



Italy, Tuscany: Icons

Vintage	Wines	RP
2019	Tenuta di Trinoro	100
2018	Castello di Ama L'Apparita	99
2019	Tua Rita Syrah Per Sempre	98
2018	Fontodi Flaccianello della Pieve	98
2018	Le Macchiole Scrio	98

I can't imagine a report to write more fun than this. In this collection of 90 wines from across Tuscany, I focus on many of the heavy-hitters, or the icon wines, that have brought *vino italiano* to the world stage. These are the benchmark bottles that have given rise to the spectacular growth we have seen among worldwide collectors and the various indices, like Liv-ex or the London International Vintners Exchange, with regards to Italian fine wines.

In an article published on September 3, 2021, the group registered "the definitive high jump of Italian fine wines" in their Live-ex Classification 2021. Italy accounted for 83 wines on the index, representing a 112% increase over 2019, or the last time the list was published.

"Italian wines rank among the top wines of the world as fine wine buyers cast their nets wider and deeper in search of greater value," said Liv-ex in their press release.

Arguably, no wine nation has performed better than Italy during these trying pandemic times. Although we can't know how long this upward performance trend will last, it has certainly been an exciting ride so far.

As readers know, I have worked hard these past years to highlight many of these icon wines in special spotlights and one-off articles timed to the wines' commercial releases.

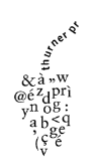
Last year, I published a series called The Tuscan Twenty (actually, it started off as The Tuscan Ten, but then it started to grow). By the end of 2020, my series had gone beyond The Tuscan Twenty, and I contemplated changing its name once again, to The Tuscan Thirty.

To make things easier, I scratched that idea this year and instead opted to publish this article simply called "Tuscany: Icons."

In addition to the wines presented in this article, some of my icon reviews have already been published. You can find my reviews of the following wines in their respective spotlight articles: Tenuta San Guido 2018 Bolgheri Sassicaia; both the Masseto 2018 Masseto and the Ornellaia 2018 Bolgheri Superiore Ornellaia; the Marchesi Antinori 2018 Tignanello and the Guado al Tasso 2018 Bolgheri Superiore Guado al Tasso; the Marchesi Antinori 2018 Solaia; and the Bibi Graetz 2019 Colore and his 2019 Testamatta. I also published a barrel sample review of the Petrolo 2018 Galatrona, but I will offer a definitive review of that wine in my annual coverage of Tuscany's tiny Valdarno di Sopra appellation.

I wanted to bring more of the vintners' voices into my coverage of these Tuscan icon wines, so I mailed out a brief questionnaire to all of the producers represented in this article and have translated their answers here below. I hope you enjoy this format and find it useful.

(...)





*The Tenuta di Trinoro 2019 Tenuta di Trinoro – by Andrea Franchetti*

**1. What was the first year of production for this wine?**

1997

**2. Which vintages have been released (or vintages in which the wine was not made)?**

It was not made in 2002.

**3. What was the name of the winemaker at the beginning and the name of the current winemaker if changed?**

Andrea Franchetti

**4. How many bottles are produced per year?**

10,000

**5. Is the wine a single vineyard or a blend?**

It is from a group of different vineyards.

**6. Could you tell me about the spirit/identity of this wine? What is its meaning for you?**

The spirit and identity of this wine are the influences of the landscape and life in Val d’Orcia on my soul. As for the meaning for me of the wine, I make changes according to the vintage.

**7. Could you tell me about the evolution (in the vineyard or in terms of enology) that the wine has undergone over the course of its lifetime?**

The wine has improved with my experience and with the aging of the vines.

**8. Could you mention two or three bottles (Italian, French or others) that were a direct inspiration for you when you started this project?**

Le Petit Cheval 1990

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**2019 Tenuta di Trinoro • Tenuta di Trinoro**

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<p><b>Rating:</b> 100</p> <p><b>Price:</b> <a href="#">View Prices</a></p> <p><b>Drink Date:</b> 2023 - 2048</p> <p><b>Reviewed by:</b>  <a href="#">Monica Larner</a></p> <p><b>Issue Date:</b> 7th Oct 2021</p> <p><b>Source:</b>  <a href="#">October 2021 Week 1, The Wine Advocate</a></p>	<p>This is a stunning wine and one of the best in this report covering the icons of Tuscany. The 2019 Tenuta di Trinoro is a blend of 60% Merlot and 40% Cabernet Franc. Fruit is sourced from the very best parcels, and the blending formula changes according to vintage and the style desired by vintner Andrea Franchetti. These vineyard parcels vary in altitude, ranging from 400 to 600 meters above sea level, and the soils are quite varied with pockets of clay, sand and rock. The Trinoro is profoundly deep and pure with a solid core of black fruit that is framed by an elegant contour of spice, tobacco, smoke and crushed stone. To the palate, the wine is long and the finish can be counted in minutes, but the entire experience is beautifully streamlined and velvety. This vintage saw an important freeze event on the 7th of May, and 9,000 fire candles were lit in the lower vineyard blocks to fight off frost damage.</p>
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<b>Producer:</b> Tenuta di Trinoro	<b>From:</b> Italy, Tuscany, Toscana	<b>Color:</b> ● Red
<b>Type:</b> Table	<b>Sweetness:</b> Dry	<b>Variety:</b> Proprietary Blend

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## 2019 Tenuta di Trinoro • Bianco di Trinoro

[View Wine](#)

**Rating:** 93

**Price:** [View Prices](#)

**Drink Date:** 2021 - 2030

**Reviewed by:**

☞ [Monica Lerner](#)

**Issue Date:** 7th Oct 2021

**Source:**

[October 2021 Week 1, The Wine Advocate](#)

Only in its third year, this Semillon-based white is a relatively new experiment for a vintner who has made important strides in modern Italian red wine. The Tenuta di Trinoro 2019 Bianco di Trinoro is beautifully smooth and silky rich in texture. The intensity of the mouthfeel gives momentum and a lasting flavor profile. Orchard fruit, pear, apricot and fleshy apple segue to a mild point of mineral or crushed stone. The fruit is harvested from one of the estate's highest plots (at 630 meters in altitude) with sandy soils. Production is only 2,446 bottles.

**Producer:** Tenuta di Trinoro

**From:** Italy, Tuscany, Toscana

**Color:** ● White

**Type:** Table

**Sweetness:** Dry

**Variety:** Semillon Gris

## 2019 Tenuta di Trinoro • Campo di Camagi

[View Wine](#)

**Rating:** 95

**Price:** [View Prices](#)

**Drink Date:** 2022 - 2043

**Reviewed by:**

☞ [Monica Lerner](#)

**Issue Date:** 7th Oct 2021

**Source:**

[October 2021 Week 1, The Wine Advocate](#)

This vineyard site sits at 550 meters in altitude, with clay soils spread over 1.5 hectares. The Tenuta di Trinoro 2019 Campo di Camagi is another site-specific expression of Cabernet Franc from a vintner who has produced some of the greatest expressions of this Bordelais grape made in Italy. What distinguishes this bottle next to, say, the Campo di Magnacosta (with looser alluvial limestone and sandstone soils) is the wine's overall sense of concentration and fruit weight. It is full and generous, leaving a big impact on all the senses. With just 1,302 bottles produced, this wine packs a powerful punch with black fruit, spice, tobacco and scorched earth.

**Producer:** Tenuta di Trinoro

**From:** Italy, Tuscany, Toscana

**Color:** ● Red

**Type:** Table

**Sweetness:** Dry

**Variety:** Cabernet Franc

## 2019 Tenuta di Trinoro • Campo di Magnacosta

[View Wine](#)

**Rating:** 96

**Price:** [View Prices](#)

**Drink Date:** 2022 - 2043

**Reviewed by:**

☞ [Monica Lerner](#)

**Issue Date:** 7th Oct 2021

**Source:**

[October 2021 Week 1, The Wine Advocate](#)

If you love Cabernet Franc, please direct your attention here. The Tenuta di Trinoro 2019 Campo di Magnacosta is a study in the intensity, power and depth of this grape. Campo di Magnacosta was the first of several single-vineyard parcels planted to this variety. The first bottling from this 1.5-hectare site was made in 2011, and this year a mere 2,122 bottles were released. The wine is profound and pure with luscious dark fruit, sharp minerality, spice and etched contours. You get that distinctive hint of slate or pencil shaving that is especially characteristic of this Cabernet Franc. Its full-bodied texture wraps smoothly over the palate, and the tannins have been expertly integrated.

**Producer:** Tenuta di Trinoro

**From:** Italy, Tuscany, Toscana

**Color:** ● Red

**Type:** Table

**Sweetness:** Dry

**Variety:** Cabernet Franc

## 2019 Tenuta di Trinoro • Campo di Tenaglia

[View Wine](#)

**Rating:** 95+

**Price:** [View Prices](#)

**Drink Date:** 2022 - 2043

**Reviewed by:**

👤 [Monica Lerner](#)

**Issue Date:** 7th Oct 2021

**Source:**

[October 2021 Week 1, The Wine Advocate](#)

This is one of three single-vineyard expressions of Cabernet Franc made by vintner Andrea Franchetti. The Tenuta di Trinoro 2019 Campo di Tenaglia draws its fruit from a 0.8-hectare site with sandstone clay soils at a breezy 500 meters above sea level. This vineyard also boasts the deepest soils for the plant's root systems to explore, with more than two meters of crushed stone, calcareous rock and heavy sands. Like the other monovarietal wines in this collection, fermentation kicks off in stainless steel vats and aging continues in French barrique, concluding with a resting period in cement. What I notice most here is the soft ripeness and roundness of the fruit. Campo di Tenaglia shows a loose-knit texture with plenty of primary intensity in the form of blackberry preserves, spice and smoky tar. Production is 1,933 bottles.

**Producer:** Tenuta di Trinoro

**From:** Italy, Tuscany, Toscana

**Color:** ● Red

**Type:** Table

**Sweetness:** Dry

**Variety:** Cabernet Franc

## 2019 Tenuta di Trinoro • Palazzi

[View Wine](#)

**Rating:** 96

**Price:** [View Prices](#)

**Drink Date:** 2022 - 2045

**Reviewed by:**

👤 [Monica Lerner](#)

**Issue Date:** 7th Oct 2021

**Source:**

[October 2021 Week 1, The Wine Advocate](#)

Because of frost and a cold spring, some of the vineyard parcels at this estate saw late harvest dates. But the Merlot was the first to come off the vines by the 14th of September. The Tenuta di Trinoro 2019 Palazzi is a pure expression of Merlot with incoming fruit from the Palazzi vineyard that is characterized by dense clay soils. The wine's intensity is what stands out most, and that power is fueled by lovely nuances of black fruit, spice, sweet tobacco and baker's chocolate. The alcohol content weighs in at 15.5%. Palazzi excels in terms of mouthfeel. The smooth richness and deep softness achieved here is only possible with this grape.

Furthermore, it seems only possible in this spectacular, sun-drenched corner of undiscovered Tuscany known as Sarteano.

**Producer:** Tenuta di Trinoro

**From:** Italy, Tuscany, Toscana

**Color:** ● Red

**Type:** Table

**Sweetness:** Dry

**Variety:** Merlot

## 2019 Tenuta di Trinoro • Le Cupole

[View Wine](#)

**Rating:** 93

**Price:** [View Prices](#)

**Drink Date:** 2021 - 2038

**Reviewed by:**

👤 [Monica Lerner](#)

**Issue Date:** 7th Oct 2021

**Source:**

[October 2021 Week 1, The Wine Advocate](#)

This is a terrific value proposition. The 2019 Le Cupole is a blend of 47% Merlot, 30% Cabernet Franc, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon and 8% Petit Verdot. The first vintage was made in 1995, and although these four varieties have been used in the blend since the beginning, the various percentages change according to vintage conditions. This long 2019 growing season was a little more challenging for the late-ripening Cabernet Sauvignon and Petit Verdot. The wine delivers plenty of rich concentration and ripeness, but there is also a pureness to the fruit that happily underscores its cheerful and informal personality.

**Producer:** Tenuta di Trinoro

**From:** Italy, Tuscany, Toscana

**Color:** ● Red

**Type:** Table

**Sweetness:** Dry

**Variety:** Proprietary Blend