

News



Wine and rankings, Italy for VinePair

Despite a slight slowdown in the wine industry, the U.S., in terms of appreciation and criticism, continues to reward Italian wine: there are 11 labels in the Belpaese of "The 50 Best Wines of 2018" by VinePair.com, one of the most popular sites on wine in the United States. Three labels, signed by brands such as Occhipinti, Damilano, and Poliziano, in the "top 10" of a ranking, which focuses on wines of great drinkability and great value for money. And which, for the Belpaese, has also awarded labels such as Fontanafredda, Burlotto, Maelli, Barone Ricasoli, Fattoria di Petroio, Nino Franco, Campo alle Comete (Feudi di San Gregorio) and Tasca d'Almerita.

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SMS

USA, Nicoletto (Santa Margherita) Dixit

The fact that the US market, for Italian wine exports, has been slowing down for months, with declining volumes and slowly growing values, is a fact. Understanding the reasons is the first step in finding a solution. Ettore Nicoletto, from Gruppo Santa Margherita, offers an authoritative point of view to WineNews. "The only type that keeps us in positive territory is Prosecco, while our main competitor, France, can count on four major territories: Bordeaux, Champagne, Burgundy and, now, Provence, with rosé wines. We must try to strengthen the potential of the products that the country system can offer, supporting them with an adequate promotion and up to the needs of the wine industry and the diversity and uniqueness of the different districts".

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Report

The 103 wineries of Opera Wine

103 wineries, to tell the quality and diversity of Italian wine: these are the names of Opera Wine 2019, the wine tasting, signed by Wine Spectator, a preview of Vinitaly (will be on stage on April 6, in Verona). "With 15 new entries and 7 returns," explains Alison Napjus. The total turnover makes us reflect, announced, of all the cellars of Brunello di Montalcino, and the exclusion of symbolic names such as Biondi Santi or Bertani, Napjus a Wine News explains: "we want to tell the great variety of Italian wine, and so far, in 8 editions, we have selected over 200 producers".

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First Page

Export 2018: without bubbles is a recession. The Vinitaly-Nomisma Observatory

If Italian sparkling wines are literally "moving" on the world markets, just as literally, "still" wines, on the contrary, are dropping in all the most important industries. For this reason, Italian wines need to change strategy, an effective promotion that places the Made in Italy on the top, and the many peculiarities that the Italian wines express. A concept on which everyone agrees, from the Minister of Agriculture Gian Marco Centinaio, at the top of Veronafiere and Vinitaly, the President Maurizio Danese and the CEO Giovanni Mantovani, the leaders of the representatives of Italian wine, from Sandro Boscaini, President Federvini, to Ernesto Abbona, guide of Unione Italiana Vini - Uiv, to Matilde Poggi, leader of Fivi - Federazione Italiana Vignaioli Indipendenti, today at Wine2Wine, the business Forum of Vinitaly and Veronafiere. The fact that the export situation in Italy, at the moment, is not one of the best, has been certified by the export expectations for the end of 2018 from the Vinitaly-Nomisma Wine Monitor Observatory, illustrated by Denis Pantini. Because even if the growth from 2017 is very slight, the total should be 6.2 billion euros, a historical record, but masked by sparkling wines. Still wines, the true heart of Italian production, are declining in all major industries, and will close with -1.9% in the USA (1.2 billion euros), -5.4% in Germany (621 million euros), and -4.1% in the UK (370 million euros), but also declining in Canada, Switzerland, Russia and Japan. A half disaster, if you think that still wines are the great widespread wealth of wine in the Belpaese. The situation is completely different for Italian sparkling wines, which I mean Prosecco: the closing will widely grow in the USA, +15% (386 million euros), UK, +12.6 (345 million euros), Russia, +10.2% (92 million euros), but also Switzerland, Sweden, Canada, Japan, and Brazil. The only negative and important remark is in Germany, -4.5% (84 million euros), a strategic country for Italian wine, whose consumers, however, are increasingly focusing on homemade products.

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Focus

Ranking effect: after WS and WE, Italy tops Liv-Ex

As far as absolute value is concerned, to each his/her own idea; there is, however, very little doubt in the fact that the important international rankings can really make the difference on the market. Furthermore, it certainly is not a coincidence that Italian wine on the Liv-Ex platform, as analyzed by WineNews, has seen a general upsurge in bargaining, especially following its "double-header" top positions on the most quoted international rankings, like Wine Spectator's, "Top 100" which has crowned the legendary Sassicaia 2015 wine of the year, while on Wine Enthusiast's "Top 100", the top position went to Michele Chiarlo's "Super Barbera" Nizza Cipressi 2015, pioneer and the maximum expression of the famous Piedmont wine-vine. According to Liv-Ex data, indeed, between November 16th and 22nd (the week in which the rankings were published), the market share of Italian wine soared to 21.7% of the index, compared to 4.8% in the previous week, and to 6.6% for the entire month of October. And, of course, Tenuta San Guido's Sassicaia 2015 was the absolute star of the show, because it was the wine that changed the most in value during the review period, reaching a quotation of 1.670 pounds for a 12-bottle case, and thus achieving a 47.8% increase compared to the issue price.

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Wine & Food

Paris, the Ruhr, and Buenos Aires: the cities that drink the most wine

Paris is the city that drinks the most wine in the world, totaling 5.3 million hectoliters consumed in 2017 - equal to 709 million bottles - followed by the Ruhr (Essen, Dortmund, Duisbourg) that consumed 4 million hectoliters (537 million bottles), and Buenos Aires, which holds third place (3.6 million hectoliters). Milan is in fourth position (3.3 million hectoliters), followed by London (2.95 million), New York (2.8 million), Los Angeles (2.2 million), and then Rome (1.7 million), which is in 8th place while Berlin (1.95 million) and Tokyo (1.2 million), the only Asian city in this ranking, close the Top 10. These are the figures revealed by a study of "Wine Paris", the event focusing on wine professionals that will be held at Expo Porte de Versailles in 2019, from February 11th to 13th.

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For the record

The rural practice of dry stone walls" is Unesco Heritage

From the "Marogne" in Veneto, between Valpolicella and Soave, where the hillside vineyards are supported, to the terracing in Liguria as in South Tyrol, or in Pantelleria, on which vineyards and cultivations are farmed, to those in Puglia that surround the centuries-old olive trees. The dry stone walls, in the Belpaese, are one of the most significant features of many rural landscapes, also in France, Greece, Spain, Switzerland, Slovenia, Cyprus, and Croatia, that "The rural practice of the art of dry stone walls", has just become "Intangible Heritage of Humanity".

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