

DiWINEtaste

Wine Culture and Information

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Wine, Sweet Wine

I admit I have a particular connection to sweet taste and I am perfectly aware this is something many will not agree with me. I understand the passion for sweet taste is irresistible to many, for some it is even a sort of *obsession* and can sometime cause some kind of addiction. Of course I have no intention in criticizing others, I mean I am just saying, personally speaking, I do not have a sweet tooth, a taste that - sometimes - I even find to be monotonous and boring. Let me say this clear: I do not avoid sweet food, I certainly enjoy it, but in case I am not having it, I do not look for it. From a sensorial point of view, in relation to food, I get better satisfaction and gratification in non-sweet food which I usually find to be more complex and interesting than the "usual and predictable" sweet taste. I am one of those who like having a coffee without sugar, that is - according to many - *bitter*, although it is a well known fact to those who like having coffee like this, it is not bitter. Better said, it is not only bitter, as the taste of coffee is expressed by a complexity such to not be uniquely simplified by a bitter taste that, among the other things, it is not even the dominant one.

Things are different when it comes to wines. I mean the so called sweet wines totally catch my interest and attention. It is not, to tell the truth, their sweet taste to make these wines particularly appreciated, indeed the extraordinary sensorial complexity they can express. Because it should be said, talking about wine, as well as in every wine making style, not all the sweetness is the same. To me, in fact, sweetness is not enough to catch my interest for a wine, as it must be said, in certain cases, this taste can be given to a wine in not really *noble* ways. Sweetness, alone, is not enough, because for the fact this can be obtained in a wine in many ways, including quite disputable methods and of doubtful quality. I am not going to criticize the category of sweet wines - of every type or viticultural and wine making style - my interest is mainly for those wines produced with dried grapes and, even better, those enriched by *Botrytis Cinerea*, the so called *noble rot*.

On this regard, it should be said there are many ways to favor the withering of grapes and this can also be done without allowing the grape to naturally wither in the vine or to leave it in well aerated rooms. As to mention the most common example, we can use a room with controlled temperature and humidity in which are stored ripe grapes and then we wait for the *magic* to happen. A technique, as it is commonly known, widely used for fruits and vegetables in order to let them ripe "during their journey" and becoming "ready" when they get to the shops. These rooms can also do another kind of magic, that is to *ennoble* certain grapes by adding the spores of *Botrytis Cinerea* that, of course, will affect the clusters inside the room. It is, as a matter of fact, a low cost method allowing the withering of grapes, and eventually to botrytize them too, while avoiding the risks happening in case we are going to let the grapes dry on the vine or in an aerated room.

Using a room, for example, prevents the grape to be damaged from all those events caused by adverse meteorological conditions - mold and rotteness in particular - something which may happen in case the grape is allowed to dry on its mother vine. What about the result? In general terms, you can tell when a wine is produced with dried or botrytized grapes in rooms. In particular those wines claiming to be made with grapes affected by *Botrytis Cinerea*, something - to tell the truth - that can be realized at the first smell and giving you founded doubts both on the real quality of grapes and wine making techniques. Difficult wines to make, both because of costs and *technical* considerations, using safer methods capable of ensuring a "decent" results while limiting risks, can certainly be interesting for certain producers. Difficulties in the production of wines made from dried grapes begin at the moment of harvesting - an operation requiring extreme care, in particular for grapes affected by *Botrytis Cinerea* - and when grapes are being processed difficulties certainly are not anything less.

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Long fermentations, sometimes they can even last many months, the concrete risk of an excessive development of volatile acidity - no one likes to have vinegar in the glass, right? - rigorous wine making techniques with the least number of faults possible. Loss of water inside of grape berries during the withering represents an important economic factor, a loss which can also be over the half of the original weight. It should be said this loss is fundamental for the production of these wines as it favors the concentration of juice and the substances making it, including sugar. This also means the quantity of must you can get from the crushing of grapes will be far less than the same ripe grape used for the making of a regular table wine. An economic factor of remarkable impact in the production of these wines and, unavoidably, strongly affecting the final price. In other words, a sweet wine made from dried grapes, when it is produced in a rigorous and honest way, it is impossible for it to cost less - not to mention, a lot less - than a regular table wine.

In case these magnificent masterpieces are produced with the attention and care they deserve, the apotheosis of senses is sure to happen. They are an endless sequence of refined emotions, sometimes intense and violent, sometimes light and gentle, it seems they want to hide themselves in the pages of a book waiting to be read from the first to the last page. I am sorry to see sweet wines produced with dried grapes are not successful nowadays. Difficult to make and to sell, also producers do not pay much attention on this type of wine, they continue to make them mostly because of the tradition of a place or brand, instead of a concrete commercial reason. Nevertheless, in past times these wines had the highest and noblest consideration, wine glories of the territory in which they were produced at and continue to be produced even today. Nowadays they seem to play a quite marginal role, getting a modest favor from consumers, maybe also because of price and, more likely, because of a fad. It is such a pity because when they express their noble elegance with endless sensations, through complex and strong emotions, in a sweet and refined robe - ladies and gentlemen - what a wonder!

Antonello Biancalana



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WINE TASTING

Contrasts of Pecorino and Grillo

Emerging glory of Marches and Abruzzo, Pecorino is a variety having huge potentials and still to be understood, is getting compared to Grillo, an elegant giant from Sicily

Pecorino and Grillo are two interesting white berried varieties playing very important roles in wine making of Marches, Abruzzo, as for the former, and in Sicily for the latter. In recent times we are seeing more and more elegant and excellent white wines, from their respective regions, produced with these two varieties. Grillo certainly is the grape catching the interest from Sicilian producers since a long time, in particular for the production of the noble Marsala wine. Pecorino - despite its long history - is a variety having huge wine making potentials and only in recent times it is being successful, thanks to the renewed interest from producers who are focusing on this variety. Grillo, of course, is not the expression of Marsala only: despite this is the wine which made this variety famous for a long time, today there are many producers who are using it for their table wines.

Both grapes have widely proven to make wines of remarkable elegance, however it is evident this grape has still potentials to be further discovered and waiting to be better understood and investigated. On this regard, producers of Pecorino in Marches and Abruzzo, as well as those of Grillo in Sicily, seem to be quite enterprising and have been successful in obtaining remarkable results. Wines produced with both grapes seem to have a successful future ahead, in particular Pecorino, a variety that seems to have huge unexpressed potentials. From an experimental point of view, even Grillo - as for table white wines - proves to have unexpressed potentials and a long road ahead to walk. Both varieties have been vinified in wood containers - both for fermenting and aging - and produced interesting results. The use of inert containers however seems to be more appropriate for these varieties as this makes wines of a better finesse.

Pecorino

The singular name of this interesting white grape has nothing in common with the very tasty *pecorino* cheese produced with sheep's milk. There are many hypothesis about the name of this grape and the one considered to be more reliable has however a strong connection with sheep. It in fact seems the name *pecorino* originated from a particular predilection sheep had for the sweet taste of this ripe grape as to be called "sheep grape" or "sheep's grape". Originating from the Tronto river valley - therefore in the territory of Piceno and Northern Abruzzo - areas historically known for the activities of sheep rearing and transhumance. It is believed, during this seasonal movement of flocks, sheep found vines of Pecorino grape along the way and they seemed to particularly like the sweet clusters. This hypothesis, whether it is

real or imaginative, does not however affect the potentials and the quality of wines produced with Pecorino grape.

It is believed Pecorino grape is an ancient variety and many agree on the fact its original land is the territory of the Tronto river valley, therefore in the Marche region. Its presence is also found in Abruzzo and it reaches the areas of Sibillini mountains as well as the area of Arquata, in province of Ascoli Piceno. This variety is also found, although marginally, in Tuscany, Umbria and Liguria. The first written documents about Pecorino are dated back to the beginning of 1800s, however they did not mention its wines. The revaluation of Pecorino grape has been possible mainly thanks to Guido Cocci Grifoni who worked on the understanding of viticultural and enological potentials of this grape, by reintroducing it in the territories of Offida and Ripatransone, in province of Ascoli Piceno. Thanks to the huge efforts and commitment of Guido Cocci Grifoni, today Offida is one of the main areas where Pecorino has proven to make wines with extraordinary potentials, by obtaining, among the other things, the DOCG rank. (*Denominazione d'Origine Controllata e Garantita*, Denomination of Controlled and Guaranteed Origin).

Grillo

Indisputable king of the best Marsala wines, in particular the *Vergine* style, Grillo has been successful in proving its wine making value also in the production of table wines. The connection with Marsala is however strong as, historically speaking, Grillo has been almost exclusively used for the production of the famous wine from the ancient city of Lilibeo. The origin of Grillo has been debated for a long time and with not so clear conclusions, also believing - among the many hypotheses - its original land was Apulia, although no one could prove how the grape arrived to Sicily. Grillo is mainly found in the Western area of Sicily and it is here the presence of this grape is known since the end of 1800s, and it is still strongly associated to this part of the island. Thanks to its characteristic quality of making quite alcoholic wines and, in particular, suited for oxidation, it quickly became the main grape variety for Marsala wine.

A recent research has been successful, at last, to understand the origins of Grillo and to even determine its place of origin and genesis. According to this research, well supported by documents and reliable facts, Grillo was created in 1874, in Favara - in province of Agrigento - by crossing Inzolia and Muscat of Alexandria, locally known as *Zibibbo*. The author of this new variety has been Baron Antonino Mendola - an agronomist with a particular interest for vine and viticulture - fruit of hundreds attempts which led to the creation of Grillo. Because of its characteristics, Barone Mendola recommended Grillo as an aromatic variety to be used for the making of Marsala, a grape that really determined the quality of this wine. Today Grillo is clearly a variety in which wine making of Sicily is strongly focusing on, not just for the production of the historical Marsala, but also for great white table wines with huge expressive potentials.



The Color of Offida Pecorino

The Tasting

In order to better evaluate the sensorial profile of the wines while limiting as much as possible the unavoidable wine making interference, we will choose bottles produced with the two grapes alone. This means, moreover, we will choose wines produced in inert containers - steel or cement tanks - while avoiding those fermented or aged in cask. As for Pecorino, our choice will be made for a bottle belonging to the denomination of Offida, the only one recognized as DOCG. (*Denominazione d'Origine Controllata e Garantita*, Denomination of Controlled and Guaranteed Origin) As for Grillo, this variety is used in many *Denominazione d'Origine Controllata* of Sicily. In both cases we will make sure the wines to be produced with 100% of the respective grapes, as production disciplinaries provide for the use of small percentages of other grapes. Both wines, belonging to the latest vintage, will be served at a temperature of 10 °C (50 °F) in tasting glasses.

Our tasting by contrast starts from the evaluation of appearance in both wines. In this first phase of the tasting we will not notice substantial differences, as our grapes - Pecorino and Grillo - tend to make wines with the same hues. Both varieties, in fact, make wines having a straw yellow color - more or less intense - with nuances of the same color as well as greenish yellow hues. Let's evaluate the aspect of Offida Pecorino and pour it in its glass. Let's tilt the glass on a white surface and this will let us see a brilliant and intense straw yellow color. Nuances in this wine, observed towards the opening of the glass, reveal an intense greenish yellow color with straw yellow hints. Let's now pass to the observation of Grillo. The color of this wine - observed at the base of the glass - shows an evident straw yellow hue not so different from Offida Pecorino. Nuances in Grillo are pretty similar to those of the wine from Marche, clearly showing a straw yellow color with greenish hints.

The differences will become evident with the analysis of the olfactory profile of the two wines. Pecorino and Grillo make wines expressing to the nose fragrant sensations of flowers and fruits, however of different nature, to which are added distant

aromas making the two wines very distant one from each other. Pecorino expresses an olfactory profile mainly developing aromas of apple, pear and plum as well as flower sensations recalling hawthorn and broom, frequently enriched by anise, hazelnut, jasmine and tropical fruit. Wines produced with Grillo too are characterized by aromas recalling fruits such as apple, plum and pear, however here we find evident sensations of citrus fruits, almond and chamomile to which can follow tropical fruits and peach. Both varieties have proven to give valuable results even with the vinification in cask, a procedure enriching wines with more complex sensations and can result pretty harmonious with the characteristics of both grapes.

Let's start the evaluation of the olfactory profiles of the wines of our tasting by contrasts from Offida Pecorino. Let's hold the glass in vertical position and, without swirling, proceed with the first smell allowing us to perceive opening aromas. From the glass are perceived intense and clean aromas of apple, pear and plum to which follow the pleasing fragrance of hawthorn. After having swirled the glass, let's proceed with the second smell which will reveal the typical anise aroma as well as jasmine, citrus fruits and hazelnut. Sometimes can be perceived aromas of tropical fruits, in particular pineapple. Let's now pass to the evaluation of Grillo's aromas. The opening of this wine offers to the nose aromas of apple, pear and hawthorn as well as the typical hint of almond. After having swirled the glass, the second smell completes the profile of Grillo with peach, citrus fruits, chamomile, orange blossom and broom. Also in this variety can be perceived aromas of tropical fruits, such as pineapple.

Let's now pass to the gustatory evaluation of Pecorino and Grillo, by starting from the white wine from Offida. The attack reveals the strong character of Pecorino, with an evident crispness mitigated by the burning effect of alcohol, giving a good balance. Besides these sensations we can perceive a good roundness, however it is the structure to be mainly noticed. In the mouth are perceived flavors of apple, pear and plum as well as a pleasing hint of anise. Let's now pass to the tasting of Grillo. The attack of this wine is characterized by a good crispness, promptly balanced by alcohol and a pleasing roundness. In the mouth are perceived the flavors of apple, pear and the characteristic hint of almond, offering a good correspondence to the nose. The structure of wines produced with Grillo grape is evidently good, a characteristic contributing to the definition of this wine's character.

After having evaluated and compared appearance, aromas and taste of Pecorino and Grillo, we are going to evaluate the final sensations the two wines leave in the mouth after having swallowed them. It is in this phase, in fact, one of the most important factors determining the quality of wine is being evaluated: taste-olfactory persistence. The finish of Offida Pecorino has a good persistence and leaves in the mouth a pleasing sensation of crispness supported by its structure, as well as flavors of apple, pear and plum to which sometimes follow anise. The finish of Grillo is characterized by a pleasing crispness and roundness, in which can be well perceived the burning effect of alcohol. In the mouth can be perceived flavors of apple and plum to which follow almond and citrus fruits. Two beautiful representatives of Italian

viticulture, Pecorino and Grillo make interesting wines with huge potentials, grapes with which Marche, Abruzzo and Sicilia can trust for their wine making future.



Wines of the Month

Score legend

- ◆ Fair – ◆◆ Pretty Good – ◆◆◆ Good
- ◆◆◆◆ Very Good – ◆◆◆◆◆ Excellent
- ★ Wine that excels in its category
- 🌟 Good value wine

Prices are to be considered as indicative. Prices may vary according to the country or the shop where wines are bought



Verdicchio di Matelica San Vito 2015 Lamelia (Marches, Italy)

🌟 Verdicchio

Price: € 9.00

Score ◆◆◆

👁️ Brilliant greenish yellow and nuances of greenish yellow, very transparent.

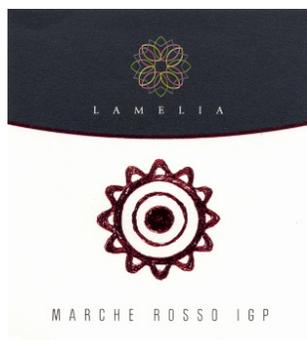
👂 Intense, clean and pleasing, starts with hints of apple, peach and broom followed by aromas of plum, pear and hawthorn.

👄 Crisp attack and however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors.

🍷 Persistent finish with flavors of apple, peach and plum.

📅 8 months in steel tanks, 2 months in bottle.

🍴 *Fried fish, Risotto with fish and crustaceans, Dairy products, Sauteed fish*



**Marche Rosso 2014
Lamelia (Marches, Italy)**

Merlot, Syrah

Price: € 8.00

Score

Brilliant ruby red and nuances of garnet red, little transparency.

Intense, clean, pleasing and refined, starts with hints of black currant, black cherry and plum followed by aromas of violet, blackberry, blueberry and vanilla.

Properly tannic attack and however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors, pleasing roundness.

Persistent finish with flavors of black currant, black cherry and plum.

Aged in barrique.

Stuffed pasta, Broiled meat and barbecue, Roasted meat, Stewed meat, Cheese



Vocabolo Rosso 2014

Provima - Produttori Vitivinicoli Matelica (Marches, Italy)

Merlot (40%), Petit Verdot (40%), Sangiovese (20%)

Price: € 9.00

Score

Intense ruby red and nuances of ruby red, little transparency.

Intense, clean, pleasing and refined, starts with hints of black cherry, black currant and plum followed by aromas of violet, blueberry, raspberry, blackberry and vanilla.

Properly tannic attack and however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors, agreeable.

Persistent finish with flavors of black cherry, black currant and plum.

Merlot and Petit Verdot ages in barrique for 12 months, Sangiovese aged in steel tanks.

Stuffed pasta with mushrooms, Broiled meat and barbecue, Roasted meat, Stewed meat with mushrooms



**Verdicchio di Matelica Riserva Materga 2014
Provima - Produttori Vitivinicoli Matelica (Marches, Italy)**

Verdicchio

Price: € 11.50

Score

Intense straw yellow and nuances of straw yellow, very transparent.

Intense, clean, pleasing and refined, starts with hints of apple, plum and peach followed by aromas of pear, almond, hawthorn, bergamot, broom, vanilla and mineral.

Crisp attack and however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors, pleasing roundness.

Persistent finish with flavors of apple, plum and almond.

A part of this wine ferments and ages in barrique, the remaining part in cement tanks.

Stuffed pasta, Roasted white meat, Roasted fish, Mushroom soups, Stewed fish



L'Autentica 2013
Cantine del Notaio (Basilicata, Italy)

Moscato Bianco (70%), Malvasia Bianca (30%)

Price: € 29.00 - 500ml

Score

Brilliant amber yellow and nuances of amber yellow, transparent.

Intense, clean, pleasing, refined and elegant, starts with hints of raisin, dried fig and dried apricot followed by aromas of candied fruits, quince jam, peach jam, lychee, honey, date, almond, vanilla, citrus fruit peel, lavender and nail polish.

Sweet and round attack, however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors, pleasing crispness.

Very persistent finish with long flavors of raisin, dried fig and dried apricot.

12 months in barrique, 12 months in bottle.

Hard and piquant cheese, Fruit tarts, Confectionery



Aglianico del Vulture Il Sigillo 2010
Cantine del Notaio (Basilicata, Italy)

Aglianico

Price: € 38.00

Score

Intense ruby red and nuances of garnet red, little transparency.

Intense, clean, pleasing, refined and elegant, starts with hints of blackberry, black cherry and plum followed by aromas of dried violet, blueberry, iris, vanilla, chocolate, tobacco, leather, licorice, clove, mace and menthol.

Tannic attack and however balanced by alcohol, full body, intense flavors, pleasing roundness.

Very persistent finish with long flavors of plum, blackberry and black cherry.

24 months in cask, 24 months in bottle.

Game, Roasted meat, Braised and stewed meat, Hard cheese



Lizzano Rosso Belvedere 2013
Cantine Lizzano (Apulia, Italy)

Malvasia Nera (85%), Negroamaro (15%)

Price: € 6.00

Score

Intense ruby red and nuances of garnet red, moderate transparency.

Intense, clean, pleasing and refined, starts with hints of plum, blackberry and dried violet followed by aromas of black cherry, carob, cocoa, tobacco, cinnamon and menthol.

Properly tannic attack and however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors, pleasing roundness.

Persistent finish with flavors of plum, blackberry and black cherry.

Aged in steel tanks.

Stuffed pasta, Roasted meat, Stewed meat with mushrooms, Cheese



Lizzano Negroamaro Manorossa 2013
Cantine Lizzano (Apulia, Italy)

Negroamaro

Price: € 25.00

Score

Intense ruby red and nuances of garnet red, little transparency.

Intense, clean, pleasing and refined, starts with hints of plum, blackberry and black cherry followed by aromas of dried violet, blueberry, carob, raspberry, tobacco, chocolate, vanilla and menthol.

Properly tannic attack and however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors, pleasing roundness.

Persistent finish with flavors of blackberry, plum and black cherry.

12 months in cask.

Roasted meat, Broiled meat, Stewed meat with mushrooms, Cheese



Orvieto Classico Superiore Calcaia 2013
Barberani (Umbria, Italy)

Grechetto (80%), Procanico (20%)

Price: € 50.00 - 500ml

Score

Brilliant amber yellow and nuances of amber yellow, transparent.

Intense, clean, pleasing, refined and elegant, starts with hints of raisin, dried fig and honey followed by aromas of dried apricot, quince jam, peach jam, candied fruits, lychee, date, citrus fruit peel, saffron, almond and nail polish.

Sweet and round attack, however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors, pleasing crispness.

Very persistent finish with long flavors of raisin, dried apricot and peach jam.

12 months in steel tanks.

Hard cheese, Dried fruit tarts



Orvieto Classico Superiore Luigi e Giovanna 2013
Barberani (Umbria, Italy)

Grechetto (90%), Trebbiano Procanico (10%)

Price: € 26.00

Score

Brilliant straw yellow and nuances of straw yellow, very transparent.

Intense, clean, pleasing, refined and elegant, starts with hints of apple, plum and hazelnut followed by aromas of medlar, pear, honey, almond, broom, hawthorn, dried apricot, citrus fruits, mineral and hints of vanilla.

Crisp attack and however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors, pleasing roundness.

Very persistent finish with long flavors of apple, plum and medlar.

12 months in cask, 18 months in bottle.

Stuffed pasta, Roasted white meat, Roasted fish, Mushroom soups



Montefalco Rosso Ziggurat 2012
Tenuta Castelbuono (Umbria, Italy)

Sangiovese (70%), Sagrantino (15%), Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot (15%)

Price: € 11.00

Score

Brilliant ruby red and nuances of garnet red, moderate transparency.

Intense, clean, pleasing and refined, starts with hints of black cherry, blackberry and violet followed by aromas of raspberry, black currant, blueberry, vanilla, tobacco, cinnamon and menthol.

Properly tannic attack and however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors, agreeable.

Persistent finish with flavors of black cherry, blackberry and raspberry.

12 months in barrique and cask, 6 months in bottle.

Roasted meat, Broiled meat and barbecue, Stewed meat with mushrooms, Cheese



Montefalco Sagrantino Carapace 2012
Tenuta Castelbuono (Umbria, Italy)

Sagrantino

Price: € 24.00

Score

Intense ruby red and nuances of garnet red, little transparency.

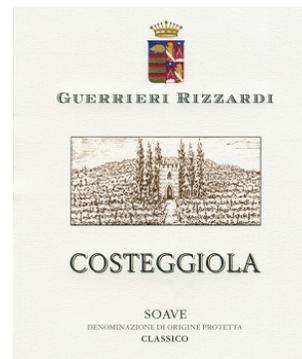
Intense, clean, pleasing, refined and elegant, starts with hints of black cherry, blackberry and plum followed by aromas of violet, blueberry, chocolate, tobacco, vanilla, cinnamon, mace and menthol.

Tannic attack and however balanced by alcohol, full body, intense flavors, agreeable.

Persistent finish with flavors of plum, blackberry and black cherry.

24 months in cask, 12 months in bottle.

Game, Roasted meat, Braised and stewed meat, Hard cheese



Soave Classico Costeggiola 2015
Guerrieri Rizzardi (Veneto, Italy)

Garganega (70%), Chardonnay (30%)

Price: € 9.00

Score

Brilliant straw yellow and nuances of straw yellow, very transparent.

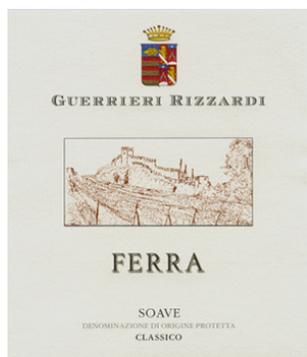
Intense, clean and pleasing, starts with hints of apple, plum and hawthorn followed by aromas of pear, citrus fruits, pineapple and almond.

Crisp attack and however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors.

Persistent finish with flavors of apple, plum and almond.

Aged in steel and cement tanks.

Crustacean appetizers, Fried fish, Pasta with fish and crustaceans, Sauteed fish



**Soave Classico Ferra 2014
Guerrieri Rizzardi (Veneto, Italy)**

 Garganega

Price: € 11.90

Score 

 Brilliant golden yellow and nuances of golden yellow, very transparent.

 Intense, clean, pleasing and refined, starts with hints of plum, apple and hawthorn followed by aromas of citrus fruit peel, medlar, honey, pear, vanilla and almond.

 Crisp attack and however balanced by alcohol, good body, intense flavors, pleasing roundness.

 Persistent finish with flavors of plum, apple and medlar.

 12 months in cask.

 *Stuffed pasta, Roasted fish, Mushroom and legume soups, Stewed fish, Roasted white meat*

EVENTS

News

In this column are published news and information about events concerning the world of wine and food. Whoever is interested in publishing this kind of information can send us a mail to the address Events@DiWineTaste.com.



NOT JUST WINE

Aquavitae

Review of Grappa, Distillates and Brandy



**Grappa Solera Selezione
Segnana (Trentino)**

 Pomace of Chardonnay and Pinot Nero

Price: € 25.00 - 70cl

Score 

 Deep amber color, limpid and crystalline.

 Intense, clean, pleasing, refined and elegant with aromas of hazelnut, chocolate, vanilla, dried fig, licorice, prune, caramel, candied fruits and honey, almost imperceptible alcohol pungency.

 Intense flavors with perceptible alcohol pungency which tends to dissolve rapidly, pleasing roundness, balanced sweetness.

 Very persistent finish with long flavors of chocolate, hazelnut, prune and candied fruits.

 Distilled in a batch distiller. Made by assembling five different vintages and aged in French oak.

Wine Guide Parade

September 2016

The best 15 wines reviewed in our Guide and voted by DiWine-Taste readers

Rank	Wine, Producer	Votes
1	Piemonte Chardonnay Pratorotondo 2014, L'Armangia	7406
2	Barbera d'Asti Superiore Nizza Titon 2012, L'Armangia	7061
3	Amarone della Valpolicella Col del la Bastia 2012, Fattori	5581
4	Monferrato Rosso Pacifico 2010, L'Armangia	5383
5	Barbera d'Asti Superiore Nizza Vignali 2010, L'Armangia	5268
6	Recioto di Soave Motto Piane 2014, Fattori	5118
7	Amarone della Valpolicella 2010, Fattori	5117
8	Piemonte Albarossa Macchiaferro 2011, L'Armangia	4887
9	Tenuta Ibidini Nero d'Avola 2015, Valle dell'Acate	4777
10	Monferrato Bianco EnnEEnE 2014, L'Armangia	4772
11	Sauvignon Vecchie Scuole 2015, Fattori	4741
12	Soave Danieli 2015, Fattori	4695
13	Pinot Grigio Valparadiso 2015, Fattori	4616
14	Soave Classico Runcaris 2015, Fattori	4367
15	Valpolicella Ripasso Col del la Bastia 2014, Fattori	4335