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## News



### The two kings of Italian cuisine

According to the 2015 edition of "Guida Ristoranti d'Italia" by Gambero Rosso, Massimo Bottura is king of the hill, with 95 points, but Heinz Beck of La Pergola at Rome's Cavalieri Hilton, is right on his heels, with 94, together with Don Alfonso 1890 and Villa Crespi. The 25th edition of the guide mixes surprises with old staples among its top-tier rank, "Tre Forchette" ("Three Forks"). Mauro Uliassi of Senigallia got them again, together with Laite, Lorenzo, Dal Pescatore, Reale and St. Hubertus. Gianfranco Vissani is down to a "mere" 92 points, while Pino Cuttaia at La Madia and the Alajmo brothers at Le Calandre reach Torre del Saracino at 93 points.



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### Happy B-Day, IFIW!

The Institute of Fine Italian Wines, which groups 19 of the country's most prestigious vintners - Alois Lageder, Argiolas, Biondi Santi, Ca' del Bosco, Michele Chiarlo, Carpenè Malvolti, Donnafugata, Gaja, Jermann, Lungarotti, Masi, Marchesi Antinori, Mastroberardino, Pio Cesare, Rivera, Tasca d'Almerita, Ambrogio e Giovanni Folonari, Tenuta San Guido and Umani Ronchi - celebrated its 10th birthday this past Wednesday with a grand tasting at the Science Museum in Milan. The Institute collectively manages more than 7.000 hectares, has revenues reaching almost 500 million Euros and rakes in almost 60% from abroad. "We are still at the beginning of our journey", IFIW President Piero Antinori commented: "there is always something more to do in order to grow".

## Report

### Galloni doubles down

Antonio Galloni, the renowned American wine critic, has done it. His "Vinous" wine website has acquired Stephen Tanzer's "International Wine Cellar" lock, stock and barrel - including its archives, 180.000 wine reviews and tasting notes, and more than 1.000 articles. The two platforms, therefore, will merge and "Vinous" will give hospitality to Tanzer's staff: Josh Reynolds, Ian D'Agata and Joel Payne. It is a joint venture; more than an M&A move, to become a truly global wine communication platform.



CONSORZIO PROMOZIONE  
CARIGNANO DEL SULCIS



## First Page

### 19 Italian wines on Wine Spectator's "Top 100"

Even though Portugal got the lion's share of the laurels in this year's edition of "Wine Spectator" magazine's "Top 100" ranking, Italy has done very well for itself, as is almost customary nowadays: 19 out of these fabled 100 are from the "Belpaese", 3 more compared to 2013. Tuscany and Piedmont are at home in the ranking, with eight and five labels, but some outsider territories have shown up as well, like Sicily, Valtellina, Apulia and Abruzzo. Following Chianti Classico San Lorenzo Gran Selezione 2010 by Castello di Ama, the only Italian in the top 10 at number 6, there is Flaccianello 2011 Fontodi Colli della Toscana Centrale at 14, then Chianti Classico Riserva 2010 Castello di Volpaia at 21, back-to-back with Bolgheri 2011 Volpato Podere Sapaio at 22. Barolo 2009 Massolino is at spot 29, Sangiovese-Cabernet Sauvignon Toscana 2011 Poggio al Tufo Rompicollo Tommasi at number 31, Barbaresco 2010 Rabaja Giuseppe Cortese at 37 and Barolo 2010 Oddero at 39. Luce della Vite 2011 Toscana comes in at spot 47, Barolo 2010 Brunate Giuseppe Rinaldi is at 51 and, at spot 65 Ornellaia 2011, followed by Primitivo di Manduria LXXIV 2010 Feudo di Santa Croce at 69, Molise Ramitello 2011 by Majo Norante at number 74, Barbera d'Asti 2012 Tre Vigne Vietti at 76, Valtellina Superiore 2010 Quadrio Nino Negri at 80 and Montepulciano d'Abruzzo 2010 Marina Cveti San Martino Rosso Masciarelli at number 85. Finally, the rear-guard of this parade is represented by Sicilia Santagostino Baglio Soria Red 2011 Firriato (at spot number 87), Vino Nobile di Montepulciano 2010 Incanto Vecchia Cantina di Montepulciano at 92 and Etna 2012 Tenuta delle Terre Nere at 97. The costliest one of the lot is Ornellaia 2011, with a 240-dollar price tag. Italy has almost always had more than ten of its wines represented in the "Top 100", but there have been bad years nonetheless. One of these was 1997, with only 4 wines in the ranking, but 1996 was not good either, with 6 - and 1989 and 1998 also spring to mind, as they both only had 8 wines. The best year ever was 2002 with 21 wines, but 2011 was also a very good one, with 20 Italian wines selected.

## Focus

### Italy climbs the Liv-Ex "Power 100"

The 2014 edition of the "Power 100" ranking, compiled by Liv-Ex together with "The Drinks Business", is in. The ranking is dedicated to the most influential brands in the wine world globally, according to sales volume, scores assigned by critics and price performances. And, the most striking news is that Sassicaia has managed to reach the bronze spot, up from last year's spot number 39. This incredible performance has been followed by Ornellaia, that has leapt from 37 to 13 in a single year - while Gaja is the single most prized new entry, smashing its way to spot 14, and Masseto has done remarkably well too, going from 33 to 25. Giacomo Conterno has reached number 31, up 45 spots in a single bound, while Bruno Giacosa stumbled from 40 to 60, and Tignanello dropped from 53 to 75. But, another new entry, Solaia, reached spot 61. Le Macchiole has gone up four spots, from 89 to 85, and the third Italian new entry, Guado al Tasso, is in the rear-guard of the ranking. Château Pavie is still king of the hill, but the ranking, taken as a whole, depicts an interesting panorama, where fine wines aficionados and investors are not afraid to broaden their tastes and horizons well beyond Bordeaux.



Chianti  
THE WINE

A CAMPAIGN FINANCED  
ACCORDING TO  
EC REGULATION  
N. 1234/2007

CASTELLO DI SPESSE  
CAMPAIGN FINANCED ACCORDING  
TO EC REGULATION, 1234/07



## Wine & Food

### A cooler lunch for politicians: "A Lunch out of a Box"

"A Lunch out of a Box", is a food design box created by Lunch Armada, in partnership with the Department of Public Affairs of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers of Italy, and it contains a miniature wine & food experience with items selected by Eataly Rome. The box was given as a gift to more than 200 representatives of 25 EU member states governments in Rome, last November 14th, during the 6th edition of the "CAF European Event". It is surely an unconventional way to spread the knowledge of some of Italy's most valued wine & food territories.

## For the record

### Sparklings on a global roll, says IOVW

The last decade has seen sparkling wines skyrocket, with a 40% increase in production, reaching 7% of global wine production. According to the latest data from IOVW, France, Italy,

Germany, Spain and Russia make 74% of all sparklings on the planet, and consumption in 2013 reached 15.4 million hectolitres (a 30% increase over 2003).

