

News



"Face to Face" with Brunello Cucinelli

Why he decided to make wine in Solomeo, what wine and fashion have in common, and how their businesses can achieve the balance between profit and gift, toward people, communities, territories, and the environment. But also the invitation addressed to young people to rebalance technology and humanism to create new jobs, to private individuals and public institutions to return to investing together as a value and foundation of growth, and to Italy to "give beauty as a gift". About this, and more, WineNews spoke "face to face" with Brunello Cucinelli, one of Italy's most enlightened entrepreneurs, a supporter of "Humanistic Capitalism" and "Human Sustainability".

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BERTANI

SMS

The Map of Etna's Contradas

A Map of Etna's Contradas, which defines and identifies with clarity and precision, after long and painstaking work, the 133 Contrade present within Etna's production territory, thus making it possible to photograph the Etnean territory through the multifaceted mosaic of Contrade that encircle the wine-growing area at the foot of the volcano, from North to South. Zoning is the further step forward, in the wake of quality, of an area that is now at the top of Italian and world viticulture, where more than 130 wineries now make the most of the 1,300 hectares of Nerello Mascalese and Carricante vineyards, from Northeast to Southwest, on the different slopes, in an amphitheater that ranges from 400-500 meters to 1,000 meters without interruption (in more detail).

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Report

Michelin and Franciacorta, a pairing that works

The pairing of the Michelin Guide and Franciacorta works, and the presentation of the Michelin Guide 2023 dedicated to restaurants in Italy, which saw the number of three-starred restaurants rise to 12, with the new entry Villa Crespi led by chef Antonino Cannavacciuolo, is confirmation of this. For Silvano Brescianini, president of the Franciacorta Consortium, "it is an opportunity to give a signal of closeness to the great Italian restaurant industry and give a showcase to our territory. When things go well, the hope is that they can last beyond the end of the three-year agreement".

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First Page

Brunello di Montalcino champion for notoriety: it is known by 2 out of 3 consumers

Contemplated, loved and revered: Brunello di Montalcino is confirmed as the champion wine for notoriety in Italy, known by 2 out of 3 consumers, as revealed by the annual report of "Wine Intelligence" that analyzed the strength and recognizability of the 46 main Italian wine appellations. A giant of celebrity in the face of a "nano-share" of vineyard area, amounting to just 0.3% of Italy's vineyard, the prince of Tuscan reds tops the list, surpassing such giants as Chianti (No. 2), Prosecco (No. 3), Chianti Classico (No. 4), Montepulciano d'Abruzzo (No. 5), Franciacorta (No. 6), Barolo (No. 7), Barbera d'Asti (No. 8), Asti and Moscato d'Asti (No. 9) and Lambrusco (No. 10), proving to be a true brand of a territory that, from today to November 21, with "Benvenuto Brunello" will bring journalists, buyers, Masters of Wine and wine professionals to discover Brunello di Montalcino 2018, Riserva 2017 and Rosso di Montalcino 2021. To animate what we could define as a real "Benvenuto Brunello Off", tastings and dinners in some of the most prestigious wineries of the territory (strictly by invitation), including the vertical organized by Col d'Orcia (November 12), which, from Rosso 2018 to Brunello di Montalcino 1968, will retrace 50 years of history in the glass, and the world premiere presentation (November 10) of Brunello di Montalcino Giovanni Neri 2018, dedicated to the founder of Casanova di Neri, the only Brunello estate to have reached the top of Wine Spectator's "Top 100", the most prestigious international ranking, in 2006, with Brunello di Montalcino Tenuta Nuova 2001. Appreciated equally by women and men, Brunello is a wine capable of intercepting big-spender and mature consumers, both in terms of age (30% are younger Boomers, between 55 and 64 years old) and skills. Among those familiar with it, it registers a 20% conversion rate to purchase (up on last year), occurring mainly in the Center (29%) and the South (29%). On the purchasing front, Prosecco dominates the rankings, with nearly 1 in 2 consumers (47%) putting their hands in their wallets (it continues in more detail).

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Focus

"Top 100" by WS: Napa Valley on top among lots of Italy

The "Wine of the Year" of 2022 according to Wine Spectator's "Top 100", the most influential ranking in the world of wine critics, is the 2019 Cabernet Sauvignon Oakville Double Diamond from Schrader Cellars, in Napa Valley, signed by one of the area's top winemakers, Thomas Rivers Brown. For Italy, three labels in the top ten: in second position there is Brunello di Montalcino Riserva 2016 by Fattoria dei Barbi, a historic griffe of the territory, which has been producing Brunello since 1892, and among the 25 wineries that, in 1967, gave birth to the DOC. A good sign, for what "is now the best wine in Italy", comments, to WineNews, Stefano Cinelli Colombini, at the helm of Fattoria dei Barbi. At position No. 5 is Tignanello 2019, Marchesi Antinori's super Tuscan, born as an unconventional wine, a forerunner of its time, from the genius of Niccolò and Piero Antinori with the help of Giacomo Tachis, the protagonist of that extraordinary movement known as the "Renaissance" of Italian wine. Finally, at position No. 8, Maremma places Fattoria Le Pupille's Saffredi 2019, a wine born from the will of producer Elisabetta Geppetti, who, since the mid-1980s, created the winery in Piagge del Maiano, Grosseto (full top ten in more detail).

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Wine & Food

Wine, turnovers at -16% in 2023 ...

The closing of 2022, despite production costs rising by +83% over 2021, an aggravation of 1.5 billion euros, will complicate the budgets of wine companies, which nevertheless, despite a sharply declining gross operating margin, could close the year with a positive result. The global economic picture, however, worries above all in perspective, so much so that the real cold shower is expected in 2023, when the turnover of the wineries in Italy, according to current estimates, will mark a heavy -16%. This is the extreme summary of the economic survey by the Uiv-Vinitaly Observatory, presented at wine2wine in Veronafiere (in more detail).

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For the record

"OperaWine 2023", the 130 wineries selected

From "A" of Antinori to "Z" of Zenato: there are the 130 wineries selected by "Wine Spectator" for "OperaWine 2023" (and unveiled at Wine2Wine), the great tasting staged on April 1 2023 in Verona, the now traditional prologue to the benchmark event of Italian wine, Vinitaly (at Veronafiere, April 2-5), with the icon-wines (in more detail) of 20 regions, with Tuscany "queen" with Piedmont and Veneto, to tell, among high quality, elegance and glamour, the beauty of the Italian wine.

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