

Godello

a wine processor

Benvenuto Brunello 2017 report: Rethinking Rosso and disciplined Brunello by Michael Godel



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/benvenutobrunello-2017-consbrunello-montalcino-brunellodimontalcino-rossodimontalcino.jpg>)

#benvenutobrunello 2017 @consBrunello #montalcino #brunellodimontalcino #rossodimontalcino

It was a milestone edition of Benvenuto Brunello and also a gathering of symmetrical proportions. Looking back a half century, just after recognition of the D.O.C., it was in 1967 that the consortium was set up as an association of producers, “as a free association between winemakers bent on safeguarding their wine and on accentuating its qualities.” Twenty five years later the Benvenuto concept was conceived and now fifty years later this 2017 and 25th Benvenuto Brunello presented a preview of Annata 2015 Rosso di Montalcino, Annata 2012 Brunello di Montalcino, Riserva 2011, Moscadello and Sant’ Antimo. Every year in February the Consorzio del Vino Brunello di Montalcino organizes Benvenuto Brunello and by my count in 2017 there were 133 producers and 379 wines on hand to taste and evaluate, grouped together on February 17th and 18th in the Chiostro Museo Montalcino.

The vintages on hand offered up a study in contrasts beyond the obvious connotations served by the youth of Rosso Annata contrastive to aged Brunello. So many Mediterranean wine regions reaped huge benefits from the 2015 growing season but I’ve not personally seen such an across the board level of quality from a group of structured wines as I saw in the Rosso Annata. You would have to go back to 2010 to find a vintage with a near-chivalrous level of generosity and as far back

as 2001 for its equal. That said I would suggest with extreme prejudice that 2015 Rosso di Montalcino is the vintage to change your mind about its quality and its ability to stand alone. As an entity, the Rosso are produced from grapes farmed explicitly for a purpose and it is this '15 vintage that can be used to back up that very proposition. Rosso are fashioned to make a young sangiovese distinctive and antithetical to Brunello, but with the resolution to forge ahead with an intrinsic and personal level of structure.

The Brunello vintage at the 2017 Anteprima is the one that growers, producers, marketers and critics will chime in with a wide variance of opinion. There are many ways to look at the 2012 growing season. It is prescribed as a five-star vintage by the Consorzio, putting it on par with the best of the last 20 years, including 2010, 2007, 2006, 2004 and 1997. Critics remain skeptical and producers seem content to say "we'll see," knowing that structure is a guarantee but that fruit may peak early. There is little doubt that fruit quality is prodigious to say the least and that to a wine, these are fine and refined sangiovese. The producers who resisted temptation to make huge wines and the ones who took a step away from the machine will likely be the ones who found the best balance and in turn will have forged the longest aged Brunelli. I for one see 2012 as closer to 2008 and 1998, firm, a little misunderstood in the early days and capable of improving dramatically with five to seven years of age. The fruit just seems to speak this truth.



<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/buongiorno-montalcino.jpg>

Buongiorno #montalcino La Fortezza di Montalcino

Montalcino is one of the most iconic Tuscan hilltop villages, a high density designed labyrinth of winding streets with the medieval La Fortezza di Montalcino at the peak and heart of the city. La Fortezza is a monument rich in history and a symbol of the last glorious defence of the Sienese

Republic in 1555 against Spanish-Florentine troops. Begun in 1361 to improve the fortifications of the city, the fortress became a symbol of the then dominant Sienese power, however, counterbalanced by the opportunity that was offered to the residents of Montalcino to have Sienese citizenship while delocalised. It was precisely this fact that led to important political, economic and administrative relations between the inhabitants of the two cities. By the time the 16th century came to a close the fortress had lost its military significance. La Fortezza Wine Shop and Wine Bar founded in 1980 by Mario Pianigiani and Marzio Giannelli sits inside the main tower of the fortress.

Montalcino rests at 564 meters above sea level between the valleys of three rivers; Ombre, Asso and Orcia. This island city has for centuries been cut off from major transit roads and subsequently avoided or missed out on the typical economic practices of the surrounding region. So it developed wine and olive oil as its primary industry. The world and Montalcino are all the richer for this fortuitous destiny.



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/montalcino.jpg>)
#montalcino

Brunello di Montalcino is referred to as “a very modern and ingenious intuition,” a phrase that so aptly depicts how it has separated itself from other sangiovese producing neighbours, namely Chianti Classico and Vino Nobile di Montepulciano. Only the Brunelli are possessive of a very certain and special sort of sangiovese aromatic liqueur, an amalgamation of deep, dark cherry, fresh leather, earth and flowers that differs from the others. Brunello also carries its own unique type of acidity and a fineness of tannin that speaks to how the grapes develop on the slopes and in the valleys below.

Only 15 per cent of a surface area totalling 24,000 hectares is planted to vines, just under 60 per cent to Brunello, approximately 15 to each Rosso and Sant'Antimo, 1.5 to Moscadello and 10 per cent to other grape varieties. The vineyards are set in a charmed square amphitheatre of geology, with the 1,740m high Mount Amiata to the south acting as protector and climate mitigator. Soils vary but at its most beautiful the decomposition of quaternary rock gives way to marl and albarese. The area is blessed with a Mediterranean climate, thankfully free of frost, great temperature fluctuations, the disease combative frequent presence of wind, mild and full days and in the end long, phenolic developing growing cycles.



<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/benvenuto-brunello-gala-dinner.jpg>

Benvenuto Brunello gala dinner

Brunello's rules call for maximum yields of eight tons per hectare and an obligatory ageing period in wood of two years in oak casks. A further four months (six for Riserva) is required in bottle. Bottling must take place in the production area and the wines can be made available for sale on the first of January in the fifth year following the harvest (sixth for Riserva). Only Bordeaux style bottles are permitted.

Rosso's rules call for maximum yields of nine tons per hectare, bottling must take place in the production area and the wines can be made available for sale on the first of September of the year following the vintage. Like big brother Brunello, Rosso can only be housed in Bordeaux style bottles.

Moscadello's yields climb to 10 tons per hectare for both natural and bubbly (five for Late Harvest) made from moscato bianco. The wines may be made available for sale on the first of January of the second year after the harvest, for the Late Harvest type. Sant'Antimo's yields are set at nine tons per hectare for the Bianco and Rosso and eight for the other reds. It can be produced from all grape varieties recommended and authorized in the province of Siena, with specific limitations for the types with a variety name and for the Vin Santo. Bottling must take place in the province of Siena.



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/sommelier-service-at-benvenuto-brunello.jpg>)
Sommelier service at Benvenuto Brunello

The Cooperative Cellars Biondi-Santi & Co are mentioned in the volume “Vini Tipici Senesi,” published by the chair of agronomy at the Università di Siena in 1933. The cooperative winery Biondi Santi & Co. was established in Montalcino in 1926 by a group of enthusiastic land owners who were also wine producers. They understood the necessity and importance of promoting two of Tuscany’s classic wines, Brunello and Moscadello from Montalcino. The Brunello di Montalcino style did not emerge until the 1870s, soon after Il Risorgimento (the unification of the Italian regions into a single state). Its evolution was expressly due to the efforts of Ferruccio Biondi-Santi. A soldier in Garibaldi’s army, Biondi-Santi returned home from the campaigns to manage the *Fattoria del Greppo* estate belonging to his grandfather Clemente Santi. It was here that he developed some state-of-the-art winemaking techniques which would revolutionize wine production in Montalcino and greater Tuscany.

The word we know as Brunello translates loosely to “little dark one”, in reference to the local vernacular name for sangiovese grosso, “fat sangiovese,” the large-berried form of sangiovese which grows in the area. While Brunello di Montalcino and the clonal sangiovese grosso have been symbiotically synonymous for decades, in today’s modern Brunello lexicon it is simply sangiovese that speaks to the grape of the famous wines.



<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/vancouvers-michaela-morris-godello-and-our-amazing-sommelier-leia.jpg>

Vancouver's Michaela Morris, Godello and our amazing sommelier Leia

Montalcino's reason for breathing, loving and living is to celebrate the wines of its immediate territory and the most noble locally-produced sangiovese has made the history of Brunello while the younger Rosso have taken up the challenge to become the protagonists of the new market.

This report is due and with great thanks to the producers from Montalcino, Patrizio Cencioni, Chairman and President of The Consorzio del Vino Brunello di Montalcino and Vice Presidents Tommaso Cortonesi, Andrea Machetti and Riccardo Talenti. Benvenuto Brunello is the culminating visit for the larger, week long roadshow of Anteprime di Toscana and so thanks is also afforded to Regione Toscana, Tuscany Wine Consortiums, PromoFirenze and the entire Anteprime di Toscana team. My 88 reviews in total cover 22 Rosso Annata 2015 and 2014, 26 Brunello 2012, 34 Brunello Vigna 2012 and six earlier vintage Vigna and Riserva.



mgodello
Chiostro Museo Montalcino

Segui



106 visualizzazioni

0 commenti

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#rossodimontalcino

17 FEBBRAIO

Rosso Di Montalcino 2015

Fattoria Dei Barbi Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(http://poderebrizio.it/en/in-podere-brizio/\)](http://poderebrizio.it/en/in-podere-brizio/), [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99385-Fattoria-Dei-Barbi-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99385-Fattoria-Dei-Barbi-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015))

Quite delicate and elegant in Rosso from Barbi so perfectly executed to suit the effects of the vintage. A poster child actually, with brightness belied by red fruit and then enough grip to solidify the future. This will drink perfectly consistent from now and to the end of these '10s.

Drink 2017-2020. Tasted February 2017 [@FattoriaBarbi](https://twitter.com/FattoriaBarbi)
 [\(https://twitter.com/FattoriaBarbi\)](https://twitter.com/FattoriaBarbi) [@Noble_Estates](https://twitter.com/Noble_Estates)
 [\(https://twitter.com/Noble_Estates\)](https://twitter.com/Noble_Estates) [fattoriadeibarbi](https://www.instagram.com/fattoriadeibarbi/)
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 [\(https://www.facebook.com/NobleEstates/#\)](https://www.facebook.com/NobleEstates/#)

Podere Brizio Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Winery \(http://poderebrizio.it/en/in-podere-brizio/\)](http://poderebrizio.it/en/in-podere-brizio/), [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99334-Podere-Brizio-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99334-Podere-Brizio-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015))

From warmest of warm southwest sandstone and marl Montalcino vineyards of solid rock and altitude. Marks the old school/new school twain as an undisguised expression and honestly prepares you for more structured Brunello without ever abandoning what Rosso must be. Red fruit, chalky liquidity and some fine tannins. Drink 2017-2021. Tasted February 2017

[@PodereBrizio](https://twitter.com/PodereBrizio) (<https://twitter.com/PodereBrizio>) [poderebrizio](https://www.instagram.com/poderebrizio/)
 [\(https://www.instagram.com/poderebrizio/\)](https://www.instagram.com/poderebrizio/) [@poderebrizio](https://www.facebook.com/poderebrizio/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf#)
 [\(https://www.facebook.com/poderebrizio/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf#\)](https://www.facebook.com/poderebrizio/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf#)

Capanna Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(https://www.winealign.com/wine_agents/1269\)](https://www.winealign.com/wine_agents/1269), [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99386-Capanna-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99386-Capanna-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015))

Capanna's is a drink as fast as you can sort of Rosso with red tinging to black raspberry red fruit. There is a plum pudding space from the short barrel and such an inflection gifts true blue baby Brunello character. Enjoy this while the older siblings develop some of that formidable 2012 charm. Drink 2017-2019. Tasted February 2017 [#Capanna](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Capanna?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/Capanna?src=hash>) [@capannamontalcino](https://www.facebook.com/capannamontalcino/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/capannamontalcino/#>) [#capanna](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/capanna/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/capanna/>)

Castello Romitorio Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(http://wineloversagency.com/product_portfolio/consignment-ontario-wines/\)](http://wineloversagency.com/product_portfolio/consignment-ontario-wines/), \$28.99, [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99340-Castello-Di-Romitorio-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99340-Castello-Di-Romitorio-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015))

As young, fresh, beautifully whole-bunch startling and come get me by the trunkful as Rosso di Montalcino can really be. Strawberries soaking in their own macerating juices and straight out of the vat lithe tartness and beauty. For every day and just a hint of what tannin will want to be in the bigger, slowly rendered wood-spiced Brunello. Drink 2017-2019. Tasted February 2017

[#CastelloRomitorio](https://twitter.com/hashtag/CastelloRomitorio?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/CastelloRomitorio?src=hash>) [@WineLoversAgency](https://twitter.com/WineLoversAgency)
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<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/collemattoni-rosso.jpg>

Collemattoni Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](#) <https://www.stemwinegroup.com/home.aspx>), \$28.99, [WineAlign](#) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99341-Collemattoni-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015>))

Firmer than some other Rosso but not in sacrifice of charm or elegance. Depth of berries and even a hint of plum both in aroma and on a silky, pleasurable and meaningful palate. Grown-up is one way of naming it but I prefer to think of Collemattoni's Rosso as in a category of its own, neither Rosso nor Brunello but something to take pleasure without needing any supply from either or. Rosso for next year and five after that. Drink 2018-2023. Tasted February 2017 [@collemattoni](#) (<https://twitter.com/collemattoni>) [@StemWineGroup](#) (<https://twitter.com/StemWineGroup>) [collemattoni](#) (<https://www.instagram.com/collemattoni/>) [stemwinegroup](#) (<https://www.instagram.com/stemwinegroup/>) [Collemattoni Brunello](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/collemattoni.brunello>) [@stemwine](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/stemwine/#>)

Cortonesi La Mannella Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](#) <http://npwines.com/index.html>), \$29.95, [WineAlign](#) (<http://www.winealign.com/wines/97123-Cortonesi-La-Mannella-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015>))

The advance is a young winemaker's approach, using fruit from the youngest vines but from the same vineyards used for Brunello production. Clonal selection permits early success from the fourth to fifth leaf for precocious wines off vines so young. Others may use vineyards dedicated to

Rosso, so farmed with ulterior motive and expectation, neither better nor worse, but different. The old way was simply a matter in selection of grapes, something young winemakers are abandoning for now one or the other ways of making Rosso. Tommaso Cortonesi's is luminous and bright within a frame of ascension in reference to the darker cherry sangiovese point spectrum, with three levels of variegated hue and aromatic profile. Char, fennel and fruit. Great structure, agreeable and yes, drinkable now Rosso. Drink 2017-2021. Tasted February 2017 [@LaMannella](#) (<https://twitter.com/LaMannella>) [@Nicholaspearce](#) (https://twitter.com/Nicholaspearce_) [marcora85](#) (<https://www.instagram.com/marcora85/>) [nicholaspearcewines](#) (<https://www.instagram.com/nicholaspearcewines/>) [Tommaso Cortonesi](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/tommaso.cortonesi.9>) [Nicholas Pearce](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/nicholas.pearce.wine>)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/donatella-rosso.jpg>)

Donatella Cinelli Colombini Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](#) (http://wineloversagency.com/product_portfolio/consignment-ontario-wines/), \$29.95, [WineAlign](#) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99352-Donatella-Cinelli-Colombini-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015>))

Donatella's is a beacon at the shore, up on the fortress and statuesque at the central piazza, standing sentinel to draw attention to the 2015 vintage. Rarely will you find this combination of bright and firm, lithe and intense, ripe and in charge. All the attributes of Montalcino sangiovese are ingrained, albeit with a feminine hand, into its bricks and mortar. Perfectly sculpted and executed, with grace and humility. Drink 2018-2023. Tasted February 2017 [@news_donatella](#)

([@LeSommelierWine](https://twitter.com/news_donatella))
 (<https://twitter.com/LeSommelierWine>) [donatellacinellicolombini](https://www.instagram.com/donatellacinellicolombini/)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/donatellacinellicolombini/>) [lesommelierwine](https://www.instagram.com/lesommelierwine/)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/lesommelierwine/>) [Donatella Cinelli Colombini](https://www.facebook.com/DonatellaCinelliColombini)
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 (<https://www.facebook.com/LeSommelierWine/#>)

Fattoi Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy (Agent (<https://t.co/qeLYLaOTEB>), [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99348-Fatti-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99348-Fatti-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015>))

Relatively reserved as far as Rosso is concerned, with a darker berry, heavier clay and expressly extracted into juicy palate. Bigger expression that take full advantage of the generous vintage to be sure. Drink 2018-2022. Tasted February 2017 [#Fattoi](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Fattoi?src=hash) ([https://twitter.com/hashtag/Fattoi?](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Fattoi?src=hash)
[src=hash](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Fattoi?src=hash)) [@BrunelloImports](https://twitter.com/BrunelloImports) (<https://twitter.com/BrunelloImports>) [#fattoi](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/fattoi/)
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(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/gianni-rosso.jpg>)

Gianni Brunelli Rosso Di Montalcino Le Chiuse Di Sotto 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy (Agent (<http://noblestates.com>), \$34.00, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99349-Gianni-Brunelli-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-Le-Chiuse-Di-Sotto-2015) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99349-Gianni-Brunelli-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-Le-Chiuse-Di-Sotto-2015>))

Le Chiuse Di Sotto, “the closed below,” is beautiful, full and yet not so generous on the nose (above) in sangiovese pure and simply wanting to give Rosso expressly to the palate. The mouthfeel graces better than most, not wanting for anything more than what it knows and has. Nothing astringent about this firm grip and of a concentration yet elegant in tension. Drink 2018-2023. Tasted February 2017 @Noble Estates (https://twitter.com/Noble_Estates) [giannibrunelli](https://www.instagram.com/giannibrunelli/) (<https://www.instagram.com/giannibrunelli/>) [noble_estates](https://www.instagram.com/noble_estates/) (https://www.instagram.com/noble_estates/) @NobleEstates (<https://www.facebook.com/NobleEstates/#>)

Il Poggione Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy (Agent (<http://www.lifford.com/on>), SAQ 12921974 (<http://www.saq.com/page/en/saqcom/vin-rouge/wines/12921974>), \$25.15, WineAlign (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/97889-Il-Poggione-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015>))

Refined and expertly executed if on the side where acidity really makes a play for queen in this Rosso. In a matter for when fruit so red, smoky and ripe is up to the balancing task. Another Rosso that just kills it for the vintage. Drink 2017-2020. Tasted February 2017 @IlPoggioneWines (<https://twitter.com/IlPoggioneWines>) @LiffordON (<https://twitter.com/LiffordON>) [ilpoggione](https://www.instagram.com/ilpoggione/) (<https://www.instagram.com/ilpoggione/>) [liffordgram](https://www.instagram.com/liffordgram/) (<https://www.instagram.com/liffordgram/>) @villailpoggione (<https://www.facebook.com/villailpoggione/#>) @liffordwineandspirits (<https://www.facebook.com/liffordwineandspirits/#>)

La Fiorita Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy (Agent (<http://www.thewinecoaches.com>), WineAlign (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99360-La-Fiorita-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015>))

Simpler and straightforward for Rosso, with the feel of quickly pressed fruit with little extra time spent waiting for its response. There is this herbal note on the palate and a chalky feel that is floral, like a candied pansy and/or exchanged for/mixed with something dairy, even enzymatic. A bit unusual that needs time to settle in. Drink 2018-2020. Tasted February 2017 @NatalieLFiorita (<https://twitter.com/NatalieLFiorita>) @natalie_lafiorita (https://www.instagram.com/natalie_lafiorita/) @ (<https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches>) [TWImports](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/twcimports/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/twcimports/>) [TheWineCoaches](https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches) (<https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches>) [La Fiorita Wines \(Natalie Oliveros\)](https://www.facebook.com/LaFioritaWines) (<https://www.facebook.com/LaFioritaWines>)

La Leccaia Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy (Agent (<http://www.thewinecoaches.com>), WineAlign (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99350-La-Leccaia-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015>))

Resides on the roses and ethereal side of Rosso, of lithe and bright fruit, red all the way to the end. The palate is less expressive and somewhat carbonic, pulsating and pushing its way to the back. Deferential in ways not tasted yet. Drink 2017-2019. Tasted February 2017 @ (<https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches>) [TWImports](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/twcimports/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/twcimports/>) [TheWineCoaches](https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches) (<https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches>)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/carillon.jpg>)

La Togata Rosso Di Montalcino Carillon 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Winery \(http://brunellolatogata.wixsite.com/latogata/homeing\)](http://brunellolatogata.wixsite.com/latogata/homeing), [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99337-La-Togata-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-Carillon-2015\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99337-La-Togata-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-Carillon-2015))

If an imagining of the 2015 Brunello vintage can be foretold in the eyes, nose and mouth of a Rosso, La Torgata's Carillon, "a group of small bells," may just be the oracle. Sweet fruit in red cherry, ripe plum and then the dusting of fennel pollen will turn this to flow fluidly over river stones. So bright, light and pleasant. Could drink this with my pasta every night, no matter the preparation. Rosso like this is perfect, come questo è perfetto, for right now. Drink 2017-2020. Tasted February 2017 #latogata (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/latogata?src=hash>) #latogata (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/latogata/>) Brunello La Togata (<https://www.facebook.com/brunello.latogata>)

La Togata Rosso Di Montalcino La Togata 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Winery \(http://brunellolatogata.wixsite.com/latogata/homeing\)](http://brunellolatogata.wixsite.com/latogata/homeing), [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99338-La-Togata-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-La-Togata-2015-2015\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99338-La-Togata-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-La-Togata-2015-2015))

La Togata is firmer than the estate's Carillon and quite certainly taken from lower, deeper and heavier clay. La Torgata also confirms a pleasing vintage to come for Brunello. Fruit is just that much darker and with more grip and welling tension. Deep earthy charity all over the palate leads to great tang on the finish where the tannin thankfully arrests and relents. Drink 2017-2019. Tasted

February 2017 [#latogata](https://twitter.com/hashtag/latogata?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/latogata?src=hash>) [#latogata](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/latogata/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/latogata/>) [Brunello La Togata](https://www.facebook.com/brunello.latogata) (<https://www.facebook.com/brunello.latogata>)

Lazzeretti Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(http://www.tradesacorp.com\)](http://www.tradesacorp.com), [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99351-Lazzeretti-Rosso-Do-Montalcino-2015\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99351-Lazzeretti-Rosso-Do-Montalcino-2015))

Very modern and expressive. Unexpected but bright and wonderfully fanciful. Fantasy Rosso to imagine ways you had not before. A bit of a wild, natural child. Would look forward to watching this develop over the course of an hour or two. Drink 2018-2022. Tasted February 2017

[@ViniLazzeretti](https://twitter.com/ViniLazzeretti) (<https://twitter.com/ViniLazzeretti>) [@ViniLazzeretti](https://www.facebook.com/ViniLazzeretti/) ([https://www.facebook.com/ViniLazzeretti/#](https://www.facebook.com/ViniLazzeretti/))

Maté Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Winery \(http://www.matewine.com\)](http://www.matewine.com), [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99387-Mate-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99387-Mate-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015))

Maté's is darker, richer and more productive on track with dead aim to please. Got graphite in the pencil and plenty of savour. Spice is at the top in between and down below. Sultry really, hot and bothered. Good long finish. Drink 2017-2019. Tasted February 2017 [@MateWinery](https://twitter.com/MateWinery)

(<https://twitter.com/MateWinery>) [mate_winery](https://www.instagram.com/mate_winery/) (https://www.instagram.com/mate_winery/) [Candace Máté](https://www.facebook.com/candace.mate.9) (<https://www.facebook.com/candace.mate.9>) [@MateWine](https://www.facebook.com/MateWine/?pnref=lhc#) (<https://www.facebook.com/MateWine/?pnref=lhc#>)

Scopetone Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99362-Scopetone-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99362-Scopetone-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015))

Scopetone's Rosso is quite perfumed, nimble and of a nose that thinks potpourri. Here Rosso again needs the palate to flesh and firm up the overall package. Turns just a hair musty and dusty in that respect but does proper work, for the house and for '15. Drink 2017-2019. Tasted February 2017

[#scopetone](https://twitter.com/hashtag/scopetone?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/scopetone?src=hash>) [#scopetone](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/scopetone/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/scopetone/>)

Tiezzi Rosso Di Montalcino Poggio Cerrino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Winery \(http://brunellolatogata.wixsite.com/latogata/homeing\)](http://brunellolatogata.wixsite.com/latogata/homeing), [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99339-Tiezzi-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-Poggio-Cerrino-2015\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99339-Tiezzi-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-Poggio-Cerrino-2015))

Poggio Cerrino certainly acts on the nose more like the reputedly bigger Brunello so this is the provider of such a style. As a Rosso this is the most liqueur focussed and so defines their corner of the 2015 market, of which the school is older and the tone slightly volatile, not to mention deep in extraction. Deeply entrenched in tradition with plenty of tannin, including some verdant strands. Drink 2018-2022. Tasted February 2017 [@BrunelloTiezzi](https://twitter.com/BrunelloTiezzi)

(<https://twitter.com/BrunelloTiezzi>) [brunellotiezzi](https://www.instagram.com/brunellotiezzi/) (<https://www.instagram.com/brunellotiezzi/>) [B](https://www.facebook.com/brunello.tiezzi) (<https://www.facebook.com/brunello.tiezzi>) [runello](https://www.facebook.com/brunello.tiezzi) (<https://www.facebook.com/brunello.tiezzi>) [Tiezzi](https://www.facebook.com/brunello.tiezzi) (<https://www.facebook.com/brunello.tiezzi>)



<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/ventolaio-rosso.jpg>

Ventolaio Rosso Di Montalcino 2015, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Winery](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/Ventolaio/>, [WineAlign](#) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99367-Ventolaio-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2015>))

More than just rustic and charming, here carefully considered to present a modern expression of sangiovese and what it amounts to is a refined, purposed and most excellent expression. There is this anaerobic, aerified inhalant impression that really takes away from expression so think about waiting a year to let the two fronts come together for a more perfect storm. Nothing precious about such a Rosso, only the sort of pure sangiovese roots laid down for success. Drink 2019-2024. Tasted February 2017 [#ventolaio](#) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/ventolaio?src=hash>) [#ventolaio](#) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/ventolaio/>) [@Ventolaio](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/Ventolaio/#>)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/rosso-15-highlights-from-benvenutobrunello-2017-consbrunello-latogata-carillon-castellodiromitorio-collemattoni-giannibrunelli-donatellacinellicolombini-ventolaio.jpg>)

Rosso '15 highlights from #benvenutobrunello 2017 @consBrunello #latogata #carillon #castellodiromitorio #collemattoni #giannibrunelli #donatellacinellicolombini #ventolaio

Rosso Di Montalcino 2014

Le Ragnaie Rosso Di Montalcino V. V. 2014, Doc Tuscany, Italy (Agent

(<http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html>), WineAlign (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99388-Le-Ragnaie-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-V-V--2014>)

A more than beautiful rendition from 2014, regal and rewarding. Elegant and firm to nose, not so perfumed and holding back a touch, with thanks to the Montalcino old vines compression. Firm is the operative, elongation the plan. A mineral-focused sangiovese with years of persistence lay ahead. Drink 2018-2023. Tasted February 2017 #LeRagnaie

(<https://twitter.com/hashtag/LaRagnaie?src=hash>) @KylixWines

(<https://twitter.com/KylixWines>) #laragnaie

(<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/laragnaie/>) kylixwines

(<https://www.instagram.com/kylixwines/>) @leragnaie

(<https://www.facebook.com/leragnaie/#>) @KylixWines (<https://www.facebook.com/KylixWines#>)

Le Ragnaie Rosso Di Montalcino Petroso 2014, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html) (<http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html>), [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99389-La-Ragnaie-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-Petroso-2014) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99389-La-Ragnaie-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-Petroso-2014>))

Petroso is much more beautiful and even on the edge of ethereal as compared to the old vines Rosso. This has bright red fruit and a lightness of Rosso character. Really perfumed, not so much, exactly or specifically fruit but also the mineral, wood and plenty of spices. Love the cross-section of firm, tangy and grippy. This just goes, flows and keeps flowing. Very long and definitive, of vintage and certainly, ostensible, place. Drink 2018-2024. Tasted February 2017 [#LeRagnaie](https://twitter.com/hashtag/LaRagnaie?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/LaRagnaie?src=hash>) [@KylixWines](https://twitter.com/KylixWines) (<https://twitter.com/KylixWines>) [#laragnaie](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/laragnaie/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/laragnaie/>) [kylixwines](https://www.instagram.com/kylixwines/) (<https://www.instagram.com/kylixwines/>) [@leragnaie](https://www.facebook.com/leragnaie/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/leragnaie/#>) [@KylixWines](https://www.facebook.com/KylixWines#) (<https://www.facebook.com/KylixWines#>)

Il Marroneto Rosso Di Montalcino 2014, Doc Tuscany, Italy ([Winery](http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html) (<http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html>), [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99390-Il-Marroneto-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2014) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99390-Il-Marroneto-Rosso-Di-Montalcino-2014>))

It is a pleasure to discover the beautifully rendered combination and complimentary connection between the bright and the structured in a best of both colliding worlds Rosso. Some weight also lends credible Brunello regional character, followed by a mouthfeel silky, fluid and in the end, full of tension and grip. It's a veritable roller-coaster sangiovese ride, slowly climbing the hill to the crest and pausing, as if in a dream, without going over the edge. Fantasy and edging in Rosso di Montalcino. Drink 2019-2025. Tasted February 2017 [@IlMarroneto](https://twitter.com/IlMarroneto) (<https://twitter.com/IlMarroneto>) [#ilMarroneto](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/ilmarroneto/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/ilmarroneto/>) [@BrunelloIlMarroneto](https://www.facebook.com/BrunelloIlMarroneto/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/BrunelloIlMarroneto/#>)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/eyes-on-annata-2012-consbrunello-brunellodimontalcino-benvenutobrunello-2017-montalcino-toscana.jpg>)

Eyes on annata 2012 @consBrunello #brunellodimontalcino #benvenutobrunello 2017 #montalcino #toscana

Brunello Di Montalcino 2012

Argiano Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (154609, \$54.00, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99448-Argiano-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99448-Argiano-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

A solidified crust of earth and red fruit intertwine in Argiano's 2012, a Brunello that resides on the firmer as opposed to brighter side of the 2012 vintage. Argiano will always deliver the goods, in quality fruit, from important terroir and with the building blocks to carry it for 10 to 15 years. The palate brings viscosity, unctuousness and more than enough finishing chocolate ganache. Drink 2019-2027. Tasted February 2017 @Argianowinery

(<https://twitter.com/Argianowinery>) @Noble_Estates (https://twitter.com/Noble_Estates)

cantina_argiano (https://www.instagram.com/cantina_argiano/) noble_estates

(https://www.instagram.com/noble_estates/) @argiano

(<https://www.facebook.com/argiano/#>) @NobleEstates (<https://www.facebook.com/NobleEstates/#>)

Fattoria Dei Barbi Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (928028, \$53.95, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99449-Fattoria-Dei-Barbi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99449-Fattoria-Dei-Barbi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Barbi accomplishes an Annata Brunello just haste in 2012, taking expressly written sangiovese red fruit and pushing it to the limits of its natural tendencies, in hue and expression. I would have to say that consistency from this house is an absolute guarantee and that its style trumps vintage as much as any other. This is simply more Barbi than 2-12. That's all there is to it. Tannins are firm, acidity is strong and fruit is up to the 15 year task. Nothing time sensitive about it and its timeless structure cements the absolution. Drink 2019-2027. Tasted February 2017 @FattoriaBarbi (<https://twitter.com/FattoriaBarbi>) @Noble_Estates (https://twitter.com/Noble_Estates) fattoriadeibarbi (<https://www.instagram.com/fattoriadeibarbi/>) noble_estates (https://www.instagram.com/noble_estates/) @FattoriadeiBarbi (<https://www.facebook.com/FattoriadeiBarbi/#>) @NobleEstates (<https://www.facebook.com/NobleEstates/#>)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/brizio.jpg>)

Podere Brizio Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (<http://poderebrizio.it/en/in-podere-brizio/>), WineAlign (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99335-Podere-Brizio-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Brizio's is quite fresh for Brunello in a style that won't knock you down, from marl and galestro soils expressive of plum fruit and non-quelling oak. The warm southwest Montalcino corner rolls out a convection of buttered savoury pastry as though this were like Champagne in a sangiovese, Brunello style. Red velvet brioche and gingery exoticism from Montalcino with the fineness of tannin. Drink 2018-2026. Tasted February 2017 @PodereBrizio

(<https://twitter.com/PodereBrizio>) [poderebrizio](#)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/poderebrizio/>) [@poderebrizio](#)
 (https://www.facebook.com/poderebrizio/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf#)

Castello Romitorio Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (Agent
 (http://wineloversagency.com/product_portfolio/consignment-ontario-wines/), 236356,
 \$69.99, WineAlign (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99416-Castello-Romitorio-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Take a deep breath and take this beautiful 2012 Castello Romitorio in, full of the purest sangiovese, florals and a moist crust of the earth. Seamless, already full of clean and open window clarity and ultimately beautiful. There are no astringent moments of heavy, barrel chested wood huffs or puffs. This Brunello is traditionally pure while at the same time clean as a whistling sangiovese. Nothing finer or more enjoyable to drink, without any cure or a care. Drink 2018-2026. Tasted February 2017
[#CastelloRomitorio](https://twitter.com/hashtag/CastelloRomitorio?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/CastelloRomitorio?src=hash>) [@WineLoversAgency](#)
 (<https://twitter.com/WineLoversAgency>) [castelloromitorio](#)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/castelloromitorio/>) [wineloversagency](#)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/wineloversagency/>) [Castello Romitorio](#)
 (https://www.facebook.com/Castello-Romitorio-639758986154912/?ref=page_internal) [@wineloversagency](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/wineloversagency/#>)

Castiglion del Bosco Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (956391,
 \$59.95, WineAlign (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99417-Castiglion-Del-Bosco-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

This is the press train to get to the 2012 station, of the right and correct fruit but with the sense to pull in on time. You do not have to wait for Bosco to fight its way through the Brunello crowd. The journey is already complete so if you need a drink me now Brunello this is your train. The fruit darkens and fleshes just in the time it travels from glass to mouth, with temporal, juicy acidity and easy tannin. Finishes with a shot of fine espresso. Drink 2017-2021. Tasted February 2017
[#castigliondelbosco](https://twitter.com/hashtag/castigliondelbosco?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/castigliondelbosco?src=hash>) [@LiffordON](#)
 (<https://twitter.com/LiffordON>) [castigliondelbosco](#)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/castigliondelbosco/>) [liffordgram](#)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/liffordgram/>) [@castigliondelbosco](#)
 (<https://www.facebook.com/castigliondelbosco/#>) [@liffordwineandspirits](#)
 (<https://www.facebook.com/liffordwineandspirits/#>)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/cava-donice.jpg>)

Cava d'Onice Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (WineAlign
(<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99450-Cava-D%27onice-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Brunello 2012 in the hands of Cava d'Onice is blessed of a most heady and pretty perfume in a decidedly gregarious expression, though with no danger of inching over the strada. Really tests the limits of fruit and wood and comes out clean and fresh, with much liquid ruby, chalky and spiced addendum. It's the sangiovese equivalent of old school charm in modernist, retro clothing. Drink 2018-2024. Tasted February 2017 @cavadonice (<https://twitter.com/cavadonice>)
azienda_cavadonice (https://www.instagram.com/azienda_cavadonice/) @cavadonice
(<https://www.facebook.com/cavadonice/#>)

Col D'orcia Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (306852, \$49.95, WineAlign
(<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99418-Col-D%27orcia-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Typically Col D'orcia for Brunello, firm, grippy and designed with angles, lines and box vector precision. Fruit is not at once ready and willing to tell a story because tannins are on top and suppress the basket down. I will admit that the vintage is more relenting than many, not quite 2007 mind you but certainly not a factor of 2008. This normale will need three years to open up before it really begins to celebrate its fruit and then offer evolving subtleties for five to seven after that. Drink 2020-2027. Tasted February 2017 @Coldorcia
(<https://twitter.com/Coldorcia>) @DionysusWines (<https://twitter.com/DionysusWines>) coldorcia
(<https://www.instagram.com/coldorcia/>) dionysuswines

[\(https://www.instagram.com/dionysuswines/\)](https://www.instagram.com/dionysuswines/) @coldorcia.brunello

<https://www.facebook.com/coldorcia.brunello/#>) Dionysus Wines & Spirits Ltd

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Dionysus-Wines-Spirits-Ltd/1039942536068419?ref=br_rs)

Collemattoni Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (Agent

<https://www.stemwinegroup.com/home.aspx>), \$61.99, WineAlign

<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99419-Collemattoni-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Gorgeous red fruit as generous and dare it be said, magnanimous as it gets. Collemattoni is a fruit machine, but also a mineral maker and a long-distance, slow-evolutionary walker. The calcareous-clay impression (from San Angelo in Colle on the southern hill of Montalcino) leaves a lasting imprint on your Brunello soul. This carries fine millefoglie layers of fruit, woven in lattice and with alternative material from that fruit, of ground stone, acidity and sweet, fine-grainy tannin. No shards, no cruising and no need for rehydration. Carries it all in one bag, or bottle. Drink 2020-2032. Tasted February 2017 @collemattoni (<https://twitter.com/collemattoni>) @StemWineGroup (<https://twitter.com/StemWineGroup>) collemattoni (<https://www.instagram.com/collemattoni/>) stemwinegroup (<https://www.instagram.com/stemwinegroup/>) Collemattoni Brunello (<https://www.facebook.com/collemattoni.brunello>) @stemwine (<https://www.facebook.com/stemwine/#>)



<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/la-manella-2012.jpg>)

Cortonesi La Mannella Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(http://npwines.com/index.html\)](http://npwines.com/index.html), \$70.95, [WineAlign \(http://www.winealign.com/wines/97124-Cortonesi-La-Mannella-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012\)](http://www.winealign.com/wines/97124-Cortonesi-La-Mannella-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012))

La Mannella, meaning the manna from heaven is a five hectare, five block vineyard in surround of the winery at the centre of the Cortonesi universe. A vineyard that is used exclusively for the production of the estate's Rosso and La Mannella Brunelli. La Mannella (as opposed to I Poggiarelli) is a single block Brunello but not a "single-vineyard," planted in 1985 and 1998 in a relative Montalcino colder northern clime. This emits and represents the epitome for floral sangiovese, a bouquet that speaks to violets and elegant, light purple fruit. The penetrability and explicability of purlieu is an act of focus and the cynosure of assessment. Brunello should be exacting, something you get and it must define itself in clear sangiovese-speak. Large slavonian oak for 36 months maintains and celebrates the perfume. The wood shows up late, in white peppery spice and that just have to lay on your tongue and swallow with sublime delight, liquid chalky finish. Drink 2019-2027. Tasted February 2017 [@LaMannella](https://twitter.com/LaMannella) (<https://twitter.com/LaMannella>) [@Nicholaspearce](https://twitter.com/Nicholaspearce) (<https://twitter.com/Nicholaspearce>) [marcora85](https://www.instagram.com/marcora85/) (<https://www.instagram.com/marcora85/>) [nicholaspearcewines](https://www.instagram.com/nicholaspearcewines/) (<https://www.instagram.com/nicholaspearcewines/>) [Tommaso Cortonesi](https://www.facebook.com/tommaso.cortonesi.9) (<https://www.facebook.com/tommaso.cortonesi.9>) [Nicholas Pearce](https://www.facebook.com/nicholas.pearce.wine) (<https://www.facebook.com/nicholas.pearce.wine>)

Donatella Cinelli Colombini Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (431718, \$58.00, [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99420-Donatella-Cinelli-Colombini-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99420-Donatella-Cinelli-Colombini-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012))

Donatella Cinelli Colombini's '12 presents a step up in character provided by the soil in her most masculine expression, if there is indeed such thing from this house. More density, seemingly lower-slope and deeper soil inflection comes replete with a handsome terroir-funky feeling. The fruit is currently secondary and not the most obvious for 2012 as a whole, though it is for the house. The palate is typically rendered by Donatella, creamy and fluid, liquid mineral ruby and carried by a fineness of tannin all the way to the finish. Drink 2019-2025. Tasted February 2017 [@news_donatella](https://twitter.com/news_donatella) (https://twitter.com/news_donatella) [@LeSommelierWine](https://twitter.com/LeSommelierWine) (<https://twitter.com/LeSommelierWine>) [donatellacinellicolombini](https://www.instagram.com/donatellacinellicolombini/) (<https://www.instagram.com/donatellacinellicolombini/>) [lesommelierwine](https://www.instagram.com/lesommelierwine/) (<https://www.instagram.com/lesommelierwine/>) [Donatella Cinelli Colombini](https://www.facebook.com/DonatellaCinelliColombini) (<https://www.facebook.com/DonatellaCinelliColombini>) [@LeSommelierWine](https://www.facebook.com/LeSommelierWine/) (<https://www.facebook.com/LeSommelierWine/#>)

Fuligni Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (245225, \$61.95, [WineAlign \(http://www.winealign.com/wines/99436-Fuligni-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012\)](http://www.winealign.com/wines/99436-Fuligni-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012))

Fuligni's is a fine and refined sangiovese and quite perfect for and from the 2012 vintage. Quite an inhalant at first, savoury, strong and then turning tannic, properly rigid and wood-tough on the chalky and chocolatey palate. It's not quite how it once in delivery a more traditional statement, now more streamlined, internationally understandable, bigger, grander and in search of suits around the table at a steakhouse. Will work for Tomahawks. Drink 2019-2026. Tasted February 2017 [#eredifuligni](https://twitter.com/eredifuligni) (<https://twitter.com/eredifuligni?src=hash>) [@HalpernWine](https://twitter.com/HalpernWine) (<https://twitter.com/HalpernWine>) [Fuligni](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/fuligni/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/fuligni/>) [halpernwine](https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/) (<https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/>) [@halpernwine](https://www.facebook.com/halpernwine/) (<https://www.facebook.com/halpernwine/#>)

Gianni Brunelli Brunello Di Montalcino Le Chiuse Di Sotto 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(http://noblestates.com\)](http://noblestates.com)), \$70.00, [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99437-Gianni-Brunelli-%28Le-Chiuse-Di-Sotto%29-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99437-Gianni-Brunelli-%28Le-Chiuse-Di-Sotto%29-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012))

The Brunello from Chiuse Di Sotto is lovely in that it enters with that classic sangiovese purity, namely fruit but with the vineyard stowed comfortably in its iron-rich pocket. This strikes as perhaps schisty (or the Montalcino equivalent) Brunello, with a slight hematic and ferric aromatic complement. Really full, rich and acidity-laced palate is followed by a grand finale from which you wished you'd have been afforded an additional four years to make the assessment. Alas, that's not how this works. Drink 2020-2027. Tasted February 2017. [@Noble_Estates](https://twitter.com/Noble_Estates) (https://twitter.com/Noble_Estates) [giannibrunelli](https://www.instagram.com/giannibrunelli/) (<https://www.instagram.com/giannibrunelli/>) [noble_estates](https://www.instagram.com/noble_estates/) (https://www.instagram.com/noble_estates/) [@NobleEstates](https://www.facebook.com/NobleEstates/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/NobleEstates/#>)

Il Grappolo Brunello Di Montalcino Sassocheto 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99447-Scopetone-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99447-Scopetone-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012))

The 2012 Brunello vintage is taken to an extreme side in Sassocheto's Il Grappolo, with very firm and vacuumed aromatics shut and locked in so very tight. The depths are occupied by cherries drying, losing their body weight and settling into a floor of forest leaves and a future occupied by mushroom and truffle. The old-school, fine leathery and old barrel tonic bequeathes much hope for the mouthfeel and it gives every reason to confirm the possibilities. The world as we have known it here in Brunello sits right in this glass. It's both comforting and filled with ancient wonder. Drink 2019-2027. Tasted February 2017 [@GrappoloFortius](https://twitter.com/GrappoloFortius) (<https://twitter.com/GrappoloFortius>) [#ilgrappolo](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/ilgrappolo/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/ilgrappolo/>) [@IlGrappoloFortiusMontalcino](https://www.facebook.com/IlGrappoloFortiusMontalcino/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf#) (https://www.facebook.com/IlGrappoloFortiusMontalcino/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf#)

Il Marroneto Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Winery \(http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html\)](http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html)), [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99438-Il-Marroneto-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99438-Il-Marroneto-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012))

High on the red liqueur but not equally so with high-octane tones, this is more accessible than you might think. It's really big on its fruit, both on the nose and the palate. Quite classic in every respect and wholly respectful to the vintage. Bright and firm, direct and down to earth. Plenty of new wood will send this deep into the next decade. Drink 2018-2028. Tasted February 2017 [@IlMarroneto](https://twitter.com/IlMarroneto) (<https://twitter.com/IlMarroneto>) [#ilMarroneto](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/ilmarroneto/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/ilmarroneto/>) [@BrunelloIlMarroneto](https://www.facebook.com/BrunelloIlMarroneto/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/BrunelloIlMarroneto/#>)

Il Poggione Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(http://www.lifford.com/on\)](http://www.lifford.com/on)), \$62.50, [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99439-Il-Poggione-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99439-Il-Poggione-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012))

Like the 2015 Rosso the house style really concentrates fruit and soil, here into a solidly constructed, carefully considered architectural Brunello from the ground's foundation all the way up. Aromas and texture act argilo-calcaire in origin, deep, humid and alive. The mouthfeel is fuller than many in 2012, tasted here in 2017, full of liquid chalk, 80 per cent cacao and really fine if currently intrusive tannin. Will need time, this grippy 2012. Drink 2020-2028. Tasted February 2017 [@IlPoggioneWines](https://twitter.com/IlPoggioneWines) (<https://twitter.com/IlPoggioneWines>) [@LiffordON](https://twitter.com/LiffordON) (<https://twitter.com/LiffordON>) [ilpoggione](https://www.instagram.com/ilpoggione/) (<https://www.instagram.com/ilpoggione/>) [liffordgram](https://www.instagram.com/liffordgram/) (<https://www.instagram.com/liffordgram/>) [@villailpoggione](https://www.facebook.com/villailpoggione/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/villailpoggione/#>) [@liffordwineandspirits](https://www.facebook.com/liffordwineandspirits/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/liffordwineandspirits/#>)

Fattoria La Lecciaia Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (121905, \$57.95, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99440-La-Lecciaia-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99440-La-Lecciaia-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

La Lecciaia's 2012 continues the house roll with a fourth straight proverbial, essential and impressive Brunello. As much as any this is a true, red-blooded 2012 and after tasting near 100 samples it really stands out as exemplary and respectful to the vintage. There is this rustic but very pure curative quality in the way such wines remember everything that came before without pausing to crawl forward into the future. This drinks as it always will, with clean and fiery temper alongside flesh and freshness. Lovely example of 2012 that will age really well. Drink 2019-2030.

Tasted February 2017 @ (<https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches>) [TWImports](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/twcimports/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/twcimports/>) [TheWineCoaches](https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches) (<https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches>)

Le Ragnaie Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html) (<http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html>), \$50.00, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99441-Le-Ragnaie-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99441-Le-Ragnaie-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Le Ragnaie's '12 is reductive and terroir-driven, the combative combination rendering this Brunello reserved and shy. There is a modicum of freshness from the fruit but also some dried character, likely a cause and effect created by its aggressive tannins. I like the way it switches gears to the palate with no break or change of pace and how it reaches deep into the well for more fruit and tannin. Several years will be needed to scale the wall, pry open the cracks and spill out the charm. Three at least. Drink 2020-2028. Tasted February 2017

#LeRagnaie (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/LaRagnaie?src=hash>) @KylixWines (<https://twitter.com/KylixWines>) #laragnaie (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/laragnaie/>) kylixwines (<https://www.instagram.com/kylixwines/>) @leragnaie (<https://www.facebook.com/leragnaie/#>) @KylixWines (<https://www.facebook.com/KylixWines#>)

Mocali Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (64956, \$44.95, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99442-Mocali-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99442-Mocali-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Highly aromatic but also warm, the alcohol on this Mocali seems elevated to the higher end of the 2012 scale. For this reason the fruit succumbs to it and the tannin. There is plenty of stuffing and modern styling to keep Mocali's sangiovese afloat so that it may glide well into the next century and reveal a Brunello charm from Montalcino roots. Drink 2019-2026. Tasted February 2017

#mocali (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/mocali?src=hash>) @LiffordON (<https://twitter.com/LiffordON>) #mocaliwine (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/mocaliwine/>) liffordgram (<https://www.instagram.com/liffordgram/>) Mocali Azienda Mocali (<https://www.facebook.com/mocali.aziendamocali>) @liffordwineandspirits (<https://www.facebook.com/liffordwineandspirits/#>)

Pian Delle Vigne Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (651141 (http://www.vintages.com/lcbo-ear/vintages/product/searchResults.do?ITEM_NAME=651141&ITEM_NUMBER=651141&language=EN&style=Vintages), \$62.95, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99443-Pian-Delle-Vigne-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99443-Pian-Delle-Vigne-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

A perfectly perfumed Pian Delle Vigne from 2012 is vintage-relegated and vintage-captured. You need to appreciate how the Antinori team has kept the handling and the sheathing to a comfortable minimum, allowing fruit and collection of place to shine. Well made Brunello for 10 years easy. Drink 2018-2027. Tasted February 2017 @AntinoriFamily

(<https://twitter.com/AntinoriFamily>) @HalpernWine (<https://twitter.com/HalpernWine>)
[#piandellevigne](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/piandellevigne/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/piandellevigne/>) [halpernwine](https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/)
[\(https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/\)](https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/) @MarchesiAntinori
<https://www.facebook.com/MarchesiAntinori/#>) @halpernwine
<https://www.facebook.com/halpernwine/#>)

Poggio Antico Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (Agent, \$70.00, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99444-Poggio-Antico-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012)
<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99444-Poggio-Antico-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Warm and in full dispensation of all that 2012 has on offer, the fruit is at once bright and then deepens, in hue and aroma, by extraction. There is this fennel to liquorice scent that isn't so very 2012 but that extra bit of personality is Poggio Antico's calling card. The mouthfeel is one of the better in this Benvenuto Brunello line-up, cool, sapid and elastic. Wild cherries are all over the tannic finish. Drink 2019-2027. Tasted February 2017 @poggioantico
<https://twitter.com/poggioantico>) @HalpernWine (<https://twitter.com/HalpernWine>)
[tenutadelpoggioantico](https://www.instagram.com/tenutadelpoggioantico/) (<https://www.instagram.com/tenutadelpoggioantico/>) [halpernwine](https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/)
[\(https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/\)](https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/) @tenutadelpoggioantico
<https://www.facebook.com/tenutadelpoggioantico/#>) @halpernwine
<https://www.facebook.com/halpernwine/#>)

Poggio Antico Brunello Di Montalcino Altero 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (SAQ [11300367](http://www.saq.com/page/en/saqcom/vin-rouge/wines/11300367)
<http://www.saq.com/page/en/saqcom/vin-rouge/wines/11300367>), \$90.50, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99456-Poggio-Antico-Altero-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012)
<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99456-Poggio-Antico-Altero-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Altero might be considered in all of its possible meanings; elevato, nobile, dignitato. Lofty, noble and dignified. It provides a step up in extraction, firm tannic grip and a blessedly variegated aromatic personality built on pure sangiovese perfume. This really is a clean and fine, structured and clearly alterarsi (alternative) Poggio Antico expression, if more than obviously transparently defined Brunello di Montalcino. The level of refinement is felt in shivers, palpable and loaded with contentment gifted Brunello terms. Modernity is not so much a stylistic choice as much as it is necessity. Drink this comfortably for 20 years but not into the next dark ages. Drink 2018-2035. Tasted February 2017 @poggioantico (<https://twitter.com/poggioantico>) @HalpernWine
<https://twitter.com/HalpernWine>) [tenutadelpoggioantico](https://www.instagram.com/tenutadelpoggioantico/)
[\(https://www.instagram.com/tenutadelpoggioantico/\)](https://www.instagram.com/tenutadelpoggioantico/) [halpernwine](https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/)
[\(https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/\)](https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/) @tenutadelpoggioantico
<https://www.facebook.com/tenutadelpoggioantico/#>) @halpernwine
<https://www.facebook.com/halpernwine/#>)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/poggio-di-sotto.jpg>)

Poggio Di Sotto Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (337774, \$180.00, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99446-Poggio-Di-Sotto-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99446-Poggio-Di-Sotto-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

The present and the future are only bright coming from the heady and purposeful red fruit in the Poggio di Sotto glass. This is pure, clear and distinctly 2012, so very well made and quite elegant. I'm not sure what more you could ask from the vintage in a Brunello prepped to drink beginning of next year and for five equally lustrous more. Drink 2018-2023. Tasted February 2017

[#poggiodisotto](https://twitter.com/hashtag/poggiodisotto?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/poggiodisotto?src=hash>) [#poggiodisotto](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/poggiodisotto/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/poggiodisotto/>) [Poggio di Sotto](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Poggio-di-Sotto/258762240826764) (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Poggio-di-Sotto/258762240826764>)

Rodolfo Cosimi Brunello Di Montalcino Il Poggiolo 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99453-Rodolfo-Cosimi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Il-Poggiolo-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99453-Rodolfo-Cosimi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Il-Poggiolo-2012>))

The "little knolls" comes with a whiff of old hides, barrel cellar walls and already a note of forest mushroom so the first thought is certainly placed back into another time. The palate is so welling with liqueur, acidity, tannin and endless possibility. There is grip but not too much and while this lingers it does so with waning grit and grip. So in the end, modernity is part of the plan and in what is ostensibly a big, sumptuous mouthful of sangiovese. Drink 2018-2025. Tasted February 2017 [@ilmioBrunello](https://twitter.com/ilmioBrunello) (<https://twitter.com/ilmioBrunello>) [il_poggiolo](https://www.instagram.com/il_poggiolo/) (https://www.instagram.com/il_poggiolo/) [@ilpoggiolomontalcino](https://www.facebook.com/ilpoggiolomontalcino/) (<https://www.facebook.com/ilpoggiolomontalcino/#>)

Rodolfo Cosimi Brunello Di Montalcino Il Poggiolo Bionsega “Lifestyle” 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (WineAlign (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99454-Rodolfo-Cosimi%C2%A0Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Il-Poggiolo-Bionsega-%22Lifestyle%22-2012>))

Il Poggiolo’s Bionsega is a very amenable sangiovese, ready to drink in the short term while the others bide their developing and softening time. The “Lifestyle” moniker will clearly be written in Brunello stone for a group of imbibers who want the label without the anxiety. This will indeed offer them immediate pleasure and gratification if they can afford the money and the necessary if unavoidable cerebral time. But to be honest at the end of the glass the good and sincere Bionsega is not so out there so drink up and enjoy. Drink 2017-2020. Tasted February 2017 [@ilmioBrunello](https://twitter.com/ilmioBrunello) (<https://twitter.com/ilmioBrunello>) [il_poggiolo](https://www.instagram.com/il_poggiolo/) (https://www.instagram.com/il_poggiolo/) [@ilpoggiolomontalcino](https://www.facebook.com/ilpoggiolomontalcino/) (<https://www.facebook.com/ilpoggiolomontalcino/#>)

Rodolfo Cosimi Brunello Di Montalcino Il Poggiolo Terra Rossa 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (WineAlign (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99455-Rodolfo-Cosimi%C2%A0Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Il-Poggiolo-Terra-Rossa-2012>))

Terra Rossa soil is a fascinating thread, connecting disparate wine regions by soil, from Coonawarra to Chianti Classico and here into Montalcino. The territory’s red soil sangiovese delivers distinct purity and clarity earlier than the “normale” from Il Poggiolo. This Brunello is bright, cheery and full of ripe red cherry. Just a touch of grippy tannin comes swift but the impression is more tang from that soil and how the wine must be made from there. An earlier drinking Brunello to be sure and quite progressive in style. Drink 2018-2022. Tasted February 2017 [@ilmioBrunello](https://twitter.com/ilmioBrunello) (<https://twitter.com/ilmioBrunello>) [il_poggiolo](https://www.instagram.com/il_poggiolo/) (https://www.instagram.com/il_poggiolo/) [@ilpoggiolomontalcino](https://www.facebook.com/ilpoggiolomontalcino/) (<https://www.facebook.com/ilpoggiolomontalcino/#>)



<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/scopetone.jpg>

Scopetone Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99447-Scopetone-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012)
<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99447-Scopetone-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Scopetone is higher in tone and alcohol warmth but balanced by top quality and the clarity of fruit. Though the vintage does not necessarily bring such a fractive sort of behaviour the Scopetone sections itself into fruit, acidity and tannin, after it has stopped acting so bloody reductive. The hematic and ferric aspects mix with burgeoning acidity and a return of that exceptional fruit. This will live so very long and as such it's deferential attitude to the vintage is easily forgiven. Drink 2020-2032. Tasted February 2017 [#scopetone](https://twitter.com/hashtag/scopetone?src=hash) ([https://twitter.com/hashtag/scopetone?](https://twitter.com/hashtag/scopetone?src=hash)
[src=hash](https://twitter.com/hashtag/scopetone?src=hash)) [#scopetone](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/scopetone/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/scopetone/>)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/top-quality-vigne-annata-2012-brunellodimontalcino-consbrunello-benvenutobrunello-montalcino-sangiovese.jpg>)

Brunello Di Montalcino 2012 (Vigna)

Altesino Brunello Di Montalcino Montosoli 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (SAQ 10221683 (<http://www.saq.com/page/en/saqcom/vin-rouge/wines/10221683>), \$104.50, WineAlign (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99486-Altesino-Montosoli-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

In its present state Montesoli is a beast. There, I've said it. Shut tight, chains securely in place, reduction the retaining wall to keep predators out and so good luck on unearthing any early secrets. You know there is classic and earthy red fruit hiding but you can't quite feel it. The palate is chewy, crunchy, propitiously and indubitably enriched. This is a massive Brunello with underlying elegance and charm but ultimately all-powerful. Drink 2021-2037. Tasted February 2017 #altesino (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/altesino?src=hash>) @rogcowines (<https://twitter.com/rogcowines>) #altesino (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/altesino/>) rogersandcompanywines (<https://www.instagram.com/rogersandcompanywines/>) Winery/Vineyard (<https://www.facebook.com/search/105523902814895/places-in/209630435729071/places/intersect/>) @rogcowines (<https://www.facebook.com/rogcowines/#>)

Castello Banfi Brunello Di Montalcino Poggio Alle Mura 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(http://thecaseforwine.com\)](http://thecaseforwine.com), \$69.95, [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99488-Castello-Banfi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Poggio-Alle-Mura-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99488-Castello-Banfi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Poggio-Alle-Mura-2012))

As expected a rich, preserved and developed liqueur from Poggio Alle Mura but what is exceptional is the lesser or lack of barrel on both the nose and the palate at such a young stage. This is the most red-fruit reasoned PAM I have ever tasted and I can only say that Banfi has listened to the vintage and the land with great exception and care. The chocolate and the viscosity are left behind so that purity and traditional (or is it forward-thinking) tenets of sangiovese can take centre stage. Bravo. Drink 2019-2028. Tasted February 2017 [@CastelloBanfi](https://twitter.com/CastelloBanfi) (<https://twitter.com/CastelloBanfi>) [@AuthenticWineON](https://twitter.com/AuthenticWineON) (<https://twitter.com/AuthenticWineON>) [castellobanfi_ilbordo](https://www.instagram.com/castellobanfi_ilbordo) (https://www.instagram.com/castellobanfi_ilbordo/) [awsmwest](https://www.instagram.com/awsmwest) (<https://www.instagram.com/awsmwest/>) [@CastelloBanfi](https://www.facebook.com/CastelloBanfi/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/CastelloBanfi/#>) [@awsmmon](https://www.facebook.com/awsmmon/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/awsmmon/#>)

Fattoria Dei Barbi Brunello Di Montalcino Vigna Del Fiore 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (SAQ 10217300 (<http://www.saq.com/page/en/saqcom/vin-rouge/wines/10217300>), \$64.75, [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99508-Fattoria-Dei-Barbi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Vigna-Del-Fiore-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99508-Fattoria-Dei-Barbi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Vigna-Del-Fiore-2012))

Barbi has also listened to the wind and vintage ear worms sung from their iconic, 16th century vineyard known as Vigna del Fiore. Red fruit of clarity and purity reigns while acidity is at its finest for the house. The rusticity of cherry, leather and roasted beets combine for full gastronomic effect and lead into a rather sumptuous and mouth coating texture for the palate. This scales the wall and retreats again to stay in the game in which you can play now (well, soon), then repeatedly, at consistent increments, later and later. VdeF from Barbi is a best of both worlds Brunello for both consumer and collector. Drink 2019-2031. Tasted February 2017 [@FattoriaBarbi](https://twitter.com/FattoriaBarbi) (<https://twitter.com/FattoriaBarbi>) [@Noble_Estates](https://twitter.com/Noble_Estates) (https://twitter.com/Noble_Estates) [fattoriadeibarbi](https://www.instagram.com/fattoriadeibarbi/) (<https://www.instagram.com/fattoriadeibarbi/>) [noble_estates](https://www.instagram.com/noble_estates) (https://www.instagram.com/noble_estates/) [@FattoriadeiBarbi](https://www.facebook.com/FattoriadeiBarbi/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/FattoriadeiBarbi/#>) [@NobleEstates](https://www.facebook.com/NobleEstates/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/NobleEstates/#>)

Bellaria Brunello Di Montalcino Assunto 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (206854, \$36.95, [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99511-Bellaria-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Assunto-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99511-Bellaria-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Assunto-2012))

Bellaria's Assunto is funky and truffle earthy, etched and forged from and for the past. Red citrus concentrate and wild thyme are further scents gotten and then such tart compression on the palate. Hard acidity and desperate tannin take this straight down the line. Drink 2018-2022. Tasted February 2017

Camigliano Brunello Di Montalcino Paesaggio Inatteso 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99512-Camigliano-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Paesaggio-Inatteso-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99512-Camigliano-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Paesaggio-Inatteso-2012))

Camigliano's sangiovese is rather reductive and ornery at this stage, perhaps specific to the Paesaggio Inatteso Vigna bottling. It is a wine that will not give up easy. The dusty rustic fruit and heady to woody aromas are surely meant to spread some kind of traditional word but it's hard to get past the fortress gates. Quite out of touch with fruit it's hard to imagine that this will not develop much more charm anytime soon. The barrel is very strong on the flavours so added up you get what you got. Drink 2018-2021. Tasted February 2017

Caparzo Brunello Di Montalcino La Casa 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(http://thecaseforwine.com\)](http://thecaseforwine.com), \$69.95, [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99487-Caparzo-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-La-Casa-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99487-Caparzo-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-La-Casa-2012))

Caparzo's Vigna La Casa is quite rich and more approachable than many at such an early stage with the home vineyard ready to provide both the beauty and the stuffing almost before you realize you can sit down with a bottle to enjoy. It is refreshing to take a Vigna-designate bottle and be offered the immediacy of fruit though La Casa is more than capable with structure to take it through a five year primary stage. Some interest will develop after that but these early years will be the best. Drink 2017-2022. Tasted February 2017 [@CaparzoWines](https://twitter.com/CaparzoWines) (<https://twitter.com/CaparzoWines>) [@TheCaseForWine](https://twitter.com/TheCaseForWine) (<https://twitter.com/TheCaseForWine>) [#caparzowinery](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/caparzowinery) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/caparzowinery/>)

Castello Romitorio Brunello Di Montalcino Filo di Sesta 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99457-Castello-Romitorio-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Filo-Di-Sesta-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99457-Castello-Romitorio-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Filo-Di-Sesta-2012))

A perfume of fine spun sweet red fruit fills the glass and prepares you for what can only be a case of smitten by love in sangiovese. The tree fruit is ripe and falls into the hand almost before it is picked. The traditions of the Brunelli are deeply entrenched into the genetics of such a wine and onto the palate we go with more sweet acidity-laced and tannin-gripped fruit. Quite seamless and propitiously endowed with a quiet and highly effective linger. Not as tough as many and yet indicative of the vintage without needing to scream for to be heard. Drink 2018-2024. Tasted February 2017 [#CastelloRomitorio](https://twitter.com/hashtag/CastelloRomitorio?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/CastelloRomitorio?src=hash>) [@WineLoversAgency](https://twitter.com/WineLoversAgency) (<https://twitter.com/WineLoversAgency>) [castelloromitorio](https://www.instagram.com/castelloromitorio/) (<https://www.instagram.com/castelloromitorio/>) [wineloversagency](https://www.instagram.com/wineloversagency/) (<https://www.instagram.com/wineloversagency/>) [Castello Romitorio](https://www.facebook.com/Castello-Romitorio-639758986154912/?ref=page_internal) (https://www.facebook.com/Castello-Romitorio-639758986154912/?ref=page_internal) [@wineloversagency](https://www.facebook.com/wineloversagency/) ([https://www.facebook.com/wineloversagency/#](https://www.facebook.com/wineloversagency/))

Castiglion del Bosco Brunello Di Montalcino Campo Del Drago 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (SAQ 10708424 (<http://www.saq.com/page/en/saqcom/vin-rouge/wines/10708424>), \$63.25, [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99458-Castiglion-Del-Bosco-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Campo-Del-Drago-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99458-Castiglion-Del-Bosco-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Campo-Del-Drago-2012))

A divergence from the normale comes from the dragon, with an increased level of aromatic airiness and simultaneous inhalant, like gastronomy coming from the kitchen of demi-glacé, herbs and roasting meats. Such culinary wafts are perfect for preparing the palate and the crunchy, chewy and marbled work is a reminder that salty protein (I'm really thinking fresh Tagliatelle and wild boar) is the focus in handling such sangiovese. The grip on the finish indicates a long life ahead. Drink 2018-2028. Tasted February 2017 [#castigliondelbosco](https://twitter.com/hashtag/castigliondelbosco?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/castigliondelbosco?src=hash>) [@LiffordON](https://twitter.com/LiffordON) (<https://twitter.com/LiffordON>) [castigliondelbosco](https://www.instagram.com/castigliondelbosco/) (<https://www.instagram.com/castigliondelbosco/>) [liffordgram](https://www.instagram.com/liffordgram/) (<https://www.instagram.com/liffordgram/>) [@castigliondelbosco](https://www.facebook.com/castigliondelbosco/) ([https://www.facebook.com/castigliondelbosco/#](https://www.facebook.com/castigliondelbosco/)) [@liffordwineandspirits](https://www.facebook.com/liffordwineandspirits/) (<https://www.facebook.com/liffordwineandspirits/#>)

Cava d'Onice Brunello Di Montalcino Colombaio 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99515-Cava-D%27onice-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Colombaio-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99515-Cava-D%27onice-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Colombaio-2012))

Cava D'Onice's Colmbaiao delivers high quality red fruit antics form the aromatic front in cloud-burst vitality from what is nothing but a striking expression of sangiovese. Expertly straddles the line between acidity-laced, sour-edged and ripe from extracted excitability. Bright, fresh and full of spirit. Sweet viscous purity of palate fruit, a bit of roll-up and then such round acidity. Ben preparato e qualificato. Drink 2019-2026. Tasted February 2017 [@cavadonice](https://twitter.com/cavadonice) (<https://twitter.com/cavadonice>) [azienda_cavadonice](https://www.instagram.com/azienda_cavadonice/) (https://www.instagram.com/azienda_cavadonice/) [@cavadonice](https://www.facebook.com/cavadonice/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/cavadonice/#>)

Celestino Pecci Brunello Di Montalcino Poggio Al Carro 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99459-Celestino-Pecchi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Poggio-Al-Carro-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99459-Celestino-Pecchi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Poggio-Al-Carro-2012>))

The wagon (or perhaps, chariot) "Al Carro" delivers a single-vineyard's increased level of aromatic liqueur, reductive as if by concentrate and is the first to really give off that feeling of cherries seeping in their own syrupy liquid. Such an oozing coulis of sangiovese is what we have come to expect from Brunello though I don't think it typical of the 2012 vintage. What it says is lower elevation fruit, likely from a warmer Montalcino spot and not quite so efficiently managed to stay cool, elegant and alive. It is delicious in current state but without sufficient grip and tannin structure not necessarily built for the long haul. Drink 2017-2022. Tasted February 2017 [#celestinopecchi](https://twitter.com/hashtag/celestinopecchi?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/celestinopecchi?src=hash>) [celestinopecchi](https://www.instagram.com/celestinopecchi/) (<https://www.instagram.com/celestinopecchi/>) [Celestino Pecci](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100010301479092) (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100010301479092>)

Citille Di Sopra Brunello Di Montalcino Vigna Poggio Ronconi 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (187955, \$49.00, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99460-Citille-Di-Sopra-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Vigna-Poggio-Ronconi-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99460-Citille-Di-Sopra-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Vigna-Poggio-Ronconi-2012>))

This single-vineyard Poggio Ronconi exhibits quite a bit of reduction and the warmth wells deeply on the nose with notes that bring some pine forest and cypress into the mix. Really layered and also firm, though decidedly extracted and sitting cross-legged on the palate with some of that bitter red citrus pith and slightly astringent tannin. Solid if hard-working Brunello. Drink 2018-2024. Tasted February 2017 [#CitillediSopra](https://twitter.com/hashtag/CitillediSopra?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/CitillediSopra?src=hash>) [#citilledisopra](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/citilledisopra/) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/citilledisopra/>)

Cortonesi La Mannella Brunello Di Montalcino I Poggiarelli 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](http://npwines.com/index.html) (<http://npwines.com/index.html>), \$95.95, [WineAlign](http://www.winealign.com/wines/97125-Cortonesi-La-Mannella-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-I-Poggiarelli-2012) (<http://www.winealign.com/wines/97125-Cortonesi-La-Mannella-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-I-Poggiarelli-2012>))

This is Cortonesi's single-vineyard sangiovese from the warmer, southern part of Montalcino at 420m of elevation. Expectation allows for deeper, and darker yet the display comes without the La Mannella block crimson and cimmerician variegation, perhaps instead more like the single-brushstroke, dark side of dusk angle created by a fuzzy, warm blend of fiery colours. More Galestro soil influence here as opposed to clay at La Mannella and two years in part new French tonneaux followed by stainless steel vats. A deferential élevage to the one exercised with La Mannella and one to encourage depth and structure without too much power. Classic, modern, elegant and an apple to La Mannella's orange. Drink 2019-2025. Tasted February 2017 [@LaMannella](https://twitter.com/LaMannella) (<https://twitter.com/LaMannella>) [@Nicholaspearce](https://twitter.com/Nicholaspearce) (<https://twitter.com/Nicholaspearce>) [marcora85](https://www.instagram.com/marcora85/) (<https://www.instagram.com/marcora85/>) [nicholaspearcewines](https://www.instagram.com/nicholaspearcewines/) (<https://www.instagram.com/nicholaspearcewines/>) [Tommaso Cortonesi](https://www.facebook.com/tommaso.cortonesi.9) (<https://www.facebook.com/tommaso.cortonesi.9>) [Nicholas Pearce](https://www.facebook.com/nicholas.pearce.wine) (<https://www.facebook.com/nicholas.pearce.wine>)

Donatella Cinelli Colombini Brunello Di Montalcino Prime Donne 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (\$69.95, [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99461-Donnatella-Cinelli-Colombini-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Prime-Donne-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99461-Donnatella-Cinelli-Colombini-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Prime-Donne-2012))

With a nod to an all female produced Brunello, Donatella Le Cinelli Colombini's Casato Prime Donne vineyards specific Brunello is rich, traditional, firm, seamless and structured. Really fine. Exceptional purity from red fruit and an ideally calculated transference of rusticity gives it that supplicated balance, from what was and going forward must be. There is this cooler site and climate-controlled type of phenolic fruit ripeness managed for a struck accord that will see this age gracefully for two decades. In a vintage that in many ways was predicated on a called for requiem of combined blocks and sites this is a true blocks of specific vineyards success. Drink 2019-2033.

Tasted February 2017 @news_donatella (https://twitter.com/news_donatella) @LeSommelierWine (<https://twitter.com/LeSommelierWine>) donatellacinellicolombini (<https://www.instagram.com/donatellacinellicolombini/>) lesommelierwine (<https://www.instagram.com/lesommelierwine/>) Donatella Cinelli Colombini (<https://www.facebook.com/DonatellaCinelliColombini>) @LeSommelierWine (<https://www.facebook.com/LeSommelierWine/#>)

Fanti Brunello Di Montalcino Valocchio 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (Agent (<http://npwines.com/index.html>), \$84.69, [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99462-Fanti-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Valocchio-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99462-Fanti-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Valocchio-2012))

The four vineyard Valocchio is Fanti's Vigna-designate Brunello, a massive sangiovese speaking for four blocks; Vigna Bellavista, Vigna Sassone, Vigna Casabandi and Vigna Macchiarelle Nuova. This strikes as hailing and indeed fact checking tells it does come from a south-east exposed warm spot with some density in the soil. The red fruit is deeply submerged in earthy-rich demi-glacé. There is a mild-mannered personality of volatility on the nose so some old-school thoughts creep in though I would not call this overly traditional Brunello. It is not hard to see past the microbes and to dig deeper into the concentration and grains of ropery acidity meeting tannin to clamber over the ever intense finish. Huge Brunello. Too much for now and in great need of a calming slumber. Drink 2019-2029. Tasted February 2017 @tenutafanti (<https://twitter.com/tenutafanti>) @LeSommelierWine (<https://twitter.com/LeSommelierWine>)

tenuta_fanti (https://www.instagram.com/tenuta_fanti/) lesommelierwine (<https://www.instagram.com/lesommelierwine/>) Elisa Fanti (<https://www.facebook.com/elisa.fanti.98>) @LeSommelierWine (<https://www.facebook.com/LeSommelierWine/#>)

Il Marroneto Brunello Di Montalcino Madonna delle Grazie 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (Winery (<http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html>), [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99464-Il-Marroneto-Madonna-Delle-Grazie-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99464-Il-Marroneto-Madonna-Delle-Grazie-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012))

Though certainly concentrated and likely from a warmish location the clarity on the nose and obvious purity of fruit renders this Madonna delle Grazie a great success. Cherries never smelled so fine and the palate that follows brings the same sort of brightness with thanks to equal and supportive acidity. When the fruit is finished occupying all your time you can expect those sweet but persistently chalky and tight-grained tannins. Drink 2019-2031. Tasted February 2017

@IlMarroneto (<https://twitter.com/IlMarroneto>) #ilMarroneto (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/ilmarroneto/>) @BrunelloIlMarroneto (<https://www.facebook.com/BrunelloIlMarroneto/#>)

La Fornace Brunello Di Montalcino Origini 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99465-La-Fornace-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Origini-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99465-La-Fornace-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Origini-2012))

La Fornace's Vigna Origini is reductive and volatile so exercise as much patience as you can before passing judgement on the origins and path forward of this Brunello. Keen herbal and savoury aromas come clean, along with tart red citrus and a zest of grapefruit. This is really steeped somewhere in the pretty deep distant past and at present acts with the sort of character that lacks the fruit density to keep up with today's forward thinking Brunelli. Drink 2019-2026. Tasted February 2017

La Fortuna Brunello Di Montalcino Giobi 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99466-La-Fortuna-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Giobi-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99466-La-Fortuna-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Giobi-2012>))

La Fortuna's Giobi is much more approachable and gifts sweet perfume in 180 degree about face opposition to the previously tasted La Fornace Origini. The fruit's warmer location has granted better possibility in conjunction with the older-stylistic and what comes from Giobi is more concentration and focus. Though a knowing nod comes from current character it's not quite ready now and the future will offer further personality qualified as copacetic and correct. As for and from 2012 and relative to Brunello as a whole, this sangiovese is still quite present. Drink 2018-2024.

Tasted February 2017 [#tenutalafortuna](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/tenutalafortuna/)

(<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/tenutalafortuna/>) [@lafortunaaziendaagricola](https://www.facebook.com/lafortunaaziendaagricola/)

([https://www.facebook.com/lafortunaaziendaagricola/#](https://www.facebook.com/lafortunaaziendaagricola/))



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/la-lecciaia-manapetra.jpg>)

Fattoria La Lecciaia Brunello Di Montalcino Vigna Manapetra 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (185009, \$59.95, [WineAlign](http://www.winealign.com/wines/99467-Fattoria-La-Lecciaia-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Vigna-Manapetra-2012) (<http://www.winealign.com/wines/99467-Fattoria-La-Lecciaia-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Vigna-Manapetra-2012>))

La Lecciaia's Vigna Manapetra delivers a fair bit of welcoming Montalcino demure and the lithely floral aromas are the entry-point for this pulchritudinous sangiovese. Manapetra is a wine that just seems to jest and tease what is to eventually come. The feminine rapport is a lovely side-track to the ripe vintage away from the producer who failed to manage the duality of ripeness and over-bearing tannin. The presence, precision and clarity here edges forward and nears the divine. One of the best so far. Drink 2019-2035. Tasted February 2017 @
[TheWineCoaches](https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches) [TWImports](https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches)
<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/twcimports/> [TheWineCoaches](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/twcimports/)
<https://twitter.com/TheWineCoaches>

Fattoria La Màgia Brunello Di Montalcino Ciliegio 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99468-Fattoria-La-Magia-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Ciliegio-2012)
<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99468-Fattoria-La-Magia-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Ciliegio-2012>))

Il Ciliegio brings the best of the 2012 vintage to light and here we have come into the depth and elegance of what the most modern of Brunello can and really have to be. The fruit is ripe and I imagine the winemaker walking the vineyards every day coming into and at harvest time, eating grapes, chewing on seeds, waiting for that optimum combination of tannin resolution and crunch. This found the sweet spot. Elegance, purity, precision, focus, organically divined and from the most obvious of terrific terroir. Drink 2019-2039. Tasted February 2017 @[fattorialamagia](https://twitter.com/fattorialamagia)
<https://twitter.com/fattorialamagia> [lamagiamontalcino](https://twitter.com/fattorialamagia)
<https://www.instagram.com/lamagiamontalcino/> @[lamagiamontalcino](https://www.instagram.com/lamagiamontalcino/)
<https://www.facebook.com/lamagiamontalcino/#>

Cantina Leonardo Da Vinci Brunello Di Montalcino 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](http://www.dionysuswines.ca)
<http://www.dionysuswines.ca>), [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99514-Cantina-Leonardo-Da-Vinci-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99514-Cantina-Leonardo-Da-Vinci-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Sweet, sour, salty and earthy fruit make a total sangiovese play for well rounded pay dirt in the Da Vinci Brunello and yet this is expertly high-toned and succinct in edgy ways. There is some flesh and unctuous palate activity so the cumulative is deemed more than respectable in a Brunello next door kind of way.. Finishes with chocolate shavings and dusty espresso. For best results drink this in the early stages. Drink 2018-2022. Tasted February 2017 @[CantineLeonardo](https://twitter.com/CantineLeonardo)
<https://twitter.com/CantineLeonardo> [cantineleonardodavinci](https://twitter.com/CantineLeonardo)
<https://www.instagram.com/cantineleonardodavinci/> @[CantineLeonardoDaVinci](https://www.instagram.com/cantineleonardodavinci/)
<https://www.facebook.com/CantineLeonardoDaVinci?fref=ts#>

Le Ragnaie Brunello Di Montalcino V. V. 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html)
<http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html>), [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99469-Le-Ragnaie-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-V-V--2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99469-Le-Ragnaie-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-V-V--2012>))

I sense an increase in alcohol from the old vines and perhaps this is completely necessary because of what they do in terms of compression and density. As a rule I am not finding high alcohol in 2012 even as I do find richness and ripeness that is not always easy to manage. These old vines are not a problem for the latter but the heat on the nose mutes the fruit and is ill prepared to set up the palate for acidity and tannin management. A bit rustic and old-school and certainly right for fans of the style. Drink 2019-2026. Tasted February 2017 #[LeRagnaie](https://twitter.com/hashtag/LaRagnaie?src=hash)
<https://twitter.com/hashtag/LaRagnaie?src=hash> @[KylixWines](https://twitter.com/KylixWines)
<https://twitter.com/KylixWines> #[laragnaie](https://twitter.com/KylixWines)
<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/laragnaie/> [kylixwines](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/laragnaie/)
<https://www.instagram.com/kylixwines/> @[leragnaie](https://www.instagram.com/kylixwines/)
<https://www.facebook.com/leragnaie/#> @[KylixWines](https://www.facebook.com/leragnaie/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/KylixWines#>)

Le Ragnaie Brunello Di Montalcino Fornace 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](#) (<http://www.kylixwines.com/index.html>), [WineAlign](#) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99441-Le-Ragnaie-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-2012>))

Le Ragnaie's Fornace (the furnace) is riper than the old vines but lower in warmth, and I suspect, alcohol. Also prevalent on the nose is some reduction, along with more obvious wood than many. The intent here is clearly for size so more than a few years will be needed to settle the heavy door on its hinges and nearly immovable parts. The reduction will dissipate in a few and the tannins should begin to relent in two more. Drink 2021-2028. Tasted February 2017 [#LeRagnaie](#) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/LaRagnaie?src=hash>) [@KylixWines](#) (<https://twitter.com/KylixWines>) [#laragnaie](#) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/laragnaie/>) [kylixwines](#) (<https://www.instagram.com/kylixwines/>) [@leragnaie](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/leragnaie/#>) [@KylixWines](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/KylixWines#>)

Mastrojanni Brunello Di Montalcino Vigna Loreto 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](#) (<http://www.majesticwine.ca>), \$64.95, [WineAlign](#) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99471-Mastrojanni-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Vigna-Loreto-2012>))

Mastrojanni's Vigna Loreto takes an express route through vintage ripeness to some jam and warmth in the nose though the fruit is really quite pure and rendered with clarity. The mouthfeel is round and fulfilling, markedly ripe again with pure fruit though not in the same kind of jam that seemed first apparent on the nose. To say this is exemplary for 2012 would be a gross understatement. Tannins are well-managed to package up the fruit and acidity in solid structure. Drink 2018-2024. Tasted February 2017 [@MastrojanniWine](#) (<https://twitter.com/MastrojanniWine>) [@MajesticWineInc](#) (<https://twitter.com/MajesticWineInc>) [#mastrojanni](#) (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/mastrojanni/>) [radalinke](#) (<https://www.instagram.com/radalinke/>) [majesticwinesinc](#) (<https://www.instagram.com/majesticwinesinc/>) [@MastrojanniWine](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/MastrojanniWine/#>) [@majesticwinecellars](#) (<https://www.facebook.com/majesticwinecellars/#>)

Ridolfi Brunello Di Montalcino Mercatale 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](#) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99472-Ridolfi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Mercatale-2012>))

Some traditional rendering comes clean from the start with rich liqueur, those classic cherries and even some nebbiolo-like tar and roses. Continues the thread and coats the tongue with sour-sharp acids followed by anxiety styled tannin. I suspect the vintage posed stiff challenges to the house style and though the fruit will wane this will show its best after a few further years in bottle. Drink 2019-2023. Tasted February 2017 [Societa' Agricola Ridolfi srl](#) (https://www.facebook.com/Societa-Agricola-Ridolfi-srl-1750091695225583/?ref=page_internal)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/san-polino-helichrysum.jpg>)

San Polino Brunello Di Montalcino Helichrysum 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99473-San-Polino-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Helichrysum-2012)
(<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99473-San-Polino-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Helichrysum-2012>))

Depth and reserve make cause to wonder what will be though it is the combination of breaching ripeness and warmth that seem to dominate the internal, in the present moment's discussion. Richness of fruit is undeniable, from red clay depths and the advancing severity of tannin make this a formidable and virtually irreproachable '12. Five undisturbed years lay ahead for this Helichrysum sangiovese from San Polino and one should hope the fruit will outlast the bitter chocolate, grainy tannin and chalky sensibility. Probability, recent track record and a heavy hunch say this will work out just fine. Plain and simple, put this away. Drink 2021-2030. Tasted February 2017 @SanPolinoVino (<https://twitter.com/SanPolinoVino>) @TheLivingVine (<https://twitter.com/TheLivingVine>) #sanpolino (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/sanpolino/>) thelivingvine (<https://www.instagram.com/thelivingvine/>) #SanPolinoBrunello (https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/sanpolinobrunello?source=feed_text&story_id=365301623641117) The Living Vine inc. (https://www.facebook.com/The-Living-Vine-inc-106942029480955/?ref=page_internal)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/scopone-brunello-2012.jpg>)

Fattoria Scopone Brunello Di Montalcino L'Olivare 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99475-Fattoria-Scopone-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-L%27olivare-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99475-Fattoria-Scopone-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-L%27olivare-2012>))

The amount of fennel and amaretti cookie on the plateau of aromatics is joined by really traditional but such a fine inhalant of Brunello specific-sangiovese. This L'Olivare vigna-designate from Scopone carries all the necessary attributes; cherry, leather, fine-distilled syrup, roses, fennel again and always a seamless integration of it all. As classic as classic gets, all moving parts within reason and decades of future in its proverbial ancient but timeless pocket. You know where you are. Drink 2019-2035. Tasted February 2017 [#Scopone](https://twitter.com/hashtag/Scopone?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/Scopone?src=hash>)

Azienda Di Franci Franca Brunello Di Montalcino Tassi Di Franci Franca Selezione 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99477-Azienda-Di-Franci-Franca-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Tassi-Di-Franci-Franca-Selezione-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99477-Azienda-Di-Franci-Franca-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Tassi-Di-Franci-Franca-Selezione-2012>))

Plenty of vacuuming liquor is sucked up into the bubble supported over the thinner air of this sangiovese. Warm to fiery fruit is traditionally rendered and fully accountable for its actions. There is just a touch of fungi and forest floor on the umami-configured nose so complexity is in despite the heat and the volatility. The palate offers some sweetness of fruit and a first hint of advancing times. Drink this traditional Brunello early with a rare bistecca and enjoy the fine ganache on the finish. Drink 2018-2022. Tasted February 2017 [#TassiFranciFranca](https://twitter.com/hashtag/TassiFranciFranca?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/TassiFranciFranca?src=hash>)



<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/franci.jpg>

Azienda Di Franci Franca Brunello Di Montalcino Tassi Di Franci Franca Selezione Franci 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99476-Azienda-Di-Franci-Franca-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Tassi-Di-Franci-Franca-Selezione-Franci-2012\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99476-Azienda-Di-Franci-Franca-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Tassi-Di-Franci-Franca-Selezione-Franci-2012))

A small production of this Brunello out of Castelnuovo dell'Abate develops a deeper clay-influenced and markedly darker black cherry-raspberry fruit rendered sangiovese. This Tassi Di Franci Franca Selezione Franci is distinctly polar to Tassi's Franci Franca normale. As a result the wood is more on top while the acidity and tannin wait, but only for a few moments, before attacking with fervour. So much chocolate swaths the palate with that fine-grainy brushstroke of tannin. This selezione is a big wine that needs a few years to back down. Drink 2020-2027. Tasted February 2017 [#TassiFranciFranca \(https://twitter.com/hashtag/TassiFranciFranca?src=hash\)](https://twitter.com/hashtag/TassiFranciFranca?src=hash)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/buon-tempo.jpg>)

Tenuta Buon Tempo Brunello Di Montalcino P.56 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99480-Tenuta-Buon-Tempo-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-P-56-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99480-Tenuta-Buon-Tempo-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-P-56-2012>))

Tenuta Buon Tempo's plot specific p. 56 is quite full-throttle on the nose but a bit reserved or rather locked in within that aromatic structure, as if it needs some sort of catalyst to find its way out of the shell. What I reach for is fruit but I get a mineral streak first, something almost calcari but certainly argilo in origin. This must be from a higher location as it is cool-tempered and very refined. The palate is cool again, not so much herbal as it is swelling with the holy trinity of fruit, acidity and tannin. Were the acidity just a touch elevated I think this would travel over mountains, rivers and valleys to decades ahead. It's just that close but will still commit to being a 15-20 year wine. Drink 2021-2036. Tasted February 2017 #TenutaBuonTempo

(<https://twitter.com/hashtag/TenutaBuonTempo?src=hash>) [tenutabuontempo](https://www.instagram.com/tenutabuontempo/)

(<https://www.instagram.com/tenutabuontempo/>) @TenutaBuonTempo

(<https://www.facebook.com/TenutaBuonTempo#>) [Carpe Vinum](https://www.facebook.com/carpe.vinum.180)

(<https://www.facebook.com/carpe.vinum.180>)

Tenute Silvio Nardi Brunello Di Montalcino Poggio Doria 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99481-Tenute-Silvio-Nardi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Poggio-Doria-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99481-Tenute-Silvio-Nardi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Poggio-Doria-2012>))

Silvio Nardi's Poggia Doria is fruit forward for Brunello with a wild cherry to black cherry lineage, but also some fragola di bosco. The ripeness is pushed to the limit for 2012 and this continues onto the very rich and sumptuously endowed palate. There is plenty of chocolate and tongue climbing acidity on that smothered palate. Drink this early and often. Drink 2018-2022. Tasted February 2017 @TenuteNardi (<https://twitter.com/TenuteNardi>) @MajesticWineInc (<https://twitter.com/MajesticWineInc>) [tenutenardi](https://www.instagram.com/tenutenardi/) (<https://www.instagram.com/tenutenardi/>) [majesticwinesinc](https://www.instagram.com/majesticwinesinc/) (<https://www.instagram.com/majesticwinesinc/>) @tenutenardi (<https://www.facebook.com/tenutenardi/#>) @majesticwinecellars (<https://www.facebook.com/majesticwinecellars/#>)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/manachiara.jpg>)

Tenute Silvio Nardi Brunello Di Montalcino Vigneto Manachia 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy (Agent, \$80.00, [WineAlign](http://www.majesticwine.ca) (<http://www.majesticwine.ca>))

In opposition to the Poggio Doria, Nardi's second Vigna delivers a complete about face turn around to see the other side of the moon, this time the landscape where Brunello is found in the Manachia. If at first it seems a bit rendered in stencilled acetone keep drifting into its fine liqueur and patiently wait out the transformation. It deepens, condenses and then breathes. This is a fine-grained, tight coiling, re-coiling and fanning out across the moonscape sangiovese. The wood is very much in charge, with baking spices and cool, sapid and savoury edges. It needs time. Drink 2020-2027. Tasted February 2017 @TenuteNardi (<https://twitter.com/TenuteNardi>) @MajesticWineInc (<https://twitter.com/MajesticWineInc>) [tenutenardi](https://www.instagram.com/tenutenardi/) (<https://twitter.com/MajesticWineInc>)

(<https://www.instagram.com/tenutenardi/>) [majesticwinesinc](https://www.instagram.com/majesticwinesinc/)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/majesticwinesinc/>) [@tenutenardi](https://www.instagram.com/tenutenardi/)
 (<https://www.facebook.com/tenutenardi/#>) [@majesticwinecellars](https://www.facebook.com/majesticwinecellars/)
 (<https://www.facebook.com/majesticwinecellars/#>)

Tiezzi Brunello Di Montalcino Vigna Soccorso 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99483-Tiezzi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Vigna-Soccorso-2012)
 (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99483-Tiezzi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Vigna-Soccorso-2012>))

Funky and markedly reductive young Brunello is easy to discount as problematic but something tells me to hang in there with Tiezzi's Soccorso. The tension is palpable and the fruit suffocating behind the microbial wall of fame. Traditional can go either way; southerly sour or northerly nettled. This will mark the twain but the fruit will never be the focus of attention. Drink 2019-2024.

Tasted February 2017 [@BrunelloTiezzi](https://twitter.com/BrunelloTiezzi) (<https://twitter.com/BrunelloTiezzi>) [brunellotiezzi](https://www.instagram.com/brunellotiezzi/)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/brunellotiezzi/>) B (<https://www.facebook.com/brunello.tiezzi>)runello
 (<https://www.facebook.com/brunello.tiezzi>) Tiezzi (<https://www.facebook.com/brunello.tiezzi>)

La Togata Brunello Di Montalcino La Togata Dei Togati 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99485-La-Togata-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-La-Togata-Dei-Togati-2012)
 (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99485-La-Togata-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-La-Togata-Dei-Togati-2012>))

A quite firm and traditionally challenged Brunello here from Togata cries for patience before it has even slipped from the glass into your mouth. Reserved to unrelenting at least aromatically, when you have a taste you are reminded that history, tradition and ancient sensibility must be apart of the future. The old large botti have established a void for which this sangiovese to hang and suspend so that it will be reluctant in its early bottle years. With time it will release its flesh and charm from out of a carefully crafted and designed complex system of architecture. Drink 2020-2034. Tasted February 2017 [#latogata](https://twitter.com/hashtag/latogata?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/latogata?src=hash>) [#latogata](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/latogata/)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/latogata/>) [Brunello La Togata](https://www.facebook.com/brunello.latogata)
 (<https://www.facebook.com/brunello.latogata>)

Villa Poggio Salvi Brunello Di Montalcino Pomona 2012, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](http://npwines.com/index.html)
 (<http://npwines.com/index.html>), [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99484-Villa-Poggio-Salvi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Pomona-2012) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99484-Villa-Poggio-Salvi-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Pomona-2012>))

A new era of sweet Brunello fruit is borne from Poggio Salvi's Pomona, one that is hard to describe but here goes. It's like a cross between pink roses, sweet ruby grapefruit and wild saskatoon berry, or the Tuscan equivalent. The newfangled aromatics aside this is also older school than expected and yet is graced with incredibly fine tannins and very purposed acidity. More palate fruit would elevate the game but this should gain some flesh and slowly unwind for 10 to 12 years. Drink 2019-2029. Tasted February 2017 [#VillaPoggioSalvi](https://twitter.com/hashtag/VillaPoggioSalvi?src=hash) (<https://twitter.com/hashtag/VillaPoggioSalvi?src=hash>) [@HalpernWine](https://twitter.com/HalpernWine) (<https://twitter.com/HalpernWine>) [#villapoggiosalvi](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/villapoggiosalvi/)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/villapoggiosalvi/>) [halpernwine](https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/)
 (<https://www.instagram.com/halpernwine/>) [Winery/Vineyard](https://www.facebook.com/search/105523902814895/places-in/209630435729071/places/intersect/)
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[in/209630435729071/places/intersect/](https://www.facebook.com/search/105523902814895/places-in/209630435729071/places/intersect/)) [@halpernwine](https://www.facebook.com/halpernwine/#) (<https://www.facebook.com/halpernwine/#>)

Brunello Di Montalcino 2011 (Vigna)

Cortonesi La Mannella Brunello Di Montalcino I Poggiarelli 2011, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(http://npwines.com/index.html\)](http://npwines.com/index.html)), \$95.95, [WineAlign \(http://www.winealign.com/wines/97132-Cortonesi-La-Mannella-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-I-Poggiarelli%2C-Docg-2011\)](http://www.winealign.com/wines/97132-Cortonesi-La-Mannella-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-I-Poggiarelli%2C-Docg-2011))

Looking rearward into the recent past what comes into near focus is the combination of liqueur and firmness, a handful for sure and yet it seems that time (even just an extra year or two in bottle) brings out that specific Cortonesi perfume. The tang and richness of concentrated acidity really elevates at this stage so that tannin begin its resolution so young and impressively so. This is not the big, bad Brunello but the one to make enjoyment haste. The length is exceptional with pretty tonic and bitter moments that pop in and out. Drink 2018-2029. Tasted February 2017 [@LaMannella](https://twitter.com/LaMannella) (<https://twitter.com/LaMannella>) [@Nicholaspearce](https://twitter.com/Nicholaspearce) (<https://twitter.com/Nicholaspearce>) [marcora85](https://www.instagram.com/marcora85/) (<https://www.instagram.com/marcora85/>) [nicholaspearcewines](https://www.instagram.com/nicholaspearcewines/) (<https://www.instagram.com/nicholaspearcewines/>) [Tommaso Cortonesi](https://www.facebook.com/tommaso.cortonesi.9) (<https://www.facebook.com/tommaso.cortonesi.9>) [Nicholas Pearce](https://www.facebook.com/nicholas.pearce.wine) (<https://www.facebook.com/nicholas.pearce.wine>)

Brunello Di Montalcino 2008 (Vigna)

Cortonesi La Mannella Brunello Di Montalcino I Poggiarelli 2008, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(http://npwines.com/index.html\)](http://npwines.com/index.html)), \$95.95, [WineAlign \(http://www.winealign.com/wines/97133-Cortonesi-La-Mannella-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-I-Poggiarelli-2008\)](http://www.winealign.com/wines/97133-Cortonesi-La-Mannella-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-I-Poggiarelli-2008))

If the argument was ever made to sway in the “yes it was and is” direction, this Cortonesi example from the exceptional vintage leads the parade with aromatics that go exotic and then return domestic. A spirit of the east, of bougainvillea and hibiscus plus a Montalcino gustatory aromatic spice. Then that return to fennel, a walk through flora Montalcino brush and sweet French tonneau spice. The liquorice is one bred out of aromatic acidity, like a fine chalky dusting of red crimson and ochre to purple powder on a plate next to a perfect charred slice of beef. Elegant sangiovese cuisine in a glass, deconstructed and all obvious in their parts but when you taste you pause and it all comes together. The flavours mingle and weave, of cherries and fruit leather, more mellowed spice, still lingering fresh, persistent and remarkably bright. Southern vineyard be damned, this is a cool, elegant and lithe drop. Harkens back to a mind’s eye and nose in memory of Brunello 1998, maybe a bit of 1999, but more like 1998. Drink 2018-2030. Tasted February 2017 [@LaMannella](https://twitter.com/LaMannella) (<https://twitter.com/LaMannella>) [@Nicholaspearce](https://twitter.com/Nicholaspearce) (<https://twitter.com/Nicholaspearce>) [marcora85](https://www.instagram.com/marcora85/) (<https://www.instagram.com/marcora85/>) [nicholaspearcewines](https://www.instagram.com/nicholaspearcewines/) (<https://www.instagram.com/nicholaspearcewines/>) [Tommaso Cortonesi](https://www.facebook.com/tommaso.cortonesi.9) (<https://www.facebook.com/tommaso.cortonesi.9>) [Nicholas Pearce](https://www.facebook.com/nicholas.pearce.wine) (<https://www.facebook.com/nicholas.pearce.wine>)

Brunello Di Montalcino Riserva 2010

Podere Brizio Brunello Di Montalcino Riserva 2010, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Winery \(http://poderebrizio.it/en/in-podere-brizio/\)](http://poderebrizio.it/en/in-podere-brizio/)), [WineAlign \(https://www.winealign.com/wines/99336-Podere-Brizio-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Riserva-2010\)](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99336-Podere-Brizio-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Riserva-2010))

Consistency shines in the Brizio sangiovese triumvirate, from Rosso through Brunello and into this fine, precise and focused Riserva. The wine is once again aged in 54hL Allier French oak casks but for Riserva the time increases to 48 months, followed by bottle rest refinement for no less than one year. Riserva 2010 goes straight to the heartstrings, rich and warming. That liquor is red cherries and fine new leather with incredible structure. The linger is great, warm but within means. Drink 2019-2029. Tasted February 2017 @PodereBrizio (<https://twitter.com/PodereBrizio>) [poderebrizio](https://www.instagram.com/poderebrizio/) (<https://www.instagram.com/poderebrizio/>) [@poderebrizio](https://www.facebook.com/poderebrizio/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf#) (https://www.facebook.com/poderebrizio/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf#)



(<https://vintagedirect.files.wordpress.com/2017/06/poggio-al-vento.jpg>)

Col D'orcia Brunello Di Montalcino Riserva Poggio al Vento 2010, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent](http://www.dionysuswines.ca) (<http://www.dionysuswines.ca>), \$129.00, [WineAlign](https://www.winealign.com/wines/99516-Col-D%27orcia-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Riserva-Poggio-Al-Vento-2010) (<https://www.winealign.com/wines/99516-Col-D%27orcia-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Riserva-Poggio-Al-Vento-2010>))

Poggio al Vento Riserva 2010 is so very smoky and wood charred so you wonder about the fruit but air brings a fleeting glimpse of that red toned life before the wind swirls to send it back to the smoky embers beneath the roasting bones of the cinghiale. Charm in Poggio al Vento is hard to come by so early and this is far too early. The palate is richer than you think and again with wood so prevalent. There is no doubt that a wait of five more years is needed before beauty can be coaxed out of this formidable Brunello. The vintage, the vineyard and the traditional house style all conspire for this Etruscan structure, meant to impress, influence and last just long enough. Drink 2021-2031. Tasted February 2017 @Coldorcia (<https://twitter.com/Coldorcia>) @DionysusWines (<https://twitter.com/DionysusWines>) [coldorcia](https://www.instagram.com/coldorcia/) (<https://www.instagram.com/coldorcia/>) [dionysuswines](https://www.dionysuswines.com)

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Cortonesi La Mannella Brunello Di Montalcino Riserva 2010, Docg Tuscany, Italy ([Agent \(http://npwines.com/index.html\)](http://npwines.com/index.html), \$202.95, [WineAlign \(http://www.winealign.com/wines/97134-Cortonesi-La-Mannella-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Riserva-2010\)](http://www.winealign.com/wines/97134-Cortonesi-La-Mannella-Brunello-Di-Montalcino-Riserva-2010))

There are few Brunello vintages afforded more attention in the last 10-plus, certainly '04 and '06, increasingly better even from '08 and looking forward towards what greatness will come in 2015. Yes but not solely magnified through the lens of patience and bottle time, from 2010 La Mannella has coupled upon and layered over itself like compressed fruit and puff pastry. Though it begs for drink now attention, another seven years will be needed before it can safely be labeled as uncoiled and to reveal all that is wrapped so tight. Rich is not the operative but unmistakeable as Cortonesi it is; that natural clay soil funk of resolution and fully hydrated chalk. This is to sangiovese as Les Preuses Grand Cru Chablis or Rangen Grand Cru Alsace are to Riesling. It carries in its pocket the absolute meaning and genetic responsibility of where it comes from, with a curative and restorative ability to get you lost. Drink 2019-2031. Tasted February 2017 @LaMannella

<https://twitter.com/LaMannella>) @Nicholaspearce_

https://twitter.com/Nicholaspearce_) marcora85

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