

CASTELLO DI GABBIANO

Alleanza IGT Toscana

VINTAGE	SCORES	REVIEWER	TASTING NOTES
2021	91	THE WOLF POST	
2020	90	VINOUS	The 2020 Alleanza is a very good wine from Castello di Gabbiano. It offers fine depth but is also less expressive than the Sangiovese-based wines. Dark fruit, mocha, dried flowers, and chocolate build into the deep finish.
	88	WINES CRITIC	Honeyed on the nose, with aromas of vanilla sugar and nuts, dried chestnuts, and figs. On the palate, it is full-bodied, with sweet tannins and a drying finish.
	95	LUCA MARONI	Of great class, this outstanding wine impresses not only with its composure and remarkable power, but also with the precision of its aromatic expression. These qualities, together with a lively menthol freshness imparted by the oak, make its bouquet particularly fragrant and refined. It is a great wine for the spherical harmony with which it presents itself, despite the depth of its dark purple hue. Its opacity reflects the density of its aromas, the richness of its texture, and the remarkable volume it reveals across the palate. Power is beautifully balanced by elegance, with tannins that add substance without ever becoming aggressive or bitter. This is perhaps its most technically impressive virtue: the exceptional harmony between softness and tannic structure within a wine of such strength.
	92	GUIDA ORO VERONELLI	

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	89	ECCELLENZA DI TOSCANA	
	4 GRAPPOLI	BIBENDA	
	TROPHY GOLD	EXPOVINA	
2019	93	JAMES SUCKLING	A well-rounded, defined and precise red with aromas of sweet cherries, blackberries, currants, dried herbs and baking spices. Medium- to full-bodied with finely grained tannins. Layered and tactile with a velvety texture, yet it has structure. Poised and elegant with a vivid finish. Drink or hold.
	83	VINOUS	The 2019 Alleanza, Gabbiano's Merlot/Cabernet Sauvignon blend, is packed with dark cherry, plum, licorice, incense and mocha. Deep and vibrant, with fine balance, the 2019 is very nicely done in this style, one that favors exuberance and opulence more than anything else.
	94	LUCA MARONI	
	92	GUIDA ORO VERONELLI	
	90	ECCELLENZA DI TOSCANA	
	90	VITAE	Dense garnet in color. Aromas of sour cherry, blueberry, and dried rose intertwine with notes of resin, bell pepper, tobacco, licorice, and black pepper. Warm and full-bodied on the palate, with vigorous tannins that are still evolving. The finish is long and savory, marked by lingering impressions of black fruit preserves. Pair with venison bites and Tuscan kale.
	2 BICCHIERI	GAMBERO ROSSO	

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	4 GRAPPOLI	BIBENDA	
2018	93	JAMES SUCKLING	Attractive and fresh notes of ripe red and dark berries with blood orange, chocolate, leather and spices. Medium-to full-bodied and dry with fine and polished tannins. Sleek and velvety. Drink or hold.
	94	LUCA MARONI	
	92	WINEENTHUSIAST	The nose is sweet and floral, full of cherries, vanilla and candied oranges, but sanguine, herbaceous undertones provide balance. Cherries hang around on the rich but lively palate, which has hints of copper and chili pepper. Tightly coiled tannins feel ready to spring.
	92	ECCELLENZA DI TOSCANA	
	91	WINES CRITIC	
	92	VITAE	Intense carmine red in color. It captivates with aromas of mulberry jam and red currant jelly, enlivened by hints of aromatic herbs, black pepper, and notes of cinnamon, vanilla, and blond tobacco. Vibrant freshness enhances the wine's elegant tannins, leading to lingering echoes of blueberry dragée on the finish. Pair with venison chop in red currant sauce.
	90	GUIDA ORO VERONELLI	
2017	92	WINESPECTATOR	Rich and thick, with plum, blackberry, fruitcake, leather, iron and tobacco flavors. Shows lively acidity, with dense, dusty tannins lending support, while the flavors linger and wind down on the succulent aftertaste. Offers fine balance

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			overall, with a slight edge to the tannins. Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now through 2032 -Bruce Sanderson
	92	JAMES SUCKLING	Aromas of ripe cherries and red plums with sweet spices, hibiscus and orange peel. Polished and velvety with medium to full body and chocolaty texture. Crunchy and bright with a dry, earthy finish. Drink or hold.
	94	LUCA MARONI	
2016	92	JAMES SUCKLING	Aromas of blackcurrants and walnuts with some bark and mushrooms. Undergrowth is a good descriptor. Medium body with round, juicy tannins and a delicious finish. Creamy, polished texture. Delicious now, but will be better in a year or two. Try after 2021.
	92	ROBERT PARKER	An international blend of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon, the Castello di Gabbiano 2016 Alleanza Cavaliere d'Oro is hearty, rich and concentrated. The wine shows good balance, something that can be counted on in this excellent vintage, with dark fruit flavors, well-managed tannins and just enough acidity to keep it lively and food-friendly, especially with a classic pappardelle with wild boar. It will get the job done no matter what meat dish you serve next to it.
2015	93	JAMES SUCKLING	This is a big, rich red with aromas and flavors of currants, chocolate and walnuts. Full body. Round, chewy tannins. Flavorful finish. This needs a few years to come together. Try after 2020.
	90	ROBERT PARKER	The 2015 Alleanza is a rich and full-bodied blend of 60% Merlot and 40% Cabernet Sauvignon with darkly concentrated fruit, backed by the soft

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			exuberance and plump ripeness that defines this vintage. You really can't go wrong with a wine like this, because it delivers on all its basic promises. It is not particularly territory-specific, but it does hit all those hot buttons for a blended red wine from Tuscany with ripeness, richness and luscious dark concentration. After almost 18 months in French barrique and then 15 months in the bottle, there is still some astringency to the tannins, and that bitterness is worth mentioning.
	91	FALSTAFF	
	89	VINOUS	The 2015 Alleanza, Gabbiano's 100% Merlot, is dark, juicy and forward. Black cherry, plum, spice, new leather, chocolate and sweet oak are front and center.
2013	93	JAMES SUCKLING	A decadent nose with plenty of toasted oak as well blackcurrants, blackberries, brambles, spices, vanilla and forest floor. Full body, dense, ripe and grippy tannins, a fine line of acidity and a long finish. Needs time. Better in 2020
	92	LUCA MARONI	
	89	WINE ENTHUSIAST	This Merlot has aromas of cedar, vanilla and black fruit. The round palate evokes blackberry jam, mocha and clove alongside polished tannins.
2012	91	JAMES SUCKLING	A round and flavorful red with dark berries, chocolate and toasted oak. Lots of vanilla flavors, a full body and a fresh finish. The ripe fruit supports the wood. Drink now, but this will be better in 2016.
	90	VINOUS	The 2012 Alleanza 60% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon blend, is plump,

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			juicy and forward. Black cherry, plum, herb, smoke and licorice notes wrap around the palate. Supple and expressive, the 2012 is a solid choice for drinking now and over the next few years. Although not the most exciting Bordeaux blend in Tuscany, the Alleanza is very nicely done.
2011	91	JAMES SUCKLING	A pretty balance of dried fruit, cherry and chocolate with hints of cocoa. Medium body with firm tannins and a fresh finish. A blend of merlot and cabernet sauvignon. Drink now.
2010	GOLD DIPLOM	EXPOVINA	
	91	WINE ENTHUSIAST	This delicious Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon blend offers an alluring fragrance of blackberry, red currant and thyme punctuated by tarry, leather aromas. The palate shows ample plum flavor layered with chocolate and cinnamon accents, as well as round, polished tannins.
	91	TASTED	Andreas Larsson - Very dark purple colour; the nose is young and intense with hints of new oak, white pepper, vanilla, dark berries, blackcurrant, cherry and aromatic herbs; the palate has a good density and concentration, meaty and dark fruity with some new oak, ripe, but present tannin, very fine length; slightly young and tight today, but with fine potential.
	91	MARKUS DEL MONEGO	Dark, purple red with violet hue and black centre. Opulent nose with juicy fruit, blackberries and mulberries, mild spices and elegant oak. Opulence continues on the palate, well structured with good length.

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