

TWO GREAT VINTAGES FOR TUSCANY: 2015 AND 2016 This year, JamesSuckling.com completed its largest tasting ever of Tuscan wines with almost 2,000 samples reviewed, making it the biggest report on the region in James' nearly 37 years as a professional wine critic. Most of the wines were reviewed over the summer at our new, upgraded tasting room in Tuscany. With so many classic wines released from the superb vintages of 2015 and 2016, as well 2013 and 2012 Brunello di Montalcino, we felt a need to provide the world's most comprehensive coverage of the region and its wine production. "The 2015 vintage is the greatest vintage of my career," says Carlo Ferrini, the veteran consulting enologist who has made some of the most exciting wines in the region over the last three decades. "The weather was near perfect the entire growing season, yet it was our

wine ever. The purity and focus on offer perfectly complement the polished and intense tannins as well as the ripe and characterful fruit. We found the same energy and precision in our other perfect Tuscan wine this year: Le Macchiole Bolgheri Scrio 2015 , a lavish yet succulent pure syrah. We found so many superb wines during this year's tastings in Tuscany. We scored nine wines 99 points: Argentiera Bolgheri Superiore 2015 , Castello di Ama Chianti Classico Vigneto Bellavista Gran Selezione 2015 , Duemani Syrah Costa Toscana Suisassi 2016 , Fattoria Le Pupille Maremma Toscana Saffredi 2016 , Masseto Toscana 2015 , Ornellaia Toscana Bianco 2016 , Podere Poggio Scalette Alta Valle della Greve Il Carbonaione 2015 , Sette Ponti Toscana Oreno 2016 and Tua Rita Toscana Redigaffi 2016 . The wines above not only highlight how great 2015 and 2016 are as vintages for

and situation in 2015 and 2016 could hardly have been more conducive to making some of the best wines ever for Chianti Classico. “These two vintages of Chianti Classico are the greatest ever for us not only due to nature but because our vineyards are older and our know-how in winemaking more attuned,” says Giovanni Manetti, the respected owner of Chianti Classico’s Fontodi who was recently elected president of the Chianti Classico growers association. “For the 2015 harvest, though we had a sorting table, we just watched the grapes go by,” he adds. “Everything was beautiful. It was perfection. In 2016, things were the same but cooler. I prefer the 2016.” My only wish is for the relatively new Gran Selezione designation to be better thought out for the region. Some of our highest ratings did go to wines carrying what is supposed to be Chianti Classico’s top category of