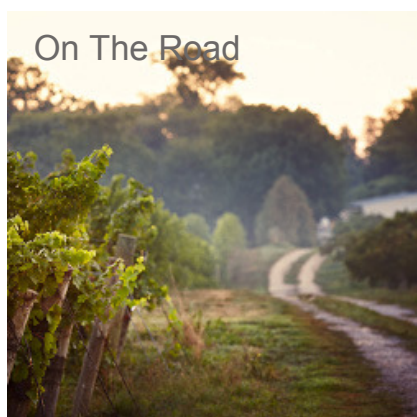


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ON THE ROAD WITH THE GRAPE GUY

VINO NOBILE ANTEPRIME 2017: GOOD BETTER BEST

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(February 16, 2017) ... MONTEPULCIANO - Continuing on with my “rule” unfinished wines (aka: barrel samples), I present to you my impression of the Vino Nobile de Montepulciano:

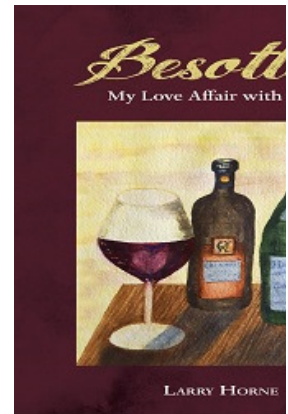
At a tasting where almost half of the wines are barrel samples it might seem like a good idea of the vintage, but it is possible. 2014 shows a lot of acidity, seemingly more than past years, and while that might be a good thing in many wines, managing acidity is a delicate story, and so is the extraction of fruit; because fruit and acidity are not mutually exclusive, too much acidity can overwhelm the wine, while too little can create something that is seemingly hedonistic, but not when you’re asked to have a second glass. There were some really good examples like La Braccessa (the Antinori property in the region), who had two of the best as well as Tenuta Valdipiatta, both producers seemed to understand the need for acidity and present a more upfront fruit characteristic in this exceedingly good vintage. Their use of oak also did not mask the wine’s true nature – which can also be seen in vintages like this.

As mentioned above I do not score unfinished wines, too much can go wrong between tank/barrel and bottle that can compromise or otherwise change the wine that I have I tried as a "sample" ... At Antepime del Vino Nobile di Montepulciano I was in the same boat as I was at the **Chianti Lovers** and in **San Gimignano**: there were a lot of unfinished wines which I decided to rate for their potential for the future (there were also a number of wines that were finished and already on the market) ... below I will be rating the wines on future potential on a scale of Good – Better – Best ... plus at the very bottom of the page are the scores for some of my favourite finished wines. I have also linked up some reviews for you to get a fuller picture of that wine and it's potential for purchase and cellaring.



Good Potential

- Contucci 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*
- Dei 2012 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva "Bossona"*
- Fanetti 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*
- Fassati 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*
- Icaro 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*
- Le Badelle 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*
- Lombardo 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*
- Palazzo Vecchio 2013 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva*
- Salcheto 2012 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva, Selezione "Salco"*
- Salcheto 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*



Better Potential

- Boscarelli 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*
- Fattoria del Cerro 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*
- Gattavecchi 2013 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva "Poggio alla Sala"*
- Icaro 2013 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva "Vitaroccia"*
- Il Conventino 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*
- Le Badelle 2013 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva "Rubeo"*
- Montemercurio 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano "Messaggero"*
- Nottola 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*



Best Potential

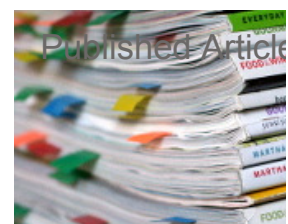
- Il Macchione 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*
- Vecchia Cantina di Montepulciano 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano*



Scored (Finished) Wines ...



- Antinco Colle 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano ... (**
1/2+)**
- Barbanera 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano "Duca di Saragnano" ... (**
1/2+)**
- Bindella 2013 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva "Vallocaia" ... (**
1/2+)**
- Boscarelli 2012 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva ... (****)**



Carpineto 2009 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva, Selezione "Sant'Ercolano" ...

(*** 1/2+)

*Dei 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano ... (****)*

Fassati 2013 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva, Selezione "Gersemi" ... (1/2+)**

Fattoria della Talosa 2013 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva ... (1/2+)**

*Fattoria della Talosa 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano ... (****)*

Fattoria del Cerro 2013 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva ... (1/2)**

Fattoria La Braccasca 2013 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva ... (**+)**

*Fattoria La Braccasca 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano ... (****+)*

*Le Berne 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano ... (****)*

Le Berne 2013 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano Riserva ... (1/2+)**

Metinella 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano "Burberosso" ... (1/2+)**

Podere della Bruciata 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano "Cesiro" ... (**)**

*Priorino 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano "Viola" ... (****)*

*Tenuta Valdipiatta 2014 Vino Nobile di Montepulciano ... (****+)*



Tuscany Italy Red Wine, Vino Nobile, Montepulciano

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