



## OVERVIEW

If price is an indication (and it is), then Brunello di Montalcino is the best wine made in Italy. As a group, the producers of Brunello are able to achieve the highest average price of any denomination year after year. The wine's star began rising in the late 1800s after Ferruccio Biondi-Santi isolated and propagated particularly high-quality Sangiovese vines at his property in the commune of Montalcino. This cultivar, known as Brunello ( little brown one ), along with top-notch equipment and winemaking, became the basis for the outstanding quality of Montalcino's wines. Montalcino is a picturesque hill town in southern Tuscany, a mecca for wine lovers. Its primary wine, Brunello di Montalcino DOCG, is made from 100% Sangiovese that is aged for a minimum of 4 years, including 2 years in wood. The Riserva designation indicates at least 5 years of aging. Rosso di Montalcino DOC is essentially the same wine with less aging.