

Old-Fashioned Charm: Newest Brunellos Recall the Classics ... There is something unmistakably classical about Brunello di Montalcino 2021. The wines have an almost old-fashioned charm, with fresh, graceful aromatics that recall balanced vintages of the past such as 1997, 1999, 2001 and 2004. This “al dente” character best defines the new Brunellos now arriving on the market. I recommend buying this vintage. I prefer it to more recent ones, including 2018, 2019 and 2020. Aldo Fiordelli, Zekun Shuai, Jacobo García Andrade and I not only tasted the 2021s, but also met with around 40 producers to discuss the nuances of the vintage. We tasted a few 2020 Riservas as well, though most were not significantly better than the original 2020 bottlings released last year. Paolo Bianchini of Ciacci during the bottling of his Brunello di Montalcino Vigna di Pianrosso Riserva