TASTING REPORT: MY TOP 100 ITALIAN WINES IN 2015 It should come as no surprise that this year's report on my Top 100 Italian wines from my tastings of close to 3,000 bottles focuses primarily on 2010 Brunello di Montalcino. Anyone who reads these pages - and just about anywhere else on wine - knows the 2010 was the greatest vintage ever for the famous red of Tuscany. And it's why I chose the Siro Pacenti Brunello di Montalcino 2010 as my Italian Wine of Year. It is the epitome of this unique vintage and shows unrivalled aromatic complexity, richness, structure, and freshness for a Brunello 2010. It's a perfect wine.However, I only included Brunello 2010s that I rated 96 points or more in my list of my Top 100 Italian Wines in 2015. That still accounted for 32 of the 100. And there are plenty of other super exciting wines from perfect Bordeaux blends

which are drinking beautifully now. Don't miss the Giacomo Conterno Barolo Monfortino 2008 (99 points) that was recently released. It is a magical wine with so much depth and intensity. I also included two very late releases - both 2005s - that are fun to taste and absolutely delicious now - Roberto Voerzio Fossati Case Nere Riserva 10 (97 points) and Marchesi di Barolo Barolo Cannubi 10 Anni (96 points).A dozen super Tuscans are the next largest group of wines in the list. Almost all of them have been in past Top 100s for Italian wines including Masseto 2012 (99 points) and Solaia 2012 (97 points). The Mazzei Toscana Siepi 2012 (98 points) is the best ever of this merlot and sangiovese blend.There are plenty of cool wines from the south on the list from Etna to Terre Siciliane Il Frappato (one of my favorite summertime reds) as well as a stunning single vineyard Taurasi from

di Ama Chianti Classico San Lorenzo Gran Selezione 2011 63. Aldo Conterno Barolo Cicala 2011 64. Marchesi di Barolo Barolo Cannubi 10 Anni 2005 65. Pieve Santa Restituta Brunello di Montalcino Sugarille 2010 66. Luigi Einaudi Barolo Cannubi 2011 67. Bruno Giacosa Barolo Falleto 2011 68. Vietti Barolo Brunate 2011 69. Giacomo Grimaldi Barolo Sotto Castello di Novello 2011 70. Romano Dal Forno Amarone della Valpolicella Monte Lodoletta 2010 71. Castello dei Rampolla Toscana d'Alceo 2011 72. Barone Ricasoli Chianti Classico Castello di Brolio Gran Selezione 2012 73. Pio Cesare Barbaresco Il Bricco 2011 74. Ceretto Barolo Brunate 2011 75. Marchesi Antinori Bolgheri Superiore Guado al Tasso 2012 76. Marchesi di Barolo Barolo Cannubi 2011 77. Andrea Oberto Barolo Brunate 2011 78. Roberto Voerzio Barolo Brunate 2011 79. Quintodecimo Taurasi Vigna