

# ITALY

Italy's wine industry is one of the oldest around. Wines have been produced for over four thousand years and the Greeks called Italy 'Oenotria' or 'Land of Wine'. Virtually all the country makes wine and Italy battles with France and Spain for the title of being the world's largest wine producer and exporter. Lots of European Union money has been invested and the U.K.'s appetite for pasta, pizza and the wines to go with them keeps growing.

So many regions, so many grape varieties and so very many growers can make it difficult to choose. This is why we have made our selection for you very carefully indeed.

## CANTINA

No, not a canteen of food – more one of silver! An Italian wine Cantina is a growers' Co-operative and we have included wines in this Italian selection from two award winners- Cantina Due Palma in Southern Italy and Cantina Di Soave which includes the well-known names of Pinot Grigio, Valpolicella and Amarone.

The danger with a co-operative is that it becomes a bad committee – asked to design a horse and ending up with a mule. The benefits of a good co-operative, and these are two of the best, are that modern production facilities can be financed, stricter quality control procedures applied and innovative changes introduced.

Outstanding wines produced include Brindisi Rosso from Due Palma and Di Soave's Ripasso Valpolicella along with their Amarone Rocca Sveva which was very recently highlighted by Decanter magazine as 'delicious'.

## LAKE GARDA

For a long time, Lake Garda would mean very little to a British wine drinker other than it being a beautiful holiday destination. However it can truthfully be said that this area has profited more than the rest of Italy from modern wine developments.

Try the white Lugana Tenuta Maioli from the Southern end of the lake. Still relatively rare, still produced from hand selected grapes and a 'class act' through and through. Negresco Classico is another new wine; a red aged in oak which has won gold medals.

Finally we have introduced the Terre al Lago wines (the name meaning Lakeland). Their Pinot Noir and Merlot are examples of the introduction of 'foreign' grape varieties but their Pinot Grigio is very much more traditional. They are also a part of the Cantine di Soave's products and show the difference made by quality winemaking.

Lugana Tenuta Maioli – a 'class act' through and through.



# RED

	Taste Guide	Trade Sales Price
<p><b>Versare Rosso</b> Youthful, lively red with juicy cherry fruit flavours. Ideal Italian house wine.</p>	B	£2.83
<p><b>Versare Valpolicella</b> Light and fresh with lots of soft cherry fruit.</p>	B	£3.13
<p><b>Versare Merlot</b> Made to a modern style in Veneto, this Merlot is very attractive drinking with soft, varietal berry fruits.</p>	B	£3.13
<p><b>Casal Bordino Montepulciano d'Abruzzo</b> Lovely, soft approachable fruit. Well made and well balanced wine with an easy drinking style.</p>	C	£3.85
<p><b>ff Chianti Colli Senesi</b> Italy's most famous red made from the Sangiovese grape. Our entry level Tuscan wine is food friendly, fruity and full of flavour.</p>	C	£4.25
<p><b>Bella Modella Nero d'Avola</b> The Sicilian grape Nero d'Avola is proving very popular with customers because it combines spiciness and fruitiness so well.</p>	D	£4.48
<p> <b>Terre al Lago Merlot</b> A typical Merlot style with ripe, plummy fruit and a lingering finish. Excellent example of modern Italian winemaking.</p>	B	£4.63
<p><b>Terre al Lago Pinot Nero</b> Italian Pinot Noir is relatively rare even in this more innovative age. This shows how a class winemaker can produce ripe cherry and red fruit flavours and aromas with a savoury finish.</p>	B	£4.63
<p><b>Brindisi, Cantine due Palma</b> A velvety smooth red from Puglia with ample body and fruit and a very soft, easy finish.</p>	C	£5.27
<p><b>Barbera Piemonte, Tre Donne</b> The most 'fun' red wine from Piedmont is also the most approachable and attractive with lots of mouth-watering, tangy redcurrant fruit.</p>	B	£5.39
<p> <b>Giome Rosso IGT</b> The IGT category has been introduced for quality wines unable to fit traditional regulations. This award-winning winemaker in Lombardy has produced a smooth, delicious wine with rich fragrances of red and black fruits.</p>	C	£7.53
<p><b>Chianti Classico Clemente VII</b> This is a high quality Chianti with typical ripe cherry fruit and soft easy tannins. We were very pleased that this Chianti was rated in the top three in a recent Decanter Magazine tasting which included many much more expensive wines from this region.</p>	C	£8.03
<p><b>Negresco Classico Garda DOC</b> This wine oozes class, character and quality. The ageing in oak barrels helps give it a rich bouquet and palate and a very long finish.</p>	D	£8.29





## RED



### Ripasso Valpolicella Superiore, Rocca Sveva

Valpolicella Ripasso is re-fermented on the grape skins to make a more intense and full-bodied wine without losing the natural ripe cherry fruit.

Taste Guide

Trade Sales Price

D

£9.99

### Barolo Cortese

Classically Barolo is Italy's greatest red with the Nebbiolo grape producing a dense but fragrant and dry red with lots of tannin and a clean finish. This has real elegance.

E

£14.90

### Amarone Classico, Rocca Sveva

The grapes are dried to increase fruit concentration and power. The result is then matured in barrel for two to three years to produce an intense, rounded wine.

E

£25.95



## ROSÉ



### Versare Pinot Grigio Rosé

Great value with attractive fruit and a clean, fresh, dry aftertaste.

2A

£3.13

££

### Tempo Pinot Grigio Rosé

A delicate pink wine full of the flavours of summer fruits.

2A

£4.15

### Le Poesie Pinot Grigio Blush

This wine has a slightly fuller bodied style while retaining the aromatic and refreshing qualities of the Pinot Grigio grape.

2A

£4.99



## SPARKLING



### Moscato Spumante

For those looking for a sparkler with a touch of sweetness but a light easy drinking texture.

4

£4.14

### Casa Gheller Prosecco Legatura

We have added this Prosecco to our list given the continuing growth in popularity of the Prosecco style. Plenty of crisp but creamy bubbles.

2

£5.54

### Casa Gheller Prosecco Raboso Legatura

This pink Prosecco is full to bursting of summer berries which give it its off-dry finish. The colour and fruit come from the Raboso grape.

3A

£5.54

### Asti Spumante Martini

Italy's classic sparkler. Slightly sweeter than most but very popular.

4

£6.04

### Prosecco di Valdobbiadene

Very clean apple fruit flavours predominate in this superior Prosecco which is extremely refreshing and excellent value.

2

£7.44



# WHITE

	Taste Guide	Trade Sales Price
<b>Versare Bianco</b> Refreshing, full of floral and apple fruit flavours.	2	£2.83
<b>Versare Soave</b> A good example of generic entry level Soave. Flowery and delicate bouquet with a crisp, dry aftertaste.	2	£3.13
<b>Versare Chardonnay</b> Typical light style Italian Chardonnay with soft lemon flavours and refreshing acidity.	2	£3.13
<b>Versare Pinot Grigio</b> Extremely popular. Spicy and aromatic texture with a crisp, clean finish.	2	£3.13
<b>Casal Bordino Trebbiano d'Abruzzo</b> A refreshing, tangy wine with a tasty finish which is very good value for money.	2	£3.85
<b>Frascati Superiore, Colle Fiorito</b> Truly a 'superior' version of this famous wine. A much greater concentration of flavour and a longer finish.	2	£4.11
<b>ff Tempo Pinot Grigio Garganega</b> The blending of the ever-popular Pinot Grigio with the grape used for Soave produces a smooth white combining aromatic and mineral flavours. Tempo is exclusive to H.B.Clark.	2	£4.15
<b>Bella Modella Pinot Grigio</b> Light, vibrant and very tasty. Very drinkable with or without food and strikingly presented.	2	£4.48
<b>Orvieto Classico</b> Smooth but full-bodied and fruity. Modern Orvieto Classico is much more interesting than ten years ago with its almond finish more in evidence.	2	£4.97
<b>Cortese dell' Alto Monferrato</b> Cortese is the Gavi de Gavi grape and this is a dry but elegant wine with plenty of fruit to keep it in excellent balance.	1	£5.34
 <b>Terre al Lago Pinot Grigio</b> A premium Pinot Grigio with a large helping of creamy, tropical fruits, spicy and aromatic in the mouth and a lively finish. The best we've tasted.	2	£5.43
<b>Verdicchio Classico, Sartarelli</b> This wine is an excellent example of superb winemaking at a remarkably modest price. Elegance and a hint of hazelnuts in the finish make this one of Italy's best whites. Rated highly by Hugh Johnson.	2	£6.74
 <b>Lugana DOC Tenuta Maiolo</b> This superb white wine is produced from hand selected grapes. It has a delicate aroma of almonds and mixed fruit flavours to match and a clean but long finish.	2	£7.03

