

News



2.9 million hectolitres of wine in the cellars

As of December 31, 2021, there were 62.9 million hectolitres of wine, 9.6 million hectolitres of must and 2.5 million hectolitres of new wine still in fermentation in the cellars of Italy, i.e. a value of wine stocks up by +3.3% compared to December 2020 and +21.1% compared to November 2021. 56.5% of wine is held in the northern regions, mainly in Veneto (23.7%), 51.7% is PDO, 27.6% PGI, with Prosecco accounting for 10% of stocks (5 million hectolitres) of all PDO and PGI wines, while varietal wines make up just 1.2% of the total, and 19.5% is represented by table wines.

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BERTANI

SMS

Wine between health and culture

Once again, the UNESCO heritage Mediterranean diet, with its balance of foods and its glass of wine with meals, is crowned the best in the world. This was confirmed by the American magazine Us News, through a panel of dieticians, nutritionists and health experts. This recognition once again strengthens the arguments of those on the wine front who maintain that the health policies being implemented by the European Union should target alcohol abuse rather than moderate wine consumption. Like the European wine cooperation represented by Copa-Cogeca, whose wine division is headed by Italian Luca Rigotti. "Wine is inextricably linked to the culture and lifestyle of the whole of Europe and much more than just an alcoholic beverage" (full speech in more detail).

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Report

Asti Docg, 2021 to remember

A memorable 2021 for Asti Docg, the toast of the tennis champions at the Atp Finals in Turin and the young football talents involved in the "Golden Boy", exceptional ambassadors of Piedmontese sparkling wines alongside the real Brand Ambassador, chef Alessandro Borghese. These collaborations raise the bar for the promotion of Asti Docg, which closed the year with 102 million bottles produced, 11% more than in 2020, for a total of 60 million bottles of Asti Spumante (+12%) and 42 million of Moscato d'Asti (+10%).

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First Page

Between fairs and "Anteprime", confirmations and shifts, the wine calendar is being redefined

Prowein 2022 is moving to May. The news, as yet unofficial but confirmed to WineNews by sources inside the Dusseldorf fair, will be announced shortly, when the decision will be officially taken by Messe Düsseldorf, in all likelihood next week, with the new dates that the German fair is considering, together with exhibitors, looking at the beginning or end of the month. The postponement of Prowein, therefore, which comes after two years of standstill (2020 and 2021) for one of the most important international trade fairs in the world of wine, with Italy for years among the main exhibiting countries, is once again being redefined, obviously due to the pandemic and the increase in contagions all over the world, including Germany (like other countries with record levels of positives and quarantines, ed.), the calendar of wine events and major international fairs, which, in a more fluid and changeable framework than ever, are implementing different strategies. With Vinexpo Wine Paris, which, as known, will be staged from February 14 to 16 in Paris, and Vinexposium, which has confirmed its dates, and Vinitaly, the world's most important fair dedicated to Italian wine, which is confirmed from April 10 to 13 in Verona. In the middle of the big fairs, as already reported by WineNews, are the big "Settimana delle Anteprime di Toscana", rescheduled from March 19 to 25, as decided by Avito, the association that brings together all the wine consortia of the Grand Duchy, in agreement with the Region of Tuscany; "Grandi Langhe", an event organized by the Consorzio di Barolo, Barbaresco, Alba, Langhe and Dogliani, in partnership with the Consorzio del Roero, which will be staged on April 4 and 5, 2022 in Turin, while "Anteprima Amarone", an event organized by the Consorzio dei Vini della Valpolicella, is scheduled for June, with dates still to be decided. In a situation, it must be said, still in constant evolution, as witnessed by the imminent postponement of Prowein, which, since it was originally scheduled for March, and therefore in a period reasonably far from what many expect to be the peak of Covid-19 infections, between the end of January and early February, seemed to be protected from calendar changes. That, however, barring any last-second surprises, will be announced shortly.

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Focus

"Wines of The Year" 2021 by "Decanter", Italy at the top

Despite Brexit and the pandemic, the UK remains a strategic and growing market for Italian wine. Protagonist of the "Wines of The Year" 2021 by "Decanter", the wine magazine of reference in the UK. At the absolute top, as "Best White", is a great classic of Italian white wine-making, the Primo Terlaner I Grande Cuvée 2018 of Cantina Terlano, one of the pearls of Alto Adige. At the absolute top there are Dom Pérignon ("Best fizz") and Henschke ("Best Red"). But there are also many Italian wines in the selection, signed by wineries such as Masottina, a reference point for Prosecco Docg (and already in the "Top 100 2021" by Wine Spectator), or Hoffstatter, Coffele and Massa, labels for Alto Adige, Soave and Derthona. And also realities such as Il Marroneto, one of the qualitative references of Brunello di Montalcino (and already in the "Cellar Selection 2021" by Wine Enthusiast), or Pasqua, one of the leading realities of Amarone della Valpolicella, which is continuing a real revolution in quality recognized by the market and critics, both Italian and foreign. Then there are Produttori del Barbaresco, Basilica Cafaggio and I Fabbri, gems of Chianti Classico, or icons such as Tenuta San Leonardo, in Trentino, Tenuta San Guido, the symbol of Bolgheri with its Sassicaia, and Tinazzi, with its Primitivo di Manduria.

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Wine & Food

Prosecco Doc breaks record again in 2021

The fact that 2021 has been a year of redemption for Italian wine - towards the record of 7 billion euros in exports - is borne out by many company and "territory" financial statements. Like that of Prosecco DOC, the most widely consumed sparkling wine in the world. And which, in 2021, has exceeded the quota of 627.5 million certified bottles (of which 71.5 million of Rosé), an increase of 25.4% over 2020. This is stated by the Consortium, headed by Stefano Zanette, based on data from Valoritalia. Prosecco Doc is the driving force behind the "Prosecco system" (with Docg and Asolo) which, in the first nine months of 2021, exported 929.9 million euros (compared to 679 million in the first nine months of 2020), according to ISTAT data analyzed by WineNews.

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For the record

"Wine Lover's Index", Italy is the perfect destination

What are the best and worst destinations for wine lovers? This is the question posed by Bounce, which analyzed 5 key aspects - average wine consumption, average production, area under vines, number of wine tours, cost of a bottle of wine - of 25 countries worldwide, summarised in a weighted score, the "Wine Lover's Index". At the top, with 8.28 points out of 10, there is Italy, with its 400 native varieties, its leading production, and a great variety of productions - and therefore prices - that are on average accessible to all.

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