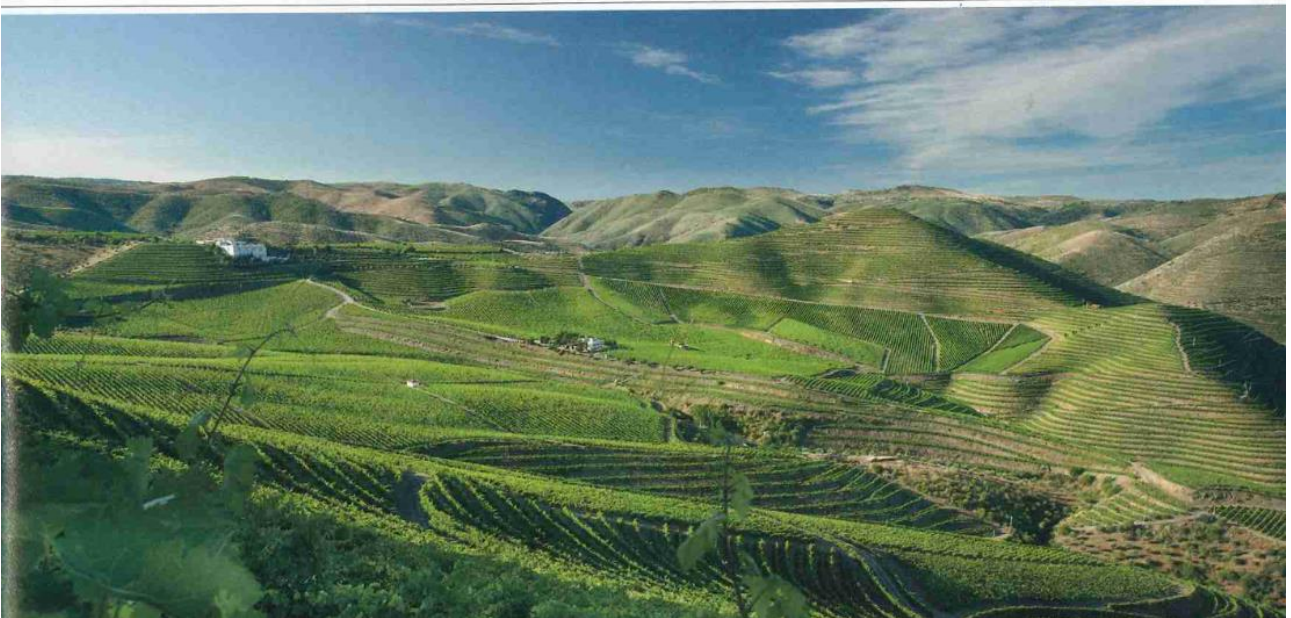


Wine Spectator Buying Guide



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BY THE NUMBERS

The Sept. 30 Buying Guide features **43 classic wines** and **450 outstanding wines** from among reviews of more than **550 new releases**. Members can access tasting notes and scores for those wines, along with **hundreds of additional wines** reviewed since our last issue, using the Wine Ratings search at WineSpectator.com.

ITALY

Tuscany / Other

95 Pieve Santa Restituta Brunello di Montalcino Sugarille 2018 \$300 A dark and brooding version, with accents of smoke, vanilla, iron and tar surrounding a core of cherry and plum flavors. Reveals balsamic elements of eucalyptus and wild herbs on the lingering finish. On the austere side now, with a core of fruit and mineral. Best from 2025 through 2043. 150 cases made, 150 cases imported.—B.S.

New Releases: Italy

94 Tenuta Le Colonne Bolgheri Superiore 2019 \$70 An elegant, vibrant red signaled by mint, wild rosemary and eucalyptus aromas. Boasts black currant, blackberry, violet and mineral flavors, which exert themselves on the palate as this builds to a lingering finish. Balanced and will be even better in a year or two. Cabernet Franc and Cabernet Sauvignon. Best from 2025 through 2043. 600 cases made, 250 cases imported.—B.S.

92 Casisano Brunello di Montalcino 2018 \$55 Leaning to the tart side, this red offers strawberry, cherry, rose hip, iron and earth flavors. Racy and lacy in texture, revealing light, nervous tannins on the long aftertaste of fruit and wild herbs. Best from 2025 through 2040. 3,750 cases made, 1,500 cases imported.—B.S.

92 Chiacchiera Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva Mahti 2018 \$59 A lush and open-knit style, displaying cherry, plum, leather, tobacco and eucalyptus flavors. Solidly built, with both vibrant acidity and dense tannins, ending with ripe fruit and firm grip. Sangiovese, Mammolo and Canaiolo. Best from 2025 through 2040. 400 cases made, 200 cases imported.—B.S.

92 Pratesi Carmignano Il Circo Rosso Riserva 2019 \$59 Well-oaked, boasting vanilla, coconut and toasty aromas and flavors, this red also packs heavy cassia and cherry compote flavors. Builds nicely to a lingering aftertaste of macerated fruit, spices, iron and earth. Balanced and concentrated. Sangiovese, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. Best from 2025 through 2038. 850 cases made, 400 cases imported.—B.S.

92 Tenuta Meraviglia Bolgheri Tenuta Meraviglia 2020 \$35 Delivers aromas of black currant and bell pepper that give way to ripe black currant, blackberry and violet flavors, accented by iron, tobacco and wild herbs. Reveals a touch of oak spices as this red unfolds on

the fresh, lingering aftertaste. Cabernet Franc. Drink now through 2035. 2,000 cases made, 500 cases imported.—B.S.

90 Carpineto Brunello di Montalcino Riserva 2017 \$130 A lush red, both dense and voluminous, featuring plum, black cherry, tar, soy and stony flavors backed by beefy structure. Shows good acidity, if a little muddled in the end. Best from 2025 through 2042. 600 cases made, 300 cases imported.—B.S.

90 Chiacchiera Vino Nobile di Montepulciano 2019 \$29 Shows a core of cherry and plum fruit wrapped in pine, medicinal herbs and earth. Starts out bright and juicy, then the dry, dusty tannins chime in as this plays out on the finish. Very Tuscan, balsamic and savory. Sangiovese, Mammolo and Canaiolo. Best from 2025 through 2038. 1,700 cases made, 600 cases imported.—B.S.

90 Montenidoli Canaiuolo Toscana Rosato 2022 \$30 Pale in color, yet this rosé delivers generous cherry, strawberry and spice flavors, persisting on the palate through the bone-dry, mineral-tinged finish. Drink now. 1,580 cases made.—B.S.

90 Poggio San Polo Rosso di Montalcino 2020 \$25 This lithe, elegant red is signaled by a burst of raspberry aromas and flavors. Shows iron and earth details as this firms up, before stretching out on the lingering finish. Drink now through 2027. 7,494 cases imported.—B.S.

90 Tenuta Le Colonne Bolgheri 2020 \$32 This lush red is packed with ripe, dark fruit and spices, including blackberry, blueberry, plum, mint and black pepper. Firms up on the long finish. Merlot, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Franc. Drink now through 2028. 5,000 cases made, 1,000 cases imported.—B.S.

90 Tenuta Le Colonne Costa Toscana Plenum 2021 \$25 A bright, fruity style, offering black currant, black cherry, iron and tobacco flavors backed by a vibrant

structure. Lingers with a tangy, mouthwatering finish. Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Syrah. Drink now through 2027. 5,000 cases made, 1,000 cases imported.—B.S.

89 Argiano Rosso di Montalcino 2020 \$38 A beefy red, featuring flavors of cherry, licorice, earth, tomato leaf and menthol, with a dense matrix of tannins holding court on the long finish. Best from 2024 through 2029. 4,250 cases made, 1,200 cases imported.—B.S.

89 Tenuta di Ghizzano Costa Toscana Il Ghizzano 2020 \$25 A sleek red, with a cherry core accented by sanguine, earth, mineral and tomato leaf flavors. Boasts bracing acidity, which sets the pace and drives the taut finish. Sangiovese and Merlot. Drink now through 2028. 25,000 cases made.—B.S.

88 Mormoraia Vernaccia di San Gimignano Ostrea 2020 \$26 Shows some oak, lending a vanilla note and roundness to the profile, with peach and lemon flavors underlying everything. In the end, this white is bright and creamy, with a crisp, spicy finish. Drink now. 4,000 cases made, 2,500 cases imported.—B.S.

ITALY

Other

93 Alois Lageder Alto Adige Red Cor Römigberg 2018 \$75 Delivers a nose of cigar box spice and cured tobacco aromas, which are a fragrant thread winding through ripe red and black currant fruit, iron, olive tapenade and dried flower notes. Firm and tightly meshed, yet this has a generosity to the texture and the flavor range, which swathes a dense core of chalky tannins. A few years in the cellar or decanting will bring even greater expression from this classy version. Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot. Best from 2025 through 2035. 833 cases made, 20 cases imported.—A.N.

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