

HOT WINES 100 POINTS!

If you buy only one type of Italian wine this year, it should be Brunello di Montalcino riserva from 2001.

2001 is a great vintage for Tuscany (I rated it 98 points) and these are some of the most exciting young reds I have tasted in a long time. Two of them are perfect, 100-point reds. They are the first Sangiovese-based Italian reds that I have scored 100 points...

Like many of the 2001 Brunellos released last year, the riservas and top single-vineyard reds from the vintage show impressive richness and power yet wonderful balance and length. They are extremely aromatic and beautiful as well as silky and structured...

Buy at will, and enjoy the fruits of what is the best appellation in Tuscany at the moment.

-James Suckling



Casanova di Neri

Brunello di Montalcino Cerretalto 2001

100 points | \$160 | 185 cases imported | Red

It's hard to think of a more concentrated, layered young Brunello, with aromas of crushed berries, treacle tart, light raisin, coffee and chocolate that follow effortlessly to the palate. Full-bodied, with chewy yet velvety tannins and a long, long finish. The wine develops wonderfully in the glass, getting fruitier with every minute. A great wine with extraordinary depth. One of the greatest Brunellos of all time. Classic. Best after 2012. *From Italy.—J.S.*