

News



Marchesi di Barolo is growing

Marchesi di Barolo, which has a yearly production of 1.5 million bottles, is staying on its growth path for 2016, too. After investing in Barbera vineyards (17 hectares) in one of the top areas in Asti, near Langa, between Agliano Terme and Costigliole d'Asti, that WineNews had already written about, the firm has announced the purchase of Cascina Bruciata, including 8 hectares of vineyards on the hills of Barbaresco, where one hectare is worth 350.000 to 500.000 Euros. Furthermore, "all are certified organic, including one small part of it", Valentina Abbona told WineNews, "on the hill of Cannubi", where one hectare of vineyard is worth up to one million Euros.



Biondi Santi looks ahead

In order to secure an even stronger future, it is common for small and medium-sized firms to create partnerships with international luxury groups, given the competitiveness of global markets. And that is why, rumors say, Tenuta Greppo (Biondi Santi), where Brunello was born at the end of the 19th century, is reportedly in the sights of LVMH, Prada, and ColleMassari, owned by Claudio Tipa (who also owns Poggio di Sotto in Montalcino). These are all top-tier potential partners, and might be, according to Italian financial daily "Il Sole 24 Ore", locked in a bidding war of sorts for a significant ownership of the firm, for no less than 110 million Euros. Still, the Biondi Santi family, represented by Jacopo Biondi Santi, should still be part of its future, for both the firm's and the investor's sake.

Report

Good news for La-Vis

Cantina La-Vis, one of the most important brands of wine cooperatives in Italy and one of the most important players when it comes to wines from Trentino, with a yearly output of 14 million bottles, is apparently back on track. After five years of controlled management and a compulsory administration process that began in June 2015, the general assembly has elected Pietro Patton as President and a new board of directors that will both work closely with CEO Massimo Benetello.



First Page

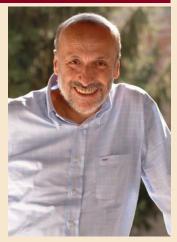
Global wine in 2015 for the IOVW

According to the latest report of the International Organization of Vine and Wine, there was a total of 7.534 million hectares of vineyards in the world in 2015, and China had the second largest vineyard. Wine production went up 2.2% over 2014, to 274.4 million hectolitres, and consumption hovered around 240 million. Wine trade has gone up both in volume (up 1.8% over 2014, to 104.3 million hectolitres) and in value (up 10.6%, to 28.3 billion Euros). The "global vineyard", so to speak, has gone down 7.000 hectares, and has grown only in China and New Zealand, while Europe has lost 26.000 of them with Spain on top, at 1.021 million hectares, followed by China (820.000) and France (780.000). Italy's production has gone up 12% over 2014, leading Italy to become the top producing country in the world, with 49.5 million hectolitres, followed by France (47.5 million) and Spain (37.2 million). Consumption-wise, the States are on top, at 31 million hectolitres; France plummeted to 27.2 million, followed by Italy (20.5 million), China (16 million) and Spain (10 million). Market-wise, wine trade has gone from 60 to 104.3 million hectolitres between 2000 and 2015, and from 12 to 28.3 billion Euros in value. Bottled wine counted for 58% of all trading in 2015, followed by "on-tap" (38%) and sparklings (8%). Exports-wise, the States had a great year (up 26.5% in value), as well as New Zealand (up 11.5% in volume). Italy and France, in the meantime, have both grown in value (up 5.4% and 6.8%, respectively), but have lost a bit in volume (dropping 2% and 2.1%). Spain is king, volume-wise, at 24 million hectolitres, but both Italy and France are in the lead value-wise, at 5.39 and 8.24 billion Euros, for a global market share of 19% and 29%, respectively. Germany is the main recipient (15.1 million hectolitres), followed by the UK (13.6), U.S.A. (11), France (7.8%), China (5.6), Canada (4.1) and Russia (4 million). The top 5 importing countries have collectively absorbed more than half of the total value: the States have imported 4.85 billion Euros' worth of wine, followed by the UK (3.91 billion), Germany (2.46 billion), China (1.84) and Canada (1.64 billion Euros).

Focus

Slow Food's first thirty years

"Thirty years ago", Carlin Petrini, founder of Slow Food, told WineNews, reminiscing about the beginnings of his movement, "society had less drive towards knowledge, since food facts were ingrained in the heart of the people, and were handed down naturally. Today, that demand is rising, and it is a sign of the times, because young people are eager to know more - consider all the tasting courses, all the cooking classes and so on - and society must be able to sate their thirst". "My wish", he continued, "is that the generation born after Slow Food will be able to fulfill this dream, in harmony with both nature and politics". The movement started in 1986 in Bra as Arcigola, and became international in 1989. It became a publisher, founded Taste Labs, created a Foundation for Biodiversity and a myriad of other initiatives, all keeping in mind its mantra of food as "good, clean and fair". There's still a lot to be done, but in the meantime, the next Terra Madre Taste Salon in Turin (Sept. 22nd-26th) "will open to the citizens for the first time, with initiatives in prisons, schools and hospitals, in order to spread the message that the world of food is very, very democratic'





Wine & Food

Unity, diversity and beauty spell success for Sicily

Sicily is a unique island-continent of different territories and wines, and can create synergy with its landscapes, history and monuments, tourism-wise. Add the power of the Internet, and that is a recipe for success: Sicilian wine is growing in quality and in volume, 60% of its production goes abroad and it has 20 different Denominations and more than 30 indigenous varieties. DOC Sicilia has produced 24 million bottles (62.3% of all denominations), and 290.427 hectoliters of Denomination wine were bottled in 2015: the data comes from the 2016 edition of "Sicilia en Primeur".

For the record When brands and denominations clash

According to rumours WineNews has heard, Sicilian winery Duca di Salaparuta - created in 1824 - has sued the Salaparuta Consortium of Wines founded in 2006, asking the

Consortium to stop using the term "Salaparuta", since it would create confusion and financially harm the firm itself. The matter could create a very important precedent.

