor - ringed by higher concentrations of limestone than surrounding regions, and protected by the Monte Amiata range to the southeast. These geographical factors, plus the thicker skins of this indomitable clone of Sangiovese, combine to make Brunello di Montalcino DOCG a richly flavoured tour de force that beckons us to slow down and notice the many things it can do to our palates, capable of aging as well as wowing us right now.

Brunello di Montalcino, Canalicchio di Sopra, 2019* 144
A bombastic and beautiful Brunello from one of the most exciting estates in the region. Four-week maceration and 36 months aging in Slavonian oak doles out red fruit, savoury nuance, and a stunning level of elegance.

Brunello di Montalcino Riserva, Conti Costanti, 2012* 270
Andrea Costanti only produces his 'Riserva' in select vintages, a cuvée based on the oldest and best vines on the estate, aged 4 years, two in French barriques and two in Slovenian cask, delivering staggering levels of complexity and finesse.

Brunello di Montalcino Riserva, Biondi-Santi, 2010* 780
It was Feruccio Biondi Santi who isolated & bottled a clone of the Sangiovese grape in 1888 that would become known as 'Brunello', & it is his family's fiery, elegant, & structured rendition that continues to set the benchmark. Grapes for the Riserva come strictly from vines over 25 years old, from their own clone, & aged 6 years, 3 in Slavonian botti.

Brunello di Montalcino Riserva 'Pian di Conte', Talenti, 2016* 210
Riccardo Talenti's top bottling, made only in exceptional vintages, and using grapes from the estate's oldest, highest-elevation vines on sandy, stony soils. Six years' aging includes 2 years in large barrel, combining French tonneaux with 15-25 hl Slavonian botti.

Brunello di Montalcino Riserva Vigna Paganelli, Il Poggione, 2010 188
Grapes for this come from the estate's oldest plot, Paganelli, planted in 1964, so you get old-vine concentration, the power of the vintage, and the aromatics and stuffing that always reliably come from Il Poggione bottlings. Aged 4 years in French botti.

Brunello di Montalcino, Ridolfi, 2018* 120
The Ridolfi estate, dating back to 1290, did not bottle a Riserva in 2018, so all the best grapes went into this wine, macerated for 60 days and then aged 36 months in large Slavonian botti, finished in bottle one year. Herbal, spicy, red fruited, aromatic.

Brunello di Montalcino, Lisini, 2016* 164
A finessed, almost Burgundian style of Brunello from the stalwart hands of winemaker Alessandro Margioni, who incorporates a long, gentle maceration at low temperatures, fermentation in cement, and 42 months aging in large cask.

Brunello di Montalcino, Poggio di Sotto, 2019* 360
One of the legendary estates of the region, winemaker Luca Marrone delivers all the Mediterranean goods from vines aided by the cooling winds of Mount Amiata; elegant, vivid, radical stuff, produced classically and aged 3 years in 30 hl casks.

Brunello di Montalcino, Il Poggione, 2021* 104
One of my favourite producers – Poggione always manages to combine pristine elegance and restraint with the wild, powerful character of Brunello. This has impeccable structure, concentration, spice, the whole package.

Brunello di Montalcino Riserva, San Polino, 2012 170
A deep, resonant wine with fifty-four months' total aging in barrel, six of which was in barrique and the rest in large Slavonian, after an eight-week maceration, from a south-facing plot riddled with volcanic sand. All power and density here.

Rosso di Montalcino, Canalicchio di Sopra, 2023 67
From the same Brunello grapes as its older, more famous siblings above, but from younger vines and without as much aging, yet still bringing plenty of that Sangiovese Grosso character, this 'Baby Brunello' is open and lush and from a top, traditional producer.

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ITALIAN RED

TOSCANA (CONT.)

PRICE

MAREMMA

Morellino di Scansano, Fattoria di Magliano, 2020 — 49
Morellino is the local term in Maremma for Sangiovese, and is a DOCG when Sangiovese comprises at least 85% of the blend, in this case 95% plus 5% Merlot, and benefits from nearby Tyrrhenian sea breezes. Six months aging in cement.

CARMIGNANO

Carmignano 'Villa di Capezzana', Capezzana, 2021 — 71
The power and tannins of Cabernet Sauvignon combine with the savoury spine of Sangiovese in this full-bodied, historic blend, a DOCG that was the very first appellation in all of Italy allowed, by law, to blend in Cabernet.

ELBA

Elba Rosso Riserva 'Ginevra', Tenuta La Chiusa, 2019 — 62
Yes, even the tiny island of Elba, just off Tuscany's coast, produces wine. This is a fine, herbal, red-fruited Riserva, 60% Sangiovese and 40% Merlot, from vines near sea-level on clay soils. One year aging in barriques, one year refinement in bottle.

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ITALIAN RED

TOSCANA (CONT.)

PRICE

BOLGHERI & 'SUPER TUSCANS'

Sassicaia, Tenuta San Guido, 2006* 490
Sassicaia was initially categorised 'Vino da Tavola', & now it's the only wine in Italy to have its own DOC: Bolgheri Sassicaia DOC. 85% Cabernet Sauvignon & 15% Cabernet Franc of dark, intense, shockingly coherent & balanced wine, from rocky, gravelly soils very similar to Bordeaux, on which the blend is based. An experience, & slice of history.

Ornellaia, Tenuta dell'Ornellaia, 1999* 510
Piero Antinori's brother, Ludovico, set out in 1985 on his own project & created a blockbuster: Ornellaia, produced in Bolgheri DOC, along the coast. The 1999 is 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Franc, & they combine in what is a stunningly complete, full-bodied masterclass in concentration of flavour, in harnessing of structure & aromatics into one sip.

Tignanello, Marchesi Antinori, 2016* 310
From winemaker Giacomo Tachis (who also made Sassicaia), Tignanello was the first Sangiovese to be aged in barriques, the first red wine in Chianti that didn't use white grapes; Tignanello is a benchmark. 80% Sangiovese, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon, & 5% Cabernet Franc in a wildly complex wine, combining finesse & Sangiovese's savoury feral side with dark, brooding fruits.

Solaia, Marchesi Antinori, 2003* 680
During the 1978 harvest, Antinori had a surplus of Cabernet Sauvignon grapes leftover from making Tignanello (see above entry), so decided to bottle them on their own. He called this wine Solaia, which has become one of the most sought-after bottlings on the planet; 75% Cabernet, 20% Sangiovese, 5% Cabernet Franc: herbs & tobacco & power & dark, luscious fruits.

Guidalberto, Tenuta San Guido, 2019* 145
The second label of the estate responsible for Sassicaia, wine of legends, this is a serious Bordeaux blend of 60% Cabernet Sauvignon & 40% Merlot, kissed with Tyrrhenian mists & 15 months of oak aging, mostly French but also 20% American.

Poggio al Lupo, Tenuta Sette Ponti, 2004* 170
An exotic, complex wine based primarily on Cabernet Sauvignon with support from Alicante & Petit Verdot from Maremma DOC, near the coast, which provides the acidity to support this bold, aged, funky, full-bodied beast.

'Caiarossa', Caiarossa, 2016* 130
A wine that combines tradition, innovation, & the exotic. Seven varietals - 42% Cabernet Franc, 25% Merlot, 15% Syrah, 6% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Petit Verdot, 5% Sangiovese, & 1% Alicante - are vinified & aged separately for 20 months in French tonneaux, then blended & finished for six months in concrete. A dizzying array of texture, flavour, style.

Carnasciale, Podere Il Carnasciale, 2013* 108
Have you ever heard of 'Caberlot'? I hadn't either. It's a legit grape, a crossing of Cabernet Franc & Merlot, & combines their qualities beautifully in this intensely, concentrated wine, which leans a bit Cab Franc in terms of flavour. Magnificent at this age.

Cabernet Sauvignon 'Farnito', Carpineto, 2020* 79
Cabernet grapes are sourced in the Chianti region & you can feel its touch in this otherwise classic Cab Sauv, aged for 18 months in French & American oak & generous in its gifts of red & dark fruits, spice, leather, & structure to last.

Il Seggio, Poggio al Tesoro, 2023 68
A full, rich example of Bolgheri DOC, blending 50% Merlot, 20% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Cabernet Franc, & 10% Petit Verdot, from vines at sea level that are cooled by the Tyrrhenian, aged for 15 months in 30% new & 70% used Allier barriques.

Cepparello, Isole e Olena, 2015* 220
Iconic Sangiovese from the estate's best sites in Chianti, 400m in elevation on Galestro (a schist-clay soil), barrel-aged for 20 months, a third in new oak, a third in second-use, & a third in third-use, all after extensive délestage. 'Burgundy'-style Sangiovese: elegance, red fruits, minerality, flowers for days.

Flaccianello della Pieve, Fontodi, 2011* 290
Released in 1981 as the latest in a small yet increasingly famous group of rebels against the local DOC regulations, Flaccianello seeks, & achieves, as pure an interpretation of the noble Sangiovese grape as you're likely to find, aged 24 months in barrique, power combining with silk & energy & ageability.

*ALL VINTAGES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE; ASK YOUR SERVER OR SOMMELIER ABOUT CURRENT AVAILABILITY.

ITALIAN RED

VENETO

PRICE

Valpolicella Classico, David Sterza, 2024 — 42
All stainless-steel production highlights the beautiful flavours in this elegant blend of 70% Corvina, 15% Rondinella, 15% Molinara.

Valpolicella Classico Superiore Terre di Cariano, Cecilia Beretta, 2020 — 49
The best bunches from harvest are sorted for this wine, which then matures for 16 months in barrel, followed by 6 months in bottle. An exquisite mouthfeel to this, at this age sitting in a sweet spot. 60% Corvina, 20% Corvinone, 20% Rondinella.

Valpolicella Classico Superiore 'Il Velluto', Meroni, 2018 — 69
A special bottling from Saint'Ambrogio wherein the grapes are dried for 30 days after harvest, essentially making it a 'Baby Amarone', yet striking in its classy, exotic delivery of flavours. 30% Corvina, 30% Corvinone, 30% Rondinella, 10% Molinara.

Valpolicella Ripasso Superiore 'Maciòn', La Collina dei Ciliegi, 2022 — 57
The vines here are the highest in Valpantena, with a growing season one month longer than the valley floor, lending grapes higher in aromatic complexity. Ten-days in Amarone & Recioto pomace, 12 months in tonneau. 70% Corvina, 25% Corvinone, 5% Rondinella.

Valpolicella Ripasso Classico Superiore, Carlo Meroni, 2021 — 75
Fifteen-day re-fermentation on Amarone & Recioto pomace & 30 months' aging in 20-hl Slavonian oak barrels produce an elegant, concentrated expression of this famous wine. 30% Corvina, 30% Corvinone, 30% Rondinella, & 10% Molinara.

AMARONE DELLA VALPOLICELLA

Amarone della Valpolicella Classico, Giuseppe Quintarelli, 2017 — 580
The top name in Amarone, 'Bepe' Quintarelli passed away in 2012 but his daughter, Fiorenza, has continued her father's evocative, dazzling attention to detail & quality in their now legendary Amarone, only bottled in the best vintages & aged seven years in large barrel, utilising an astonishing array of grapes that include the usual Valpolicella suspects in Corvina, Corvinone, Rondinella as well as Nebbiolo, Sangiovese, Cabernet, & Croatina.

Amarone della Valpolicella, Marion, 2019 — 130
Elegance & savoury nuance abound in this stunning rendition as only winemaker Stefano Campedelli could construct, emphasising the important Corvina grapes, which constitute 90% (50% Corvina, 40% Corvinone) of the blend, much higher than most cuvées in the region. Three years' aging in Slavonian botti.

Amarone della Valpolicella Classico, Venturini, 2019 — 108
Limestone soils provide freshness & minerality in this otherwise full-throttled wine, clocking in at 16.5% Vol. but still managing balance, complexity, energy. 70% Corvina, 25% Rondinella, 5% Molinara, aged two years in oak after a 90-day appassimento.

Amarone della Valpolicella, La Collina dei Ciliegi, 2020 — 96
A fragrant, spicy version by the Gianolli family who always strive to express their Veronese terroir, no simple feat with four months of appassimento, which precedes 24 months aging in French oak. 39% Corvina, 30% Corvinone, 31% Rondinella. 15% Vol.

Amarone della Valpolicella, Torre del Falasco, 2022 — 84
Corvina, Corvinone, & Rondinella grapes (85%, 10%, & 5% of the blend, respectively) are sourced from steep, chalky, terraced hillsides in Valpantena, then matured 18 months in barriques after a four-month appassimento.

TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE

Teroldego Rotaliano Superiore Riserva, Castel Firmian, 2022 — 47
Teroldego is a magical varietal, exhibiting many of the same traits as Syrah – of which it is a cousin – with its dark fruit, capacity for aging & complexity, & smooth structure. Two years' aging, one of which was in Allier oak barrels.

Pinot Nero Riserva 'St. Daniel', Colterenzio, 2022 — 64
Pinot Noir is not widely-planted in Italy, most of the peninsula being too hot, but it has found a cool-climate home in Trentino, & this is a beautifully constructed Riserva by one of the region's top producers; two years' aging, one in barrel & another in bottle.

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ITALIAN RED

LOMBARDIA

PRICE

If you were in my wine class, and I had to take you all a field trip to one place, it would be Valtellina. A DOCG of impossibly steep vineyards, UNESCO-listed stone walls holding the vined terraces together, donkeys carrying stones back up the mountain to replace the erosion, jagged mountain peaks in the distance, and loads of small, family wineries producing this elegant, alpine, textural expression of the Nebbiolo grape, locally known as Chiavennasca.

Valtellina Superiore Valgella Vigna Cà Morei, Sandro Fay, 2019 — 76
This is 'light-bodied' Nebbiolo, but with enough punch of tannins to remind you of what we're dealing with; 12 months aging in barrel, a single-vineyard expression from Fay's Cà Morei cru that remains one of my favourite values on this list.

Valtellina Superiore Valgella Vigna Carteria Riserva, Sandro Fay, 2019 — 94
From the finest cru in Fay's range, sitting at 500 metres elevation, Carteria is aged for 12 months in 30 hl oak casks and then another year in bottle. An enticing savoury flavour profile is supported by high-elevation acidity and pure, precise fruit.

FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA

Pinot Nero, Bressan, 2018 — 96
A bewitching and quite extraordinary expression as only the gifted hands of Fulvio Bressan could craft, macerating his Pinot Noir for 30 days, then aging it for three years in large-format barrels. Spice, pepper, herbs, charcoal, like you're standing next to his grill in the alpine foothills.

Schioppettino, Casali Roncali, 2023 — 59
Of the 500+ indigenous varietals of Italy, few are as exciting as Schioppettino, a grape capable of great complexity and elegance, all wonderfully captured in this peppery, light-bodied expression, aged 6 months, half in steel and half in used barrel after a gentle 10-day maceration.

LIGURIA

Rossese di Dolceacqua Superiore, Tenuta Anfosso, 2016 — 63
Dolceacqua is a quaint-as-you-like town near the Ligurian coast, famous for its old stone bridge, but it should be more famous for its wines. They're amazing, exhibiting herbs, flowers, minerals, meatiness, red fruits, a dazzling and elegant mouthfeel. Anfosso works some of the steepest slopes in the DOC, all facing the sea; 50% whole-bunch fermentation, one year aging in steel.

UMBRIA

Montefalco Rosso Vigna Flaminia-Maremmana, Arnaldo Caprai, 2023 — 58
Not quite a 'single' vineyard bottling but sourced from three plots located along Via Flaminia, an old road that connects Umbria with Maremma. An at once brooding yet refined Montefalco DOC blend of 70% Sangiovese, 15% Sagrantino, 15% Merlot.

Montefalco Sagrantino Colle Grimaldesco, Tabarrini, 2010 — 89
Sagrantino is the most hallowed grape of Umbria, and shows off all of its full-bodied, vivacious, and feral potential in the Montefalco Sagrantino DOCG bottlings that most estates in the area release. Tabarrini produces so many incredible single-vineyard versions that we have two: this one is the fuller-bodied, fruitier version.

Montefalco Sagrantino Vigna Campo alla Cerqua, Tabarrini, 2009 — 99
Sagrantino from Giampaolo Tabarrini's smallest vineyard, the calcareous Campo alla Cerqua, and probably his most refined. Drinking this is like watching a bear take a nap – you know there is power there, but it comes across so peacefully, so soothingly.

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ITALIAN RED

MARCHE

PRICE

Conero Riserva Grigiano, Malacari, 2016 — 84
Grigiano is the hill from which these Montepulciano grapes are sourced, 200 metres elevation, facing the Adriatic sea a stone's throw away on luscious limestone, just an amazing winegrowing area. Forty year-old vines, 20 months in barrel, a stunning effort.

Conero Riserva 'Cùmaro', Umani Ronchi, 2021 — 74
Cùmaro is a nod to the Greek name for the nearby Conero Mountain, after which this DOC is named. Montepulciano grapes are aged 14 months in oak and aided by proximity to the sea, lending its salty breezes. Power, dark fruits, herbs, oak spice.

Rosso Piceno Superiore, Franco Aurora, 2020 — 49
Rosso Piceno is a little-known DOC typically combining the local Montepulciano grape with Sangiovese, and in this case, a touch of Cabernet Sauvignon to boost colour and structure. Six months aging in large, used barrel.

Lacrima di Morro d'Alba, Velenosi, 2021 — 36
Lacrima di Morro is a red grape indigenous to Marche and just about the only place you'll find it. Lavender, dark fruits, freshness.

ABRUZZO

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Riserva Villa Gemma, Gianni Masciarelli, 2018 — 140
Masciarelli's top bottling which has received somewhat of a cult status, this is low-yield Montepulciano grapes as they were meant to be. Thirty-day maceration in oak barrels lends plenty of power and flavour that is then tempered and layered by 18 months' aging in barrel followed by another 24 months in bottle. A stunning mouthfeel, concentration, a long, lingering finish.

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Vigneto Sant'Eusanio, Valle Reale, 2020 — 72
*Stainless steel fermentation and aging (one year), from a single vineyard delightfully buried in a pine forest not far from the coast and at 500 metres, this remarkable bottling showcases a less showy but suave side to Montepulciano, like that kid in secondary school who was popular *and* volunteered at the old folks' home on the weekends.*

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Colline Teramane, Gran Sasso, 2022 — 57
A superlative wine by most measurements: high ripeness and high alcohol meet two years' aging in oak: chocolatey, fruity, rich.

Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, Gianni Masciarelli, 2021 — 49
That the same winemaker is responsible for the Villa Gemma bottling, above, as this one just goes to show the remarkable range on hand in the Masciarelli lab. This is all stainless-steel production, showing the herbal, savoury, red-fruited side to this remarkable grape.

MOLISE

Biferno Rosso, Palladino, 2019 — 35
A deep, dark, earthy, delectably satisfying combination of 70% Montepulciano and 30% Aglianico, a blend typical of the Biferno DOC located along the river of the same name; aged 18 months in large oak barrels and then for 18 months in stainless steel.

BASILICATA

Aglianico del Vulture, Donato d'Angelo, 2020 — 60
From a small estate sitting at 500m in elevation with exposed volcanic soils from Mount Vulture - an extinct volcano from which the wine and DOC gets its name - aged 18 months in botti to produce old-vine Aglianico at its spicy, smoky best. Amazing value.

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ITALIAN RED

PUGLIA

PRICE

Primitivo Di Manduria Riserva 'Anniversario 62', San Marzano, 2020 75
Puglia style at its apex: grapes from the Manduria DOC are left to overripe slightly, fermentation occurs in steel but not to completion, so there are trace amounts of residual sugar in this big, beautiful beast. 18 months' aging in French oak barriques. Lip-smacking stuff.

Susumaniello, Podere Don Cataldo, 2021 45
Only about 70 hectares are planted to the unheralded Susumaniello, which brings a fresh, herbal side to Puglia fruit and heat.

Canace, Cantina Diomede, 2022 59
100% Nero di Troia and nothing shy about this inky-black wine, aged 12 months in new French oak; lots of fruit, oak spice, body.

Negroamaro 'I Muri', Vigneti del Salento, 2024 39
Negroamaro means 'black bitter' in Italian but this varietal is actually on the lower end in terms of tannins among Puglian grapes, but the 'black' part of the name is accurate: dark fruits with earth and chocolate and a nice acidity to keep things bright.

Salice Salentino Riserva 'Selvarossa dei Confratelli', Cantine Due Palme, 2017 66
There's a vibrant meatiness to this Salice Salentino DOC from the Salento peninsula in southern Puglia; a blend of 80% Negroamaro, 20% Malvasia Nera, and aged for a full two years in new oak before release.

CAMPANIA

Taurasi Riserva, Cantina Sanpaolo, 2012 69
Old-vine Aglianico at 500m are cooled by breezes from the Bay of Naples, the same natural force that has, over time, blown volcanic soil inland from Vesuvius. This Riserva shows class and strength all at once: aged three years, including two in oak.

Taurasi Riserva, Mastroberardino, 2015* 130
Probably the most famous wine from Campania is this Taurasi DOCG bottling by Mastroberardino, the great pioneer of Campanian indigenous varietals since 1878. From the highest portion of the Montemarano estate, this wine is aged 5 years in total: 30 months in French and Slavonian oak, 30 months in bottle after that. Sensual, smoky, smooth, sculpted Aglianico.

Sciapo', Terre di Valter, 2018 75
In the film Jurassic Park, Ian Malcolm – played so brilliantly by Jeff Goldblum – makes the point that it's possible to get random results from normal systems, where you can get chaos out of order, what he calls 'Chaos Theory'. That is this wine. What seems like perfectly orderly Aglianico grapes from the unassuming Irpinia Campi Taurasini DOC undergo 'chaos': partial appassimento, old withered vines, 12 months in barriques, so you get smoke and roasted fruits and meat and chocolate and funk. That, that's Chaos Theory.

CALABRIA

Ciro Rosso Classico 'Segno', Librandi, 2022 37
Gaglioppo is native to Calabria and Ciro is its main DOC, making red-fruited, elegant wines with wonderful structure and earthiness.

Ciro Rosso Classico Superiore, Vigneti Vumbaca, 2020 49
There's a finessed, Pinot Noir-type elegance to this sublime bottling with that touch of rustic character typical of Calabria, vinified and aged strictly in stainless steel to highlight that Calabrian touch and its sun-kissed Gaglioppo grapes.

Ciro Rosso Classico Riserva 'Più Vite', Sergio Arcuri, 2018 83
The Piciara plot from which this comes is planted with 70 year-old vines right on the sea, astonishingly, so the soil is clay and sand. Aged for four years in concrete; a stunning wine that pairs excellently with tomato-based sauces and long eye contact.

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ITALIAN RED

SARDEGNA

PRICE

Cannonau di Sardegna 'Bantu', Antichi Poderi Jerzu, 2023 39
Cannonau is the native name for Grenache, but from the Cannonau di Sardegna DOC, it's light-to-medium bodied, red fruited, extravagantly floral, and carries the island's signature rustic freshness.

Cannonau di Sardegna Riserva 'Berteru', Cantina Gungui, 2017 86
Old vine, high-elevation Cannonau is fermented in steel and then aged in 30 hl casks for 12 months. You feel like you're on the island – there's saltiness, herbs, red fruits, something pleasantly rustic about it – and all this is delivered with poise and elegance.

Carignano del Sulcis Riserva, Rocca Rubia Santadi, 2022 64
Robust yet refined Carignano, from poor, well-draining sandy soils typical of the Sulcis DOC and which always seem to produce wines of high aromatics and finesse, and that combined with the heft added from 12 months' aging in new and used oak is a profound experience.

Montessu Isola dei Nuraghi, Agripunica, 2022 72
A high-octane collaboration between Santadi and Tenuta San Guido, author of Sassicaia, this 'Super Sardinian' is a powerhouse of a blend based on Carignano (60%) with 10% each of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Syrah; from a portion of Isola dei Nuraghi IGT rich in sandy clay-limestone, aged in cement a few months, then bottled.

SICILIA

Nero d'Avola 'Nero di Pianogrillo', Pianogrillo, 2024 40
Nero d'Avola is the most important grape in Sicily, the most-planted and the most-exported, and this bottling is similar to Malbec and other such grapes with its beguiling red and dark fruit flavours, lovely spice, full body, and fruit-forward nature.

Frappato, Mandrarossa, 2024 36
Frappato is a delightfully light-bodied and light-hued varietal native to the Ragusa area of Sicily whose build and body is similar to a Pinot Noir, only lighter. One of those reds you could not go wrong chilling, if it's hot out. From the large Terre Siciliane IGT.

MOUNT ETNA

Is there a more exciting category in Italian wine right now than Etna Rosso? The Nerello Mascalese grape on which it is based is increasingly included in the country's Holy Trinity with Nebbiolo and Sangiovese; the Contrada system continues to be developed and refined, measuring distinct grape-growing areas based on the soil composition and the age of lava flows that have occurred over the millenia on Europe's most active volcano; and, fine wine has only been produced here for only about two decades, so it feels like we're just getting started. What does the future hold here? Based on the mountain's fiery, fragrant, finessed reds produced so far, only good things.

Etna Rosso Contrada Rampante, Tasca, 2019 102
The Rampante vineyard stretches a mere 4.28 hectares on a lava flow 15,000 years old, planted to 30 year-old vines. 100% Nerello Mascalese is aged 12 months in 25 hl Slavonian oak casks to produce a simply sensational representative of Etna terroir.

Etna Rosso 'Cirneco', Terrazze dell'Etna, 2019 64
This wine is 100% Nerello Mascalese, indigenous to the island and to Europe's most active volcano, Mount Etna, whose black volcanic soils speak just as loudly in the wine as anything else. This is a succulent bottling, spicy and balanced, aged for 12 months in French tonneaux.

Etna Rosso Contrada Moganazzi 'Aetneus', I Custodi, 2021 82
Excellent, serious, savoury yet elegant Etna Rosso, 80% Nerello Mascalese and 20% Nerello Cappuccio, from 100 year-old vines, aged for four years before release, including two years in 5-hl used tonneaux.

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MAGNUM W'INES

Magnums and other larger-format bottles are famous for their extra ageability - the limited surface area exposed to air means the aging development in bottle is slower, more gentle, more graceful, so we tried to focus on providing bottles with a bit of age to highlight this great feature of Magnums and their (large) cousins. Plus, they just look really cool.

	PRICE
Gavi Riserva Vigna Della Rovere Verde, La Mesma, 2013 (1.5L) *See entry on page 6.*	140
Montepulciano d'Abruzzo 'Sirio', San Lorenzo, 2019 (1.5L) *High-altitude vines at 300 metres ensure a long, cool growing season on calcareous clay soil, a bit of rarity in Abrozzo, so these Montepulciano grapes bring grace and fragrance as well as fruit and a full body. Aged 12 months in large barrel.*	94
Barbaresco Serracapelli Riserva, Cecilia Monte, 2006 (1.5L) *The Serracapelli plot, in Neive, sits on well-draining limestone and is more exposed to cooling air currents from the neighboring hills, so this is a prime site for structured, elegant, age-worthy Nebbiolo, aged for 50 months in a combination of large and small barrel.*	280
Brunello di Montalcino 'Ugolaia', Lisini, 2016 (1.5L) *The estate's top bottling, Ugolaia as a parcel was singled out for its old vines, the oldest on the estate, and its remarkably low yields are even further concentrated by very strict grape selection in the winery; only the very best end up in this extraordinary bottle, aged for three years in large Slavonian botti, six months in smaller chestnut barrels, then further refined in bottle.*	390
Aglianico del Sannio 'Clanius', Cantine Caputo, 2001 (3L) *Sannio is a DOC in Campania producing very fine, well-etched Aglianico that carry more of the fruit than the smoke it gets on more volcanic sites in the region, yet carrying that same formidable, age-worthy structure. Aged 12 months in barriques.*	210

DESSERT W'INES

FRANCE

	50ML	BOTTLE
Sauternes Premier Cru Superieur Classé, Château d'Yquem, 2006 (375ml) *If I had to guess what wine Jesus turned the water into at the wedding in Cana, I would guess Château d'Yquem: Noble Rot mould develops on the grape to impart flavour (from death to life, if you will), made in a sweet style (as most wines were in the ancient world), and from the only begotten Premier Cru Superieur estate in the Sauternes Classification of 1855, Château d'Yquem, a name that demands our worship. 80% Semillon, 20% Sauvignon Blanc, nectar of the gods, worthy of any special occasion.*	45	320

HUNGARY

	50ML	BOTTLE
Tokaji Aszú 5 Puttonyos, Grand Tokaj, 2019 (500ml) *'The Wine of Kings, and the King of Wines' as Tokaji Aszú has been known through antiquity, the first style of wine to utilise Noble Rot in its production, with varying degrees of sweetness, so at 5 Puttonyos this wine has between 12 to 15% residual sugar. From 100% Furmint grapes; delicate, honeyed, floral.*	9.5	72

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DESSERT W'INES

ITALIA

	50ML	BOTTLE
Recioto di Soave Classico 'Le Colombare', Pieropan, 2021 (500ml) *The top dessert style this wonderful winery releases, Le Colombare is only produced in the best vintages, when Garganega grapes are left to dry for 5 months on bamboo cane mats. Only free-run juice is used, then aged 2 years in 25 hl acacia barrels.*	9.5	72
Recioto della Valpolicella, Allegrini Corte Giara, 2022 (500ml) *The 'red' DOC of Recioto, using 70% Corvina and 30% Rondinella, dried for 4 months, or until about 50% of the weight is lost, and then fermented and aged 5 months in steel, matured a further 15 months in Slavonian and second-use barriques, then 6 more in bottle.*	8	62
Vin Santo del Chianti, Casalino, 2019 (375ml) *Tuscany's (and Italy's?) most famous sweet wine, from the Vin Santo del Chianti DOC, Malvasia Bianca and Trebbiano Toscana are dried for 2 months, undergo a long fermentation in French oak, and then are aged in the ultra-small caratelli for 3 years.*	7	52
Primitivo Dolce 'Arcano', Tenuta Giustini, 2023 (750ml) *Late-Harvest Primitivo, naturally high in sugar, are left on the vine to concentrate those sugars to produce a big, sweet, fruity wine.*	7	58
Passito di Noto, 2024, Planeta (500ml) *Moscato Bianco grapes from Noto DOC's beautiful, chalky-white limestone soils undergo appassimento for 5 weeks, then are finished in steel and bottled, no oak treatment, so you get this fresh, mineral style that highlights the soil and grape with lovely transparency.*	9	65
Passito di Pantelleria 'Sangue d'Oro', Carole Bouquet, 2022 *Pantelleria is an island off the south coast of Sicily, closer to Africa than it is to mainland Europe, battered by hot scirocco winds from the Sahara, vines trained low to the ground for protection: not winemaking for the faint of heart. Such spirit, resiliency, and exoticism is on full display in their sweet wines, Zibbibo grapes dried for two months after harvest and aged in barrel for two years, it's the only wine that the estate produces, simply astonishing flavours of saffron, mango, oriental pear, orange blossom. Amazing.*	15	130
Marsala Superiore Riserva 10-Year, Vito Curatolo Arini (750ml) *A special bottling that is only made in the best vintages and utilises the three main indigenous varietals of Sicily: Cataratto, Inzolia, and Grillo. Aged 10 years in cask and with a sweetness that basically splits the difference between Sherry and Port. Pairs excellently with cheese and deep conversation.*	8	61
Moscato d'Asti 'Centive', Olim Bauda, 2024 (750ml) *Moscato has some of the highest concentrations of aromatic compounds of any wine grape in the world, so in any style it will showcase this gorgeously fragrant style. In this DOCG, ultra sweet, a touch sparkling, sitting at 5% ABV, amazing with cheese.*	-	39

PORTUGAL

Vintage Port, Taylor's, 2003 *The 2003 vintage was scorching hot across Europe but was right in the wheelhouse for Vintage Port, a widely declared year still reaping benefits to this day. Taylor's, founded in 1692, produces a particularly structured, sublime bottling, a field blend of Touriga Nacional, Touriga Francesa, Tinta Roriz, Tinta Barroca, Tinta Cão, and Tinta Amarela, aged 21 months in barrel before bottling.*	-	99
Late Bottled Vintage Port, Sandeman, 2020 (750ml) *Dark, chocolatey, luscious juice; Late-Bottled Vintage Port is produced every year, aged 6 years in barrel, and then bottled. A blend of 43% Touriga Franca, 29% Touriga Nacional, 15% Tinta Roriz, 8% Barroca, 5% Cão.*	9	65
Tawny Port 20-Year, Quinta de la Rosa, NV (500ml) *Local varietals Touriga Nacional, Touriga Franca Tinta Roriz, and Sousao are aged an average of 20 years in 550-litre oak 'pipes' to produce this gorgeously-hued, nutty, honeyed drinking experience.*	10	74

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