

## News



### Bolaffi: record-breaking auction

100,000 euro for a double magnum of Romanée Conti Grand Cru 1990: it is the record award for a wine auction in Italy, with the myth of Burgundy that has broken through in the enchantment sent on stage last night by the Piedmontese auction house Bolaffi, in an "event" where it has also shone what is now the undisputed Italian king of wine auctions, the Barolo Monfortino by Giacomo Conterno, which, with its Reserve 1955, in the historic quarter size of Brenta (13.05 liters), has reached 20,000 euro, ahead, among the top lots, of a single bottle of Romanée-Conti Grand Cru 2004, sold at 15,000 euro.

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## SMS

### Export at -4.6% for Italian wineries

The Italy of wine holds up to the impact of the pandemic in 2020, at least on the export front, where it will be declining, but contained. This is confirmed by the estimates of the Vinitaly-Nomisma Wine Monitor, presented today at Wine2Wine by Veronafiere & Vinitaly, according to which, for Italy, which will close its exports in 2020 with -4.6% in value (6.1 billion euros) compared to the previous year, the effects will be lighter overall than the global trend (-10.5%) and even more so on the main player in the sector, France, forced to give up 17.9% of its exports. A comforting picture if we consider the increase in market share gained by the Italian vineyard; alarming if we consider the asymmetry of general data that hides strong declines in different bands.

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## Report

### "World Cup sparkling wines": Italy n.1

Italy beats France, in terms of bubbles, with the Trentodoc superstar: this is the verdict of "The Champagne & Sparkling Wine World Championships 2020". The "medal table" sees, for the first time, a draw on gold, 47 to 47 (out of a total of 128), but with the Belpaese surpassing the French on the silver front, 111 to 42 (out of 237 overall). With the fundamental contribution of the Trentino "mountain bubbles", which brought 52 medals to the Italian cause, 20 of which were gold, where shines the star of Ferrari (9 gold).

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## First Page

### Vinitaly 2021 moves to June. With the biggest "Opera Wine" by "Wine Spectator" ever

Vinitaly 2021 moves from April to June, in Verona. As anticipated last Friday by WineNews, "the 54th edition of the International Exhibition of wines and spirits of VeronaFiere will be held from June 20 to 23, 2021, in conjunction with Enolitech and Sol&Agrifood. OperaWine 10th year anniversary con Wine Spectator will be on June 19", explains an official VeronaFiere note, which underlines how the decision "is the result of careful verification, even with the most authoritative institutions able to formulate reliable forecasts on the pandemic curve and was taken after a specific market survey". And "Opera Wine", the tasting event born in 2012 from the collaboration between VeronaFiere, Vinitaly and the prestigious American magazine "Wine Spectator", in 2021, will live a great edition for the anniversary n. 10: almost 200 wineries selected between "all timer" and those present at least once from 2012 to date. Names of absolute prestige of Italian wine, wineries that are history, present and future of wine as Antinori (with the Bolgheri estate Guado al Tasso, the Umbrian Castello della Sala and the Apulian Tormaresca), Masciarelli, Feudi di San Gregorio, Mastroberardino, Livio Felluga, Famiglia Cotarella - Falesco, Bellavista, Cà del Bosco, Nino Negri (Gruppo Italiano Vini - Giv), Umani Ronchi, Aldo Conterno, Bruno Giacosa, Giuseppe Mascarello & Figlio, Paolo Scavino, Renato Ratti, Vietti, Planeta, Tasca d'Almerita, Ferrari, Castello di Ama, Castello di Volpaia, Domini Castellare di Castellina, Fontodi, Marchesi de' Frescobaldi, Ornellaia, San Felice, Tenuta San Guido, Arnaldo Caprai, Lungarotti, Allegrini, Leonildo Pieropan, Masi and Zenato. For an "Opera Wine" that remains the only wine tasting that "Wine Spectator" organizes outside the US, as underlined by Thomas Matthews, Executive Director "Wine Spectator", "a sign of great respect and esteem for Italian wine2". Respect and esteem that American consumers also have, given that even in the pandemic, sales of Italian wine in the States, even though the bulk of consumption has shifted from restaurants to households, have not collapsed.

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## Focus

### "The Enthusiast 100", Italy at the top with Brunello and Nobile

Brunello di Montalcino, once again, at the top of the world wine critics' rankings: the Brunello di Montalcino 2015 of the Ciacci Piccolomini d'Aragona brand of the Bianchini family, one of the qualitative references of one of the most prestigious territories in the world, climbs the podium of "The Enthusiast 100", the ranking of the best wines ever tasted by the Wine Enthusiast team (whose Italian editor is Kerin O'Keefe). At the top also the Vino Nobile di Montepulciano 2016 of Dei at n. 13, another reference name of the territory. In the ranking also Barolo Garblèt Suè 2016 by Brovia, the Lambrusco di Sorbara Radice 2019 by Paltrinieri, the Barbaresco Albesani Santo Stefano 2017 by Castello di Neive, the Chianti Classico 2017 by Fontodi, the Contrada R Nerello Mascalese 2018 by Passopisciaro, Pietrarizzo Bianco 2019 by Tornatore, the Nizza Cipressi 2017 by Michele Chiarlo, the Sylvaner 2019 of Abbazia di Novacella, the Sauvignon 2016 Riserva Russiz Superiore (Marco Felluga), the Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore Docg Rive di Refrontolo Brut Nature by De Stefani, the Cerasuolo d'Abruzzo 2019 by Tiberio, the Lirica Primitivo di Manduria 2017 di Produttori by Manduria, the Pinot Bianco dell'Alto Adige 2019 of the brand Kettmeir (Santa Margherita group), and the Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Riserva Ilico 2017 of Illuminati.

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## Wine & Food

### Michelin Guide: 3 stars confirmed, three new 2 stars and 26 new entries

The quality of Italian haute cuisine is growing, even in this extremely challenging year, dominated by Covid-19, and in the words of great chefs, we must focus more and more on sustainability (celebrated with a new award, the "Green Star"), training, studies, research and useful creativity. The Michelin Guide 2021, 66th edition awarded the stars yesterday, via web. 11 three-starred Italian restaurants were re-confirmed, (Mudec, Uliassi, St. Hubertus, Piazza Duomo, Da Vittorio Dal Pescatore, Reale, Enoteca Pinchiorri, Osteria Francescana, La Pergola del Rome Cavalieri and Le Calandre), 37 2-star restaurants were re-confirmed (and 3 new entries, the famous D'O di Davide Oldani in San Pietro All'Olmo, Harry's Piccolo, Chef Matteo Metullio in Trieste and Ristorante Santa Elisabetta, Chef Rocco de Santis in Florence) and 323 confirmed 1 star (including 26 new entries).

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## For the record

### Elton John producer of Prosecco?

The Prosecco boom also conquers VIPs, not only as passionate consumers, but also as producers. And now, it is rumored that none other than Sir Elton John, one of the sacred monsters of world music, could be the next big name to become, in some way, producer of the most famous Italian bubbles in the world. Gossip circulated in local and musical circles in recent weeks (Radio Montecarlo reports of a visit of the singer in the hills of Conegliano and Valdobbiadene) and relaunched in recent days by the Governor of Veneto Luca Zaia.

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