

## **Wines of Italy Tasting Notes**

### **Kupelwieser 2013 Pinot Bianco, Alto Adige, Italy**

The Pinot Bianco variety consistently delivers creamy texture on the palate and subdued, non-obtrusive aromas of citrus fruits and white flower. This Pinot Bianco is typical with fruit forward notes of honey, lemon, lime and maybe tangerine. Fresh and clean. Chalky minerality. Not too dry and super clean finish.

### **Rocca delle Macie 2011 Vernaccia, San Gimignano, Italy**

This wine stands out among the top wines of Tuscany, being the region's only white wine to have reached the lofty heights of DOCG status. The aroma is refined and delicate with fruity and floral overtones. The palate is dry, well-balanced and full flavored. The almond scent of the finish is highly characteristic.

### **Casa di Terra 2011 Mosaico Super Tuscan, Bolgheri, Italy**

Finishing solidly in the top half of James Suckling's "Top 100 Tuscan Wines of 2014", this Super Tuscan distinguishes itself all on its own. This classic Right Bank Bordeaux blend cum Tuscan Coast powerhouse is loaded with plums and raspberries, black licorice, and toasty oak. Grippy, ripe tannins, and a generous body will help develop this expressive and complex wine for years to come, and keep it on your top list for as long as it's in your cellar.

### **Borgo Scopetto 2010 Chianti Classico, Tuscany, Italy**

Deep ruby red, with light burgundy reflections. Full and intense, with notes of small wild berries and pleasing scents of noble wood, vanilla and cocoa. Dry, well structured, austere and elegant; good harmony between the tannic and acid components with excellent persistence on the palate. Vibrant and energetic with fine-grained tannins lifting the cherry, currant, rhubarb and tobacco flavors. Taut and almost racy in the long finish.

### **Tenuta del Portale 2008 Aglianico del Vulture Riserva, Basilicata, Italy**

Excellent tannic structure for this price range. No off flavors whatsoever. Wines from Southern Italy (especially Basilicata) are off the radar and so are still very under-priced. Strong nose of tart cherry and some mineral. Very pleasant on the palate. Again, a black cherry thing and, maybe, black pepper. As the wine moves around the palate, there is nice tartness that is almost, but not really, lemon. Very tame tannins.

**Poggiotondo 2009 Brunello di Montalcino, Montalcino, Italy**

An elegant and Intriguing Brunello di Montalcino A nose of strawberry, sassafras, mint and minerals. The juicy palate shows depth, delivering ripe wild cherry accented with white pepper, licorice menthol, a touch of black olive and a mineral note alongside solid, but refined/restrained tannins, and the acidity in the finish is lovely.

**Roggeri 2009 Barolo La Morra, Italy**

Roggeri has a refined Nebbiolo with a palate of plum, blackberries, espresso, prunes and balsamic barrel with firm, but polished tannins "This is very classy for the vintage with a beautiful core of fruit and tannins. Very refined. Full body and very rich, but all in balance. Beautiful wine for the vintage.

