

James Suckling's Top-Scoring Reds From Tuscany

For complete reviews, see the Buying Guide of this or previous issues or the Wine Ratings search at www.winespectator.com.
An alphabetical listing of all wines tasted for this report is available at www.winespectator.com/103108.

Toscana

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
BIBI GRAETZ Toscana Testamatta 2006 Offers beautiful blackberry, coffee bean and chocolate aromas, with toasty oak undertones. Full-bodied, with supervelvet tannins. So layered. Mind-blowing.	98	\$120
ANTINORI Toscana Solaia 2005 This is complex and wonderfully structured, with gorgeous aromas of blackberry, mineral and flowers that follow through to a full body, with superfine tannins. Long and beautiful.	97	\$285
MARCHESI DE' FRESCOBALDI Toscana Giramonte 2006 Black in color, with superripe and intense aromas of crushed berry, espresso and blackberry. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a rich finish. Massive yet balanced.	97	\$93
TUA RITA Toscana Redigaffi 2006 Very complex, with blackberry, black olive and floral aromas and a wonderful palate that continually evolves. Offers blackberry, chocolate and mineral character. Long and satisfying.	97	\$340
TENUTA DELL'ORNELLAIA Toscana Masseto 2005 This smells like chocolate mousse, with crushed raspberry and floral hints. Full-bodied, with a rich, fruity finish. Powerful and structured, with layers and layers of everything.	96	\$305
PETROLO Toscana Galatrona 2006 Big and fleshy, with blackberry, dark chocolate, olive and vanilla character. Full and chewy, with beautiful ripe fruit. This is juicy. Layered, dense and beautiful.	96	\$125
SETTE PONTI Toscana Oreno 2006 Shows loads of black licorice, blackberry and toasty oak. Full-bodied, with supersilky tannins and a long finish. This has wonderful concentration and balance. Structured.	96	\$110
TUA RITA Syrah Toscana 2006 Dark in color, with gorgeous aromas of crushed berry, meat and spices. Full-bodied, with luscious fruit and chocolate. Long and silky-textured. Fantastic. So opulent.	96	\$224
LE MACCHIOLE Toscana Messorio 2005 Exhibits fresh herbs and berries on the nose, with hints of coffee and vanilla. Full-bodied, soft and fruity, with a green olive undertone and lots of new wood. Builds on the palate.	95	\$320
TENUTA DI BISERNO Toscana Il Pino di Biserno 2006 Gorgeous aromas of crushed blackberry, black cherry and flowers lead to a full body, with wonderful, polished tannins.	94	\$80
LA MASSA Toscana Giorgio Primo 2006 Offers blackberry, toasty oak and milk chocolate aromas. Full-bodied, soft and velvety. Concentrated. Layered and serious.	94	\$65
MONTECALVI Toscana San Piero 2006 Shows wonderful aromas of intense blackberry, dark licorice and subtle mint. Fruit-forward, but balanced and refined.	94	\$90
QUERCETO DI CASTELLINA Merlot Toscana Podalirio 2006 Dark in color, with crushed berry, violet and raspberry aromas. Turns to mineral and fresh spices. Complex and refined.	94	\$45

Bolgheri

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
ANTINORI Bolgheri Superiore Tenuta Guado al Tasso 2006 Intense aromas of blackberry, currant and dried flowers lead to a full body, with minerally undertones. Racy and refined.	95	\$95
TENUTA DELL'ORNELLAIA Bolgheri Superiore Ornellaia 2005 Displays beautiful aromas of ripe fruit, with currant, plum and blackberry. Complex and full-bodied, with polished tannins.	95	\$185
I GREPPI Bolgheri Superiore Greppicaia 2005 Dark ruby in color, with aromas of currant, mint and crushed berries. Complex and subtle. Full-bodied, with gorgeous fruit.	93	\$70
PODERE SAPIAO Bolgheri Superiore Sapaio 2005 Dark-colored, with ripe berry, vanilla, coffee and blackberry aromas that lead to a full body. A very New World style.	93	\$80
ARGENTIERA Bolgheri Superiore 2005 Chewy, yet polished and long, with spice, chocolate and berry flavors. This has a solid core of fruit.	92	\$84
CASA DI TERRA Bolgheri Mosaico 2005 Rich, with ripe berries and plum that turn to earth and cassis. There's lots of fruit, but this is subtle and interesting.	92	\$36
CERALTI Bolgheri Alfeo 2005 Full-bodied, with wonderful, silky tannins and a long finish of fruit, light toasty oak and coffee. Structured.	92	\$28
TENUTA DEI PIANALI Bolgheri Coronato 2006 Offers beautiful blackberry and currant, with hints of toasty oak. Polished and silky-textured. A very pretty young wine.	92	\$70
AIA VECCHIA Bolgheri Superiore Sorugo 2005 Shows blackberry and fresh herbs on the nose. Full-bodied, with soft, silky tannins. Long and balanced, with lovely fruit.	91	\$45
ANTINORI Bolgheri Superiore Tenuta Guado al Tasso 2005 Focused and pretty, showing lovely perfumes of berries, mineral and licorice, with berry, spice and light rosemary flavors.	91	\$95
ARGENTIERA Bolgheri Villa Donoratico 2006 Exhibits blackberry and chocolate aromas and flavors. Medium- to full-bodied, with soft tannins and a pretty finish.	91	\$40
I GREPPI Bolgheri Greppicante 2006 Pretty aromas of fresh herbs, currant and raspberry lead to a full body, with a very fine tannin structure. Very solid.	91	\$28
ENRICO SANTINI Bolgheri Poggio al Moro 2006 Shows blackberry, licorice and tarragon. Full-bodied, with round, velvety tannins and a long finish. Soft and gorgeous.	91	\$30
PODERE SAPIAO Bolgheri Volpolo 2006 Lots of currant, prune and spices on the nose lead to plenty of ripe fruit and silky tannins. The finish is long and rich.	91	\$48
MICHELE SATTA Bolgheri Superiore I Castagni 2004 A little earthy, but offers fascinating aromas of blackberry and licorice. Opulent and delicious, with velvety tannins.	91	\$150
STROZZI Bolgheri Superiore Vignarè 2005 This has blueberry and blackberry character, with a hint of aniseed. Full-bodied, yet refined and silky. Very pretty.	91	\$75

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Brunello di Montalcino

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
VALDICAVA Brunello di Montalcino 2003 Enticing meat-and-mushroom pie aromas mix with rich plum and spices. Full-bodied, with intense fruit and mineral flavors.	95	\$136
LUCE DELLA VITE Brunello di Montalcino Luce 2003 Big and powerful for the vintage, with loads of ripe fruit that turns to black pepper and sultana. Very long and opulent.	94	\$87
CASANOVA DI NERI Brunello di Montalcino Cerretalto 2003 Dark in color, with aromas of dried raisin and espresso. This is very concentrated for a Brunello. A big wine.	93	\$190
SIRO PACENTI Brunello di Montalcino 2003 Gorgeous, perfumed aromas of cherry, strawberry and raspberry lead to a full body. Wonderfully crafted for the vintage.	93	\$90
PALAZZO Brunello di Montalcino Riserva 2001 Offers blackberry and light toasty oak on the nose, with a solid core of pretty fruit. Chewy, but beautiful and textured.	93	\$130
CAPARZO Brunello di Montalcino La Casa 2003 Aromas of white truffle, berries and mahogany follow through to a full body, with velvety, refined tannins. Very pretty.	92	\$100
CASANOVA DI NERI Brunello di Montalcino Tenuta Nova 2003 Intense aromas of blackberry, licorice and black cherry. Full-bodied, with impressive structure for the vintage.	92	\$80
CASISANO-COLOMBAIO Brunello di Montalcino 2003 Shows wonderful black cherry, mineral, floral and raspberry aromas. Full-bodied, yet balanced and silky, with lovely fruit.	92	\$60
UCCELLIERA Brunello di Montalcino 2003 Ripe berry, fresh mushroom, cigar box and spice aromas lead to a full body, with superfine tannins.	92	\$65
VITANZA Brunello di Montalcino 2003 Exhibits aromas of black fruit and oak, with a hint of fresh mushroom. Picks up a clean vanilla note on the finish.	92	\$50

Chianti

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
BARONE RICASOLI Chianti Classico Castello di Brolio 2005 Dense and rich, with plum, berries and well-integrated oak character. Round and silky. Layered and structured.	92	\$54
RENZO MARINAI Chianti Classico Riserva 2005 This has an enticing nose, with crushed black currant, prune and traces of tar, mace and flowers. All in balance. Fabulous.	92	\$47
CASTELLO DI QUERCETO Chianti Classico Il Picchio Riserva 2005 Displays plum and ripe strawberry on the nose. This is layered, with vanilla, chocolate, plum and lots of lingering fruit.	92	\$52
BRANCAIA Chianti Classico 2006 Shows plenty of crushed blackberry and cherry, with floral hints. Full-bodied, with a solid core of fruit and silky tannins.	91	\$38

Chianti (continued)

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
LE CORTI Chianti Classico Don Tommaso 2005 Aromas of plum, berries and oak follow through to a medium body, with clean fruit on a firm texture.	91	\$36
FATTORIA DI FELSINA Chianti Classico Rancia Riserva 2005 Exhibits fresh blackberry, citrus and cedar character, with a long, succulently fruity aftertaste. Subtle and delicious.	91	\$40
QUERCIABELLA Chianti Classico 2006 Rich, round and full-bodied, with plum, berry and dark chocolate character, soft tannins and a long finish. Juicy.	91	\$32
SELVAPIANA Chianti Rufina Vigneto Bucerchiale Riserva 2004 There's a good thick layer of ripe black cherry on the nose and palate, with hints of cedar and citrus fruits. Lively.	91	\$38
VITICCIO Chianti Classico Lucius Riserva 2005 Refined and elegant, with superclean black fruit, black cherry and a good dose of new oak. This is superintense.	91	\$40

Maremma Toscana

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
OLIVETO Maremma Toscana Poggio Mandorlo 2005 Very pretty and fresh, with blackberry and mineral character and a wonderful core of ripe fruit. Balanced and complex.	94	\$95
BRANCAIA IN MAREMMA Maremma Toscana Ilatraia 2006 Shows aromas of currant and fresh herbs, such as basil and sage. Full-bodied, with a balanced, pretty, juicy finish.	92	\$60
CONTE FERDINANDO GUICCIARDINI Maremma Toscana Massi di Mandorlaia Colpetroso 2005 There's blackberry and light prune character, with hints of mint. Full-bodied, with loads of fruit. Long and flavorful.	92	\$54
MAZZEI Maremma Toscana Tenuta Belguardo 2005 Deep red in color, with rich, ripe fruit and smoky, toasty oak. Full-bodied, with supervelvety tannins. Balanced.	92	\$66
FERRERO Cabernet Maremma Toscana Ca 2006 Aromas of currant and dried spices lead to a full body, with excellent concentration and a long finish. Thick and pretty.	91	\$26
FERTUNA Maremma Toscana Messio 2004 Very ripe, offering lots of plum and berry character, with hints of cream. Full-bodied, with a long, fresh and clean finish.	91	\$37
FATTORIA DI MAGLIANO Maremma Toscana Poggio Bestiale 2006 Shows blackberry jam, with hints of dried fruitcake. Big, rich and full-bodied, with chewy tannins.	91	\$55
MORIS FARMS Maremma Toscana Avvoltore 2006 Has lots of plummy aromas, with hints of flowers and vanilla. Full-bodied, with lovely berry and currant fruit character.	91	\$62