

Bedford Uncorked!

Pressing News About Our Fine Italian Wines - July 2009



OUR RECENT RATINGS IN THE WINE ADVOCATE



"I was thrilled with these new releases from Rivera, one of Puglia's top estates. The wines are made in a style that captures plenty of varietal character in a modern interpretation."

Antonio Galloni - The Wine Advocate - Issue 182 - April 2009

[Rivera Castel del Monte Riserva 'Falcone' 2004](#)

93 points

70% Nero di Troia and 30% Montepulciano that spent 12 months in French oak. *In this vintage, the Falcone Riserva is awesome.* Layers of earthiness, new leather, plums, black cherries and herbs emerge in stunning style as this full-bodied, richly textured wine shows off its qualities. The wine possesses even more than enough density to balance the tannins all the way through to the long finish, where a blast of melted road tar provides the final exclamation point. Simply put, this is a compelling wine from Rivera and certainly among the handful of truly important reds being made today in Puglia; Anticipated maturity: 2010-19.

Also 90 points from Wine Enthusiast

[Rivera Aglianico 'Cappellaccio' 2004](#)

92 points

The 2004 Aglianico Cappellaccio is *simply superb* as dense layers of perfumed, jammy dark fruit flow from the glass in convincing style. Aglianico in Puglia tends to favor a more overtly fruit-driven expression of the variety, something this wine has in abundance. Suggestions of violets, minerals, menthol and earthiness linger on the powerful yet refined finish. The wine is incredibly delicious today but also appears to have the pedigree to continue to drink well for at least another few years. The Cappellaccio spent two years in wood, one of which was in small French oak barrels. It is a great effort from Rivera; Anticipated maturity: 2009-16



[Rivera Nero di Troia 'Puer Apuliae' 2005](#)

90 points

The French oak-aged 2005 Nero di Troia Puer Apuliae is a dark, dense offering imbued with jammy dark fruit, earthiness, sweet herbs and licorice. This remains a stern, brooding wine with powerful tannins that will require some bottle age or, even better, similarly hearty foods. Despite its decidedly rustic character, I loved this wine's unique personality; Anticipated maturity: 2010-15.

Also 92 points - Cellar Selection from Wine Enthusiast



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OUR RECENT RATINGS IN THE WINE SPECTATOR

Wine Spectator

www.winespectator.com

[Palazzo Brunello di Montalcino 2004](#)

91 points

Shows plum jam, with hints of cooked raspberries on the nose. Full-bodied, with soft tannins and a fruity, juicy and flavorful finish. Soft and round for the vintage. Best from 2010 through 2015.
James Suckling - web only



[Palazzo Brunello di Montalcino Riserva 2003](#)

90 points

Fresh plum and mushroom aromas follow through to a full body, with very well-integrated and soft tannins. The finish is long and silky. Very fine indeed for the vintage. Drink now through 2015.
James Suckling - June 30th, 2009



[Download the Best of Bedford here](#)

[Salcheto Vino Nobile Salco Evoluzione 2003](#)

90 points

This is very rich and impressive, with vanilla and blackberry jam on the nose. Full-bodied, with a soft texture and lots of fruit and velvety tannins. Long and stylish. Drink now.
James Suckling - web only

Also received 91 points from Wine Advocate #177 - June '08



OUR RECENT RATINGS IN THE WINE ENTHUSIAST



[Contratto Barolo 'Cerequio' 2001](#)

93 points

An excellent vintage and an excellent cru (Cerequio is one of Barolo's best) join forces here to produce a balanced, elegant wine. Aged hues of garnet and amber are enhanced by ethereal tones of wet earth, licorice, road tar, anise and dried fruit. The aromas are doled out in a measured, controlled fashion and the wine ends with dusty, ash-like notes. It's ready to drink.

April 2009



[Contratto Barolo 'Tenuta Secolo' 2000](#)

91 points

Tenuta Secolo has aged beautifully over the years to culminate in the full, round and intense wine it is today.

There's heft and brawn here supported by cola, cherry liqueur, black licorice, earthy notes and a distinct note of natural rubber that only adds to the complexity. It's full and tasty with a long finish of candied fruit.

April 2009



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[Giacosa Fratelli Barolo 'Mandorlo' 2004](#)

92 points

Vigna Mandorlo ushers forth sweet-smelling aromas of Christmas spice, nutmeg, ginger and vanilla backed by chopped herbs, anise, licorice and underbrush. There's a layer of smoky mesquite that also appears on the finish. This bright Barolo has a vibrant, sharp feel in the mouth and ends with dusty tannins. Very nice.



[Giacosa Fratelli Barolo 'Bussia' 2004](#)

91 points

This is a sharply focused expression of the Bussia cru with a steady delivery of wild berry, underbrush, sour cherry, white mineral, anise and ginger. The aromatic intensity is understated but refined and the wine performs with the same elegance in the mouth. Age this wine for another five to eight years.



[Download the Best of Bedford here](#)

Recent articles about Rivera

Rivera Nero di Troia 'Puer Apuliae' reviewed by
[II Mio Vino - USA edition](#) - May 2009

Read the article [here](#)

Tom Hyland reviews Rivera on 'Guide to Italian Wines' -
Summer 09

Read the article [here](#)