

BEST OF BEDFORD



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This is another strong set of releases from Rivera, one of Puglia's leading producers. Even better, the wines remain very fairly priced considering the quality of what is in the bottle. – Antonio Galloni

91 points RIVERA "IL FALCONE" RISERVA 2005

"The 2005 Il Falcone, a French oak-aged blend of 70% Nero di Troia and 30% Montepulciano, is Rivera's top red. Freshly cut roses, earthiness, smoke, red berries and spices come together beautifully in this graceful mid-weight red. The finish could use a touch more polish, but another year or two in bottle should help the tannins soften. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2017 "

91 points RIVERA AGLIANICO "CAPPELLACCIO" 2005

"The 2005 Aglianico Riserva Cappellaccio is a beautiful, racy wine endowed with layers of wild cherries, sweet herbs, menthol, tobacco and cured meats. This bold, juicy Aglianico offers gorgeous overall balance, but the firm tannins suggest the wine is best paired with equally bold, rich dishes. Clean, minerally notes frame the exquisite finish. Today the fruit remains quite primary, and a few additional years of bottle age will only do the Cappellaccio good. This is a very serious wine for the money. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2022"

89 points RIVERA PRIMITIVO "TRIUSCO" 2006

"The 2006 Primitivo Triusco is one of the more refined, elegant and restrained Primitivos readers are likely to come across. The aromatics and fruit preserve lovely freshness, with notes of blackberries, blueberries and flowers that caress the palate in a soft, generous style. Tar, smoke and new leather linger on the finish. The Triusco is made from vineyards in two distinct zones; Manduria and Gioia del Colle. This is another delicious, value-priced wine from Rivera. Anticipated maturity: 2010-2014"



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