

Top 10 Tuscan Coastal Wines Released in 2006

Though Chianti is the best-known Tuscan wine producing area, there are others, including the swath of coast from Bolgheri to Piombino, which are home to some of the finest wines in the world, including Sassicaia and Masseto.

I tasted the 2006 releases this spring, and this is what I liked best.

1) [Grattamacco "Bolgheri Rosso" DOC 2004](#)

Deep black cherry ruby. Young bouquet, with an initial rush of violets supported by cedar and pleasing forest berry fruit; the overall impression is controlled but opulent in a cheeky sort of way. On the palate it's medium bodied, with rich forest berry fruit that gains direction from deft berry fruit acidity, and is supported by tightly woven very smooth tannins. Quite nice, in a smooth cheeky key -- it brings to mind a smiling teen who has gotten away with something good.

Score: 90

8) [Grattamacco "Bolgheri Bianco" Vermentino DOC 2004](#)

Brassy white with lively brassy reflections. Fairly intense bouquet with a rush of butterscotch laced with gunflint bitterness and some savory green apricot overtones. Fairly rich, with powerful mineral laced white berry fruit supported by deft mineral acidity that flows into a clean fairly bitter finish with acidity and hints of butterscotch that carry at length. It will drink nicely with flavorful fish or cheese-based risotti, or with richly flavored fish. It grew on me.

Score: 87

From Kyle Phillips
Your Guide to Italian Cuisine

<http://italianfood.about.com/od/winewatercoffeedrinks/tp/aa083006.htm>

Bedford International

2 East Avenue, Suite 209 • Larchmont, New York 10538-4016 • Tel: (914) 833-2725