

# CARTA DEL VINO

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**BAROLO** has been called the "king of wines," and the "wine of kings."  
*"Wine is just one element of the day – a wine's specialness is more about the moment than the name on the label."* - Angelo Gaja

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**CHIANTI** "Chianti makes every meal an occasion, every table more elegant, every day more civilized"

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**BRUNELLO** "simply the finest wine of Tuscany"

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## APERICENA

Our way to taste wine, every month with a different vineyard to discover a new part of Italy.

Finger food at the bar, selection of our best product, follow us on facebook or instagram to be update...

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<i>Distinctively delightful aroma. Intense yet smooth and aromatic flavour.</i>	
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<i>Six months aging in oak barrels gives a light amber colour and a subtly rich aroma. Outstanding yet appealingly warm-toned flavour.</i>	
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<i>Single-vintage Grappa, refined at least one year in stainless steel vessels, Aroma of wisteria in blossom, apples, honey, figs</i>	
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**ALL PRICES in RM and  
Are Inclusive of  
ALL TAXES**

## Ornellaia Bianco makes case for Super Tuscan white wine

The Italian estate has launched Ornellaia Bianco - a blend of Sauvignon Blanc and Viognier - and clearly has lofty ambitions for white wines in Bolgheri.

In Ornellaia Bianco, estate winemaker and director Axel Heinz has created a white wine deemed worthy of the Ornellaia name; a name built on ageworthy, red Bordeaux blends from Bolgheri in coastal Tuscany.

### A chance beginning

The genesis of this new wine goes back as far as 2006. An end-of-harvest party – Heinz's second at the estate – was celebrated with some white wine fermented just a few days previously, made from Sauvignon Blanc that had resisted grafting onto Merlot.

Its promise prompted further experimentation, 'with the aim of seeing how far we could go with white wines in that area of Bolgheri', Heinz said.

'Nobody else was thinking of that, but then neither was anyone 20 or 30 years ago with red wine,' he added.

### Lofty ambitions

Tenuta dell'Ornellaia clearly has lofty ambitions for Ornellaia Bianco. The first release has been priced around £130 per bottle, similar to its more established red counterpart.

There is a rarity factor, because only 4,000 bottles of white were produced. That is just 2.5 percent of the amount of red, and only 200 bottles were initially available for the UK, with a significant proportion kept back as 'library stock'.

The estate also chose a favourable vintage for launch. '2013 was a cool year, with a late harvest,' said Heinz, adding that it was especially good for whites.

Italy overtakes France as world's biggest wine producer  
Italy is again set to become the world's largest wine producer country in 2015, overtaking France, after better weather ensured a bigger harvest than in 2014.

Italy is likely to produce 48.9m hectolitres from the 2015 wine harvest, equivalent to 6.52bn bottles, which would see it re-claim top spot as the world's biggest wine producer ahead of France, the International Organisation for Vine and Wine (OIV) said this week.

Better weather conditions during the 2015 growing season in Italy, particularly across northern areas such as Piedmont, mean that the country's wine harvest is set to increase by 10% this year.

France's wine harvest is estimated to show a 1% rise in 2015, to 47.4m hectolitres, equivalent to 6.32bn bottles. However, in reality, both countries have spent the past several years seeking to reduce overall production of standard table wines.

Domestic consumption of wine is at an all-time low in both France and Italy, and producers have been keen to push a quality message in export markets. The European Union has provided compensation to entice unprofitable winemakers into grubbing up vines.

It has been a similar story for Spain, which is set to remain the world's third largest wine producer in 2015 with estimated production of 36.6m hectolitres, equivalent to 4.9bn bottles and down 4% on 2014.

Outside of Europe, Chile is expected to see wine production rise by 23% from the 2015 harvest, to a record 12.87m hectolitres, or 1.7bn bottles.

Nearby Argentina is estimated to produce 12% less wine in 2015, at 13.4m hectolitres, or 1.79bn bottles.

The US, which the largest wine consumer nation, will remain the world's fourth largest wine producer following the 2015 harvest, on an estimated 22.1m hectolitres – 2.9bn bottles – up by 1% on 2014.

## The inventors of contemporary Brunello di Montalcino have bowed to the weather and cancelled the 2014 vintage.

One of Tuscany's top producers has announced that they will not be releasing any Brunello di Montalcino wines from the 2014 vintage.

The Biondi Santi family, which more or less invented the sought-after wine style, has blamed the poor harvest for the decision to bottle only a Rosso di Montalcino from last year's vintage.

"It's a matter of seriousness, which is part of our history, when the vintage goes wrong, we do not make Brunello di Montalcino," Jacopo Biondi Santi told Italy's Wine News website.

"And, therefore, all the grapes we had selected to produce Brunello di Montalcino will be used to produce the Rosso di Montalcino instead."

The 2014 harvest was one of the most difficult of recent years in Italy. A mild winter accelerated the growing cycle, causing a premature onset of ripening. The unusually cool summer that ensued then slowed it down. There was also persistent rainfall across the country that hampered ripening and led to widespread vine disease. Tuscany was particularly badly affected.

The decision is in keeping with the tradition of Biondi Santi, which has carved a reputation for a quality-first approach. The winery's 1955 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva was the only Italian wine chosen among the 12 best wines of the 20th Century by Wine Spectator.

