

Destinations



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Summer 2018



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*A journey
through taste
along the wine trails
of Tuscany.*



Tuscany

Tuscany is the land of the Medici Family, the Cathedral of Florence, and the Leaning Tower of Pisa: a land of art and culture as well as a fertile, luxuriant soil for agriculture, famous all over the world for its wines. Rows of fine vines grow on the rolling hills, in stunning landscapes and ancient paths, true itineraries to follow for those ship owners who wish to lose themselves in the colours and the local culinary production.

The routes of Wine, Oil and Flavours of Tuscany represent a genuine experience in the discovery of hidden corners of the region.

To know the places where the most famous grapes in the world are grown, understand the production techniques, spend some time in farms, villas and estates, and enter those cellars where one can try the best labels or taste some locally-grown products, and- why not?- meet some "true" Tuscan people .

This year our wish is to guide you in the discovery of places far from the major cities of art, which tell stories of another piece of Tuscany, made of fruits from the soil, genuine flavours, and fine labels.

Welcome to Tuscany!

Paolo Vannucci



Vineyards near village of Le Sieci in Tuscany Region. Chianti, Italy



Tuscany is certainly one of the most important wine regions in the world, with its millenary wine tradition of the highest value. Amongst the most internationally known Tuscan wines feature Brunello di Montalcino, Chianti Classico, Vino Nobile of Montepulciano, and the wines from Bolgheri, the native place of Sassicaia.



Featuring mainly a hilly and mountainous territory, flat only in very minor parts, Tuscany is the home of some 70.000 hectares of land planted with vines.

A true natural mosaic, with an extraordinary variety of grapes, soils and microclimates, perfect for the production of complex, long-lived wines.

The main vine variety of the soils of Tuscany is the Sangiovese.

> Countryside and vineyards, San Gimignano





There are many clones and types of this, but the best known is the Sangiovese Grosso, that is the vine which gives origins to the historic Brunello di Montalcino.

International vine varieties like Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and Merlot, are principally grown in the coastal area.

Among the most widespread white-grape wines of Tuscany we find the Vernaccia from San Gimignano, the Ansonica, the Trebbiano (Tuscan).



RED TUSCAN WINES

For many Italians and foreign wine lovers, people, Tuscany represents a land with a strong wine vocation; miles and miles of stunning rows of vines stretching along the hills of the Chianti area where excellent wine is produced.

The name Chianti DOCG is subdivided into seven specific sub-zones: Chianti Rufina (East of Florence), Chianti Colli Aretini (hills around Arezzo), Chianti Colli Fiorentini (hills around Florence), Chianti Colli Senesi (around San Gimignano and Siena), Chianti Colline Pisane (hills around Pisa), Chianti Montalbano (North-West of Florence), Chianti Montespertoli.



Chianti Classico DOCG is an important wine, from a percentage of Sangiovese grapes ranging between 80%-100%.

Contributing to its particular blend also other varieties of grapes, either local or international.

There can be three different types of this wine: Annata, Riserva or Gran Selezione.

Another very famous wine worldwide is Brunello di Montalcino DOCG, grown in the heart of Southern Tuscany, in Montalcino. Since the Fifties, and thanks to the Biondi-Santi family, this wine (100% Sangiovese) has revealed itself to be truly extraordinary. It is sold five years after the year of harvest (but six years for the Riserva type), only after a long period of refinement, first in the barrel and later in the bottle.



**The phenomenon
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but mostly the human intuition
and creativity.**





Relatively lighter is Brunello's "younger brother", Rosso di Montalcino DOC, fresher and readier to be tasted due to a shorter period of refinement.

East of Montalcino, we find Vino Nobile di Montepulciano DOCG, 70% minimum from Sangiovese grapes, (here called Prugnolo Gentile), and other local or international grapes.

Just like for the Brunello, there is a milder version of this: the Rosso di Montepulciano, which involves a shorter period of ageing than Vino Nobile di Montepulciano.







Among the red wines of Tuscany, it is necessary to mention the fine Reds of Bolgheri.

The phenomenon connected to the “Supertuscan wines” has certainly positively influenced the image of the Tuscan wines in the world, highlighting the territory, the vines but mostly the human intuition and creativity.

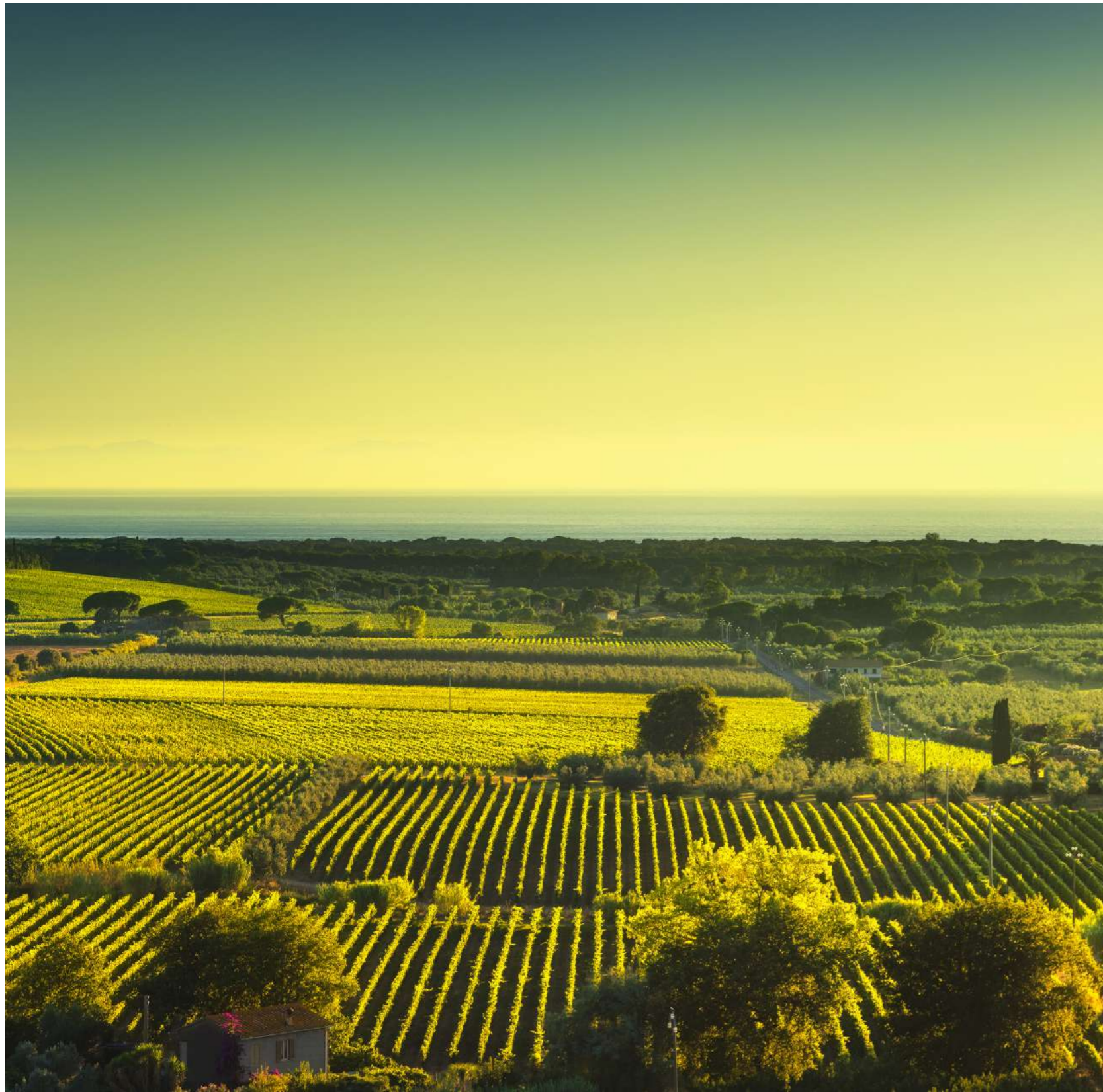




This area isn't about Sangiovese any longer, but about international grapes like the Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Merlot (typically from Bordeaux), which found a particularly suitable soil around the area of Bolgheri.







^ Bolgheri and Castagneto vineyards



The Bolgheri DOC and Bolgheri Sassicaia DOC wines are all considered the pride of the Tuscan wine production. Among the most important: Sassicaia, Ornellaia, Masseto and Guado al Tasso.

Worth a mention also the Supertuscans Tignanello and Solaia, produced near Florence, and the Redigaffi in Suvereto.



Another very appreciated wine, produced in the South coastal region, is Morellino di Scansano DOCG, in the Maremma area.

This comes from Sangiovese grapes (minimum 85%) whose taste is dry, warm and slightly tannic. In the area of Prato, worth a mention is the Carmignano DOCG, another wine made with Sangiovese grapes.

WHITE TUSCAN WINES

Even though Tuscany is mainly a land of important red wines, there are excellent whites such as Vernaccia di San Gimignano, named after the grapes it is made of (Vernaccia) and the fifteen-towered, medieval town.





^ San Gimignano



Very interesting is also the production of the Vermentino, all around the coast and below the Apuane mountains, near the area of Massa Carrara, known for its marbles.

Recently they started creating complex, deep white wines using international grapes like Chardonnay and Sauvignon, which found here the perfect climate for their growing, in the cooler areas of the region.

Among the dessert wines worth a mention, the famous Moscadello Montalcino DOC, made of Muscat grapes; the Aleatico DOCG from the Island of Elba, made from Aleatico grapes, and the Vin Santo, an excellent wine from Malvasia and Trebbiano grapes partially dried, whose must is later refined in small oak barrels called caratelli (kegs).



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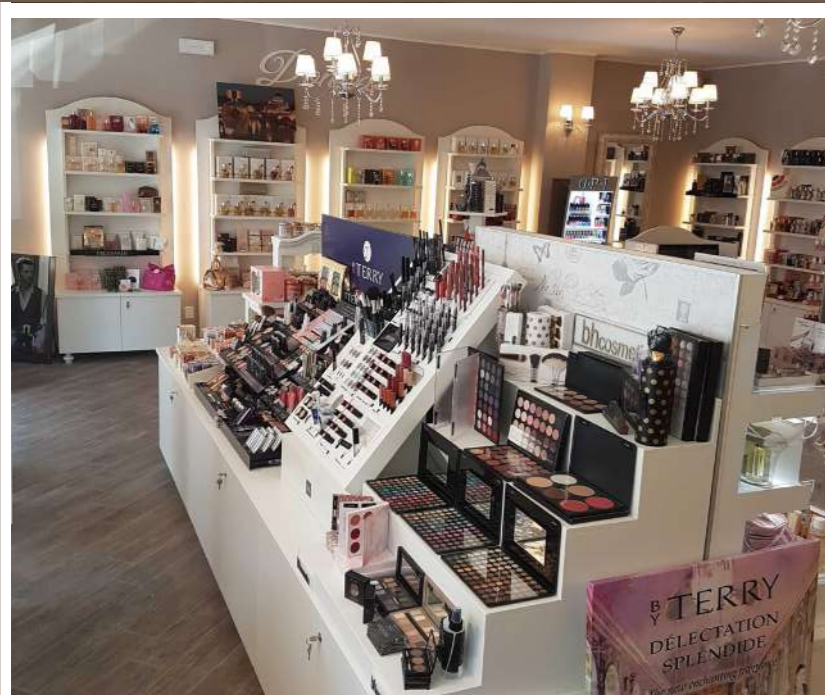
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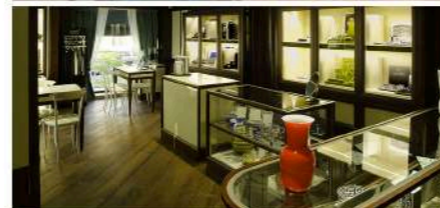
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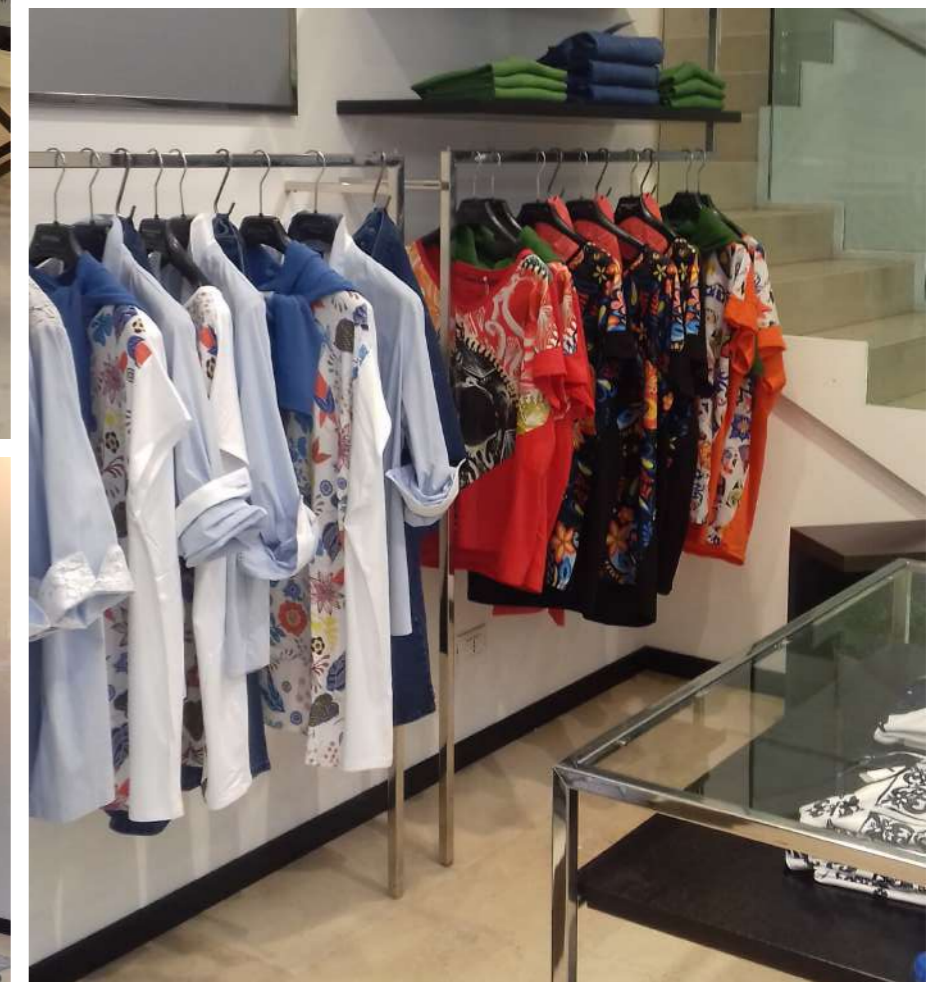
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