

CASTELLO DI GABBIANO

Chianti Classico Gran Selezione

Vigneto Bellezza DOCG

VINTAGE	SCORES	REVIEWER	TASTING NOTES
2021	92	JAMES SUCKLING	A leafy style with peppery aromas alongside red cherries, rosebuds and lemon tree. Soft on the attack, offering medium body, velvety tannins, refreshing acidity and a thick, slightly austere finish. Drink or hold.
	92	WINES CRITIC	Beauty by name and by nature, it presents graceful notes of rose petals, magnolia, hawthorn, gardenia, wild thyme and lemongrass. Medium to full-bodied, with an elegant and flavorful mid-palate, it closes harmonious and balanced, with medium persistence. Drink now.
2020	90	JAMES SUCKLING	A precise wine with a low-key nose of red cherries and red currants. Light- to medium-bodied, it shows relatively light velvety tannins, moderate acidity and a tight finish. Drink now.
	92	VINOUS	The 2020 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza is packed with dark cherry, plum, chocolate, new leather, spice and sweet oak. Readers will find a Gran Selezione that exalts textural presence and intensity.
	93	FALSTAFF	
	92	GUIDA ORO VERONELLI	
	92	LUCA MARONI	

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3 BICCHIERI GAMBERO ROSSO

4 STELLE VINIBUONI D'ITALIA

93 VITAE

Medium-density carmine red with garnet highlights at the rim. Exuberant aromas of mulberry jam, dried iris and coriander mingle with sweet tobacco, bay leaf and coffee notes. Fresh and smooth on entry, a refined tannic structure then emerges, slowing the progression and extending the persistence, leading to a finish marked by rowan berry notes. Pair with braised beef with olives and leeks.

92.9 ECCELLENZA DI TOSCANA

4 GRAPPOLI BIBENDA

Garnet red, bright in appearance. Intense and complex on the nose, it releases balsamic sensations followed by cherry and sour cherry, fresh violet, hints of woodland and resin, with delicate notes of wild rose adding refinement. On the palate it is balanced, with excellent freshness and a velvety tannic texture. The finish is persistent, with almond and balsamic notes.

GOLD 90 VINUM

EXTRA 2024 TOP OF TOSCANA.
"This wine is part of the exclusive TOP 400 wine selection" C.Eder, R.Köhler, N.Montemarano

94 THE WOLF POST

94 ROSSO RUBINO

Hints of graphite, dark fruit, sour cherries and myrtle intertwine with notes of licorice and helichrysum. The finish recalls licorice, while freshness and balance lend the wine a pleasing harmony, with a length that lingers delicately.

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2019	94	JAMES SUCKLING	This is very attractive, with vivid red berries, dried blood oranges, hints of nutshells, cocoa and crushed stones. Complex and structured on the palate, with a medium to full body. Tannins are very polished and seamless. Long and balanced. Very well made. Drink or hold.
	90	VINOUS	The 2019 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza is a very good wine and also an improvement over the 2018. The open, floral bouquet is immediately appealing. Medium in body, gracious and giving, the Gran Selezione has quite a bit to offer.
	90	LUCA MARONI	
	92	WINES CRITIC	Mature and enveloping, it reveals notes of raspberries, red currants, cherries, freshly cut grass and mixed spices. Medium-bodied, with soft tannins and a straightforward, flavorful finish. Beautiful from the very start.
	93	CLUB ENOLOGIQUE	Aged in a structure that dates from 1124, Castello di Gabbiano's Gran Selezione Bellezza ('Beauty') comes from a single vineyard in San Casciano. It opens slightly pungent, with spicy scarlet-toned cranberry and redcurrant over potpourri, polished leather, dashi and dried thyme; and there's a warm, horsey musk below. The palate is saline and fresh, its pure Sangiovese fruit more blood orange in tone than red berry, with generous helpings of fresh thyme and vetiver. 2019's vibrant acidity supports the sheerness, while tannins are powdery, fine and diffuse, drying to a soft finish on the back.

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EXCELLENT

WEIN PLUS

Aroma less developed, nutty, slightly earthy and underbrush, with predominance of dark berries and hints of cedar wood and tobacco, seasoned meat, leather and a hint of tar. Firm fruit, a bit smoky, with obvious nutty spice and tobacco, also a hint of chocolate, tannins present and ripe, some bite, persistent and dense on the palate, dried Mediterranean herbs in the background, has power and some depth, slightly salty in the background, very good, firm, juicy and again spicy with chocolate.

96

LUCA GARDINI

From the vineyard of the same name and a vintage of rare completion, a Sangiovese 100% of splendid gustatory impact. The aroma opens with notes of red currant, then laurel and touches of blood orange. Juicy-brackish 96 mouth, with return of small fruits. Closure on citrus scents.

91.5

VITAE

Medium-depth carmine red. Varietal aromas of Ferrovia cherry, rose and blood orange lead the nose, followed by hints of Alchermes liqueur, leather, rust and black pepper. The palate is juicy, with persistent tannins in dynamic balance with the alcohol. The finish lingers with a slow fade of cinchona bark and aromatic herbs. Pair with Rossini-style veal fillet.

96

L'ESPRESSO

92

GUIDA ORO VERONELLI

2 BICCHIERI

GAMBERO ROSSO

4 GRAPPOLI

BIBENDA

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2018	94	JAMES SUCKLING	This is a full-bodied and compact red with ripe red berry character and hints of earthiness and ground spices. Firm, fine-grained tannins with a solid structure, succulent red fruit and a lingering finish. Drink or hold.
	93	WINE SPECTATOR	Leather, earth and woods aromas and flavors are the main themes in this red, with cherry and plum fruit playing supporting roles. Lively and harmonious, with a firm, chalky finish. Drink now through 2040.
	90	LUCA MARONI	
	93	WINES CRITIC	Energetic and vibrant in the glass showing notes of raspberries, currants, wild strawberries and lemon peel. Medium bodied, soft tannins and a juicy finale with pleasing quality and drinkability. Drink now.
	92	WINE ENTHUSIAST	The nose presents a lush garden, with fig and plum trees surrounding a table full of dried fruit and pots of sage, while the palate preserves the fruitiness, before new layers of spices and herbs add smoky heat. The depth in the glass reflects age, even as freshness persists.
	90	CLUB ENOLOGIQUE	Gabbiano's 2018 Bellezza Gran Selezione allows Sangiovese to speak for itself, without blending or much influence from new oak. Large-format Tuscan casks are used with some wine in 500l barrels. There is a slight ferocity to the nose, with bitter roots, cumin and pony skin over plum jelly fruit. The plump, viscous opening nonetheless maintains a sense of translucency, with wintergreen, anise and sarsaparilla bittersweetness cleansed by mounting waves of acidity. Tannins have amalgamated into the flesh of the mid-

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			palate, without ever being exposed, even on the finish. 95 LUCA GARDINI From the homonymous vineyard, a Gran Selezione of excellent gustatory impact. Smell that opens with black mulberry note, then laurel and touches of wild iris. The mouthfeel is briny, with a return of gentian. The finish has a nice persistence and crispiness. 92 GUIDA ORO VERONELLI 95 L'ESPRESSO
2017	94	JAMES SUCKLING	A full-bodied red with chewy, juicy tannins that frame the ripe fruit nicely. It's round and intense, but shows plenty of cherry, earth and spice on the finish. Drink or hold. 91 VINOUS The 2017 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Cavaliere d'Oro Bellezza is another strong wine in this range from Gabbiano. Succulent dark cherry, licorice, mocha, spice, leather and menthol build in the glass. This rich, heady Gran Selezione shows the overt ripeness of the year, and yet is also nicely balanced, not to mention primed for at least a number of years of fine drinking. 91 WINE ENTHUSIAST Made entirely with Sangiovese, this offers aromas of violet, vanilla and mocha. The solid palate delivers baked plum, star anise and tobacco alongside polished tannins. Enjoy through 2025. 92 TONY WOOD Intense ruby red in colour. Red and black berries, underbrush, liquorice, pipe tobacco. Good length and balance. Showing terroir. As always, distinctive. Good showing from difficult vintage.

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2016	92	JAMES SUCKLING	Black-cherry and fresh-mushroom aromas follow through to a medium body, with juicy fruit and hints of spice and mushrooms. Precise and very pretty. Drink now or hold.
	90	VINOUS	The 2016 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza Cavaliere d'Oro captures all the best qualities of the Gabbiano house style. The 2016 is a flashy wine, but all the elements fall into place effortlessly. Super-ripe red cherry, sweet spice, rose petal and hard candy fill out the layers as the 2016 opens in the glass. There is plenty of immediacy here.
	93	WINE ENTHUSIAST	Made entirely with Sangiovese, this structured red opens with enticing aromas of violet, black-skinned berry and underbrush. The delicious palate delivers Marasca cherry, raspberry jam, licorice, black pepper and tobacco alongside fine-grained tannins. It's balanced, with bright acidity. Enjoy through 2029.
	94	TONY WOOD	Dark ruby red in colour. Black cherry with red berries. Burnt orange peel. Fresh mint notes. Well balanced silky red. Vanilla aromas, fine tannins. Has distinctiveness.
	92	DECANTER	From a single vineyard, Bellezza matures in a combination of new and one-year-old French oak barriques and 15hL Tuscan oak casks. Intense black cherry aromas are punctuated by dusty thyme, smoked meat and toasty oak. Bringing in notes of mocha and crushed stone, the palate is draped in a substantial structure of chewy tannins which are ripe, subtle and backed up by lush, juicy fruit. With a bit more tension than usual, this is perhaps the finest Bellezza to date. Drinking Window 2022- 2032.
	92	ROBERT PARKER	Of these new releases from Castello di Gabbiano, the 2016 Chianti Classico Gran

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2015	92	WINE SPECTATOR	Selezione Bellezza Cavaliere d'Oro is by far the most classic, focused and tight. The wine relies on characteristic Sangiovese aromas of cherry, wet earth, tobacco and blue flower to lure you in. On the palate, it shows tonic brightness and a firm, mid-weight style. This vintage offers both power and elegance to sample with an aged Tuscan cheese. A bright style, exuding black cherry, blackberry, violet and mineral flavors. Firmly structured, yet harmonious, sleek and defined, this feels like it's beginning to lose its primary fruit character, developing some woody elements on the long finish. Best from 2023 through 2043. 2,000 cases made, 900 cases imported.
	94	JAMES SUCKLING	This is a big and rich Chianti Classico with lots of crushed-berry and walnut character New-wood undertones. Full body. Chewy and rich. Shows tension and power. Give it two or three years to soften. Better after 2020.
	90	VINOUS	Gabbiano's 2015 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza presents a decidedly amped up expression of Sangiovese. Black cherry, plum, new leather, tobacco, licorice, spice, new oak and menthol all flesh out in a succulent Chianti Classico that is all about raciness. This is an especially modern, lush style, but the wine has come together nicely over the last year.
	92	WINE ENTHUSIAST	Made entirely with Sangiovese, this opens with aromas of redskinned berry, vanilla, cooking spice and a touch of eucalyptus. The juicy, balanced palate delivers raspberry jam, star anise, white pepper and tobacco alongside fine-grained tannins and bright acidity. Enjoy through 2026.
	92	WINES CRITIC	Fragole mature e amarene si fondono con note agrumate in sottofondo. Note

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			di pepe nere a completare il quadro aromatico. Corpo pieno, tannini rustici ed un finale leggermente pesante. Meglio dal 2020.
	92	DECANTER	Pure class; a complexity of plum and pomegranate laced with acorn and oak copse; creamy, soft, mellow and enchanting. Drinking Window 2020 – 2028
	91	ROBERT PARKER	Showing a more contemporary style, the 2015 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza (100% Sangiovese) offers extra fruit padding and richness that accompanies this wine as it washes over the palate. On the nose, you get dark fruit, dried cherry, Spanish Cedar, tobacco and grilled herb. There is a note of fruity sourness on the close, but Bellezza compensates with its robust textural richness and Sangiovese-driven acidity. Some 26,400 bottles were made.
2013	92	JAMES SUCKLING	Plenty of new wood at the moment with berry and chocolate undertones. Full body, round and juicy tannins and a flavorful finish. A little overdone but still outstanding.
	91	VINOUS	
	91	WINE ENTHUSIAST	Made entirely with Sangiovese, this opens with aromas of black plum, vanilla, eucalyptus and a touch of ginger. The savory, balanced palate doles out ripe black cherry, licorice, white pepper and cedar alongside fine-grained tannins
	94	TASTINGPANEL	After spending 30 days on the lees during malolactic fermentation and aging for 16 months in French oak barriques and tonneau 400-liter barrels, this wine also sees a long

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		period of maturation in bottle before release. Given that it tastes expensive and carries a Gran Selezione denomination, the price is pleasantly surprising. Spiced cranberry and vanilla bean lead the charge on the nose as leather and minerality arise on opposite sides of the flavor and textural spectrum. The hyperbolic acidity common in the Old World combines with cherrywood and silky tannins to heighten complexity.
90	DECANTER	A selection of grapes from a particularly beautiful single vineyard (belleza means beauty). This is aged in 60% barriques, 30% new, and as of 2013, the remainder is aged in botti made from local Tuscan oak called Roverella. Notes of vanilla, cherry and eucalyptus emerge first, followed by tobacco and plum. Supple, plush fruit is neatly girdled by chewy tannins on the palate. A flattering crowd pleaser. Drinking Window 2018 – 2026.
91	ROBERT PARKER	The 2013 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza (100% Sangiovese) is the belle of the ball among this group of new releases. The wine offers bright intensity with a direct and honest delivery. The bouquet peels back to show wild fruit, balsam herb, cola and moist chewing tobacco. As the wine warms in the glass, it delivers more rosemary-like intensity that adds to the brightness and the direct appeal of the wine.
92	WINE SPECTATOR	This is settling into a nice groove, in a contemporary style, offering plum, black cherry, earth and tobacco flavors, framed by spicy oak. Balanced and beefy, with a long, spice-tinged aftertaste. Drink now through 2027.

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93

MICHAEL GODEL

Cette Bellezza est pure sangiovese, la meilleure Bellezza en années, classique pour rappeler il y a plusieurs années, mais un vin très moderne. C'est la situation de Gabbiano et la prédilection pour annoncer ce que Gran Selezione signifie en un mot, bravo. Vous pourriez en boire maintenant de plus en plus de 25 ans.

91

ANDREAS LARSSON

Mature ruby red colour. Complex and developed nose with fine oak, mild spices like clove and sweet pepper with dark cherry and red berries. The palate is dense with good extraction, integrated tannin and acidity, juicy fruit, some complex spiciness, layered and long finish with ripe fruit flavours.

90

WINE&SPIRIT

Year's Best Tuscan Wines

4 GRAPPOLI

BIBENDA

Ruby red tending toward garnet. Rich in fruit notes, it shows a certain elegance through its balsamic and mineral character. Tense on the palate, with a well-defined texture.

90

LUCA MARONI

90

ERNESTO GENTILI

Transparent ruby red in colour. The nose opens with aromas of cherry, blood orange and wisteria, followed by notes of licorice, pine resin, oregano and blueberry jelly. The palate is broad and well constructed in its tannic-glyceric framework, compact and vibrant, with a long fruity finish that fades into a pleasant savory note.

4 VITI

VITAE

Complex and nuanced aromas marked by tertiary notes of tobacco and humus. On the palate it is fresh, orderly, airy and continuous, well defined and elegant, with a slightly oaky finish.

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2012	92	WEIN WIRTSCHAFT	Fruchtig-würzige Nase, verbunden mit reifen Aromen von Rum und Madeira, Kirsche, Pflaumen, Nougat,dicht, komplex mit Tannin-und Säurespiel.
	92	JAMES SUCKLING	A wine with a wonderful depth of fruit but slightly marked by the new wood. Full body, round and silky tannins and a medium finish. This needs two or three years to come together in the bottle. A solid red.
	92	VINOUS	The 2012 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza is plump, juicy and expressive. Succulent red cherries, plums, sweet spices, leather and smoke flesh out nicely in the glass. The aromatics are slightly forward, which leads me to believe the 2012 will not be a long-term ager. Still, today the Bellezza is attractive and immediate, both qualities that make it an excellent choice for near term drinking.
	91	WINE ENTHUSIAST	Baked plum, Asian spice, vanilla and menthol aromas carry the nose. The elegantly structured palate offers fleshy black cherry, licorice, mint and well-integrated French oak alongside fine-grained tannins that lend firm, polished support. A coffee note marks the finish.
	93	NATALIE MACLEAN	Here's a knock-out Italian red that is at once robust and flavourful yet ultra-smooth and refined. All the elements have come together in this wine including a spectacular vintage. Aromas of dark fruit and smoke. Pair with rare steak.
2011	93	JAMES SUCKLING	Wonderful aromas of dried berries, black pepper and spices. Full body with firm, silky tannins and a fresh, clean, tangy, fruity finish. Hints of walnut and smoky oak. Drink now.

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	92	NATALIE MACLEAN	Full-bodied and supple with incredible concentration, depth and complexity. Elegantly balanced with a long finish. Notes of sun-dried tomatoes, dark tart cherry and earth. Just enough acidity to handle dishes with tomato sauce.
2010	GOLD	EXPOVINA	
	90	WINE SPECTATOR	Black cherry and black - berry flavors are framed by vanilla and toast in this polished red, whose finish is fresh and long, though the tannins still need time to integrate. Best from 2015 through 2024.
	90	JAMES SUCKLING	This is a full-bodied red with lots of ripe fruit and loads of toasted oak character. Possibly a little too much new wood but it should come together nicely with a few more years of bottle age. Try in 2015.
	89	VINOUS	The estate's 2010 Chianti Classico Riserva Bellezza (100% Sangiovese) is darker and richer than the straight Riserva, but not materially better or more complex in my view. If anything, the greater use of French oak is a bit distracting, given that the dark red, plummy fruit is so attractive in this vintage. Hints of mocha and sweet spices add texture on the close.
	90	GUIDA ORO VERONELLI	
	91	WINE ENTHUSIAST	With fruit selected from a single-vineyard site, this riserva does a nice job of portraying a fresh cherry flavor within an elaborate framework of oak spice, leather and tobacco notes. The wine is propped up by tight wood-derived tannins, which gives it a firm structure. It could use a few more years of cellar aging.

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	90	NATALIE MACLEAN	Full-bodied Italian red wine with dark fruit, smoke and spice.
2009	SILVER AWARD	DECANTER ASIA WINE AWARDS 2012	Very rich and oaky with chocolate, ripe fruit and smoky notes. Very modern in style, well developed and showing finesse.
	4 GRAPPOLI	BIBENDA	Ruby red with a fading rim, offering aromas of great intensity. Notes of cherry jam, raspberries, dark tobacco, violet, leather, smoke, flint and a pronounced oaky character emerge on the nose. The palate is fully consistent with the bouquet, enveloping and pleasantly savory, with measured tannins and a rich finish marked by roasted notes.
	90	TASTING PANEL	Smooth, lush and elegant with bright, tangy plum and ripe berry fruit; good depth, supple and refined with lovely texture and long, seamless flavors of fruit, spice and wood; complete and quite lovely.
	92	TASTED	Medium deep, ruby red, high viscosity and a watery rim; the nose offers some new oak, vanilla and mocha, although well integrated with attractive fruit - dark cherry, blackcurrant and plum; the palate has good weight, volume and juicy dark fruit, fine spices, elegant oak, mellow acidity and long, warm finish.
			Dark, purple red with violet hue and almost black centre. Distinct oak influences the nose, quite modern style, mature fruit, intense spiciness and roasted aromas. On the palate well balanced with a certain opulence, fleshy with good length.
2008	87	LUCA MARONI	

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	4 GRAPPOLI	DUEMILAVINI AIS	
2007	89	GUIDA ORO VERONELLI	
	92	JAMES SUCKLING	Beautiful fruit on the nose, with plums and dark berries as well as bitter chocolate. Full body, with plenty of fruit and spices. Loads of new wood, but doesn't bother me. Will come together with time. Big improvement here. Best after 2012.
	92	WINEENTHUSIAST	Bellezza is now labeled Chianti Classico (through 2007 it was labeled only as Toscana), based on Sangiovese grapes that deliver aromas of cherry, toasted almond, chocolate, rum cake and exotic spice. The wine is long, fresh and intense in the mouth and would pair well with steak and grilled porcini mushrooms.
	85	LUCA MARONI	
	3 GRAPPOLI	DUEMILAVINI AIS	
	SILVER	IWC	
	BRONZE	DECANTER	
2006	84	LUCA MARONI	
	3 GRAPPOLI	DUEMILAVINI AIS	
2005	2 BICCHIERI	GAMBERO ROSSO	
	16	L'ESPRESSO	

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	88	GUIDA ORO VERONELLI	
	91	WINE ENTHUSIAST	Bellezza is indeed a beautiful expression of Sangiovese (aged in oak) that peels back layer after layer with cherry, spice, leather and tobacco aromas. The fruit-driven finish is long, smooth and satisfying.
	85	LUCA MARONI	
	4 GRAPPOLI	DUEMILAVINI AIS	
	88	WINE SPECTATOR	Fresh leather, with ripe cherry on the nose, follows through to a medium body. A slightly woody palate features some berry character. Racy. Sangiovese. Best from 2010 through 2015.
	SILVER	IWSC	
	COMMENDED	DECANTER	
2004	83	LUCA MARONI	
	4 GRAPPOLI	DUEMILAVINI AIS	
	2 BICCHIERI	GAMBERO ROSSO	
	14.5	L'ESPRESSO	
	89	GUIDA ORO VERONELLI	
	81	WINE SPECTATOR	
2003	81	LUCA MARONI	

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	4 GRAPPOLI	DUEMILAVINI AIS	
2001	15	L'ESPRESSO	
	89	GUIDA ORO VERONELLI	
	80	LUCA MARONI	
	1 BICCHIERE	GAMBERO ROSSO	
	4 GRAPPOLI	DUEMILAVINI AIS	
2000	4 GRAPPOLI	DUEMILAVINI AIS	
	2 BICCHIERI	GAMBERO ROSSO	
	78	LUCA MARONI	
	91	WINE SPECTATOR	
	14.5	L'ESPRESSO	
1999	3 GRAPPOLI	DUEMILAVINI AIS	
	14.5	L'ESPRESSO	
	88	GUIDA ORO VERONELLI	
	86	WINE ENTHUSIAST	A lot of sawmill is present up front, but behind the loud oak there's plum, raisin and some herbal leafiness. Attentive red fruit carries the palate, backed by a quick but clean finish that splits out the side doors. A bit gritty but will work with food.

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	86	WINE SPECTATOR	Aromas and flavors of toasted oak with ripe fruit...has lots of character. Full-bodied, with soft, round tannins.
	BRONZE	IWSC	
	77	LUCA MARONI	
1997	13.5	L'ESPRESSO	
	86	GUIDA ORO VERONELLI	
	86	WINE ENTHUSIAST	Hints of mint, licorice and cedar precede grassy, leathery aromas. The palate on this Sangiovese is simple and slightly woody, with raspberry and strawberry notes. Finishes a bit thin and drying, with notes of oak and vanilla.
	84	WINE SPECTATOR	Elegant and refined, with berry, plum and vanilla character. Light- to medium-bodied, with fresh acidity and a vanilla finish. Slightly too much wood. Sangiovese. Drink now.
	75	LUCA MARONI	
	Exceptional	DAN BERGER'S VINTAGE EXPERIENCES	Deep well-aged herb and tomato notes, oak on the finish and a silky yet still tart aftertaste.
	4 GRAPPOLI	DUEMILAVINI AIS	
	14	L'ESPRESSO	
	85	WINE ENTHUSIAST	This 100% Sangiovese has sharp berry, leather and chocolate aromas, raspberry and strawberry flavors, and a lean, oaky yet fresh finish. Modest tannins work to spread the wine out,

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and the fruit, while thin and fading,
seems ripe and not green