



GREAT WINES OF ITALY TASTING TICKET

HK\$688 PER PERSON | 90 MINUTES | 36 WINES TO TASTE

James Suckling and his team organized this year's Great Wines of Italy Hong Kong event on November 3 at the Four Seasons Hotel with more than 100 of the best wineries in Italy, and this short wine list is a celebration of the event. Check out www.jamessuckling.com for more information.

Over the past year, the JamesSuckling.com tasting team has rated more than 32,000 wines and discovered some stunning bottles. It is the most wines JamesSuckling.com has rated in a year ever, and highlights that the quality of premium wines in the world is at an all-time high. It's also why James always says that it has never been a better time to be a wine lover!

We have 46 top-rated wines for you to taste today, all rated 91 points or more, which means they are outstanding quality. This cheat sheet is designed to make your tasting experience easy and convenient as possible. Please order the wine by the order number with our team of sommeliers.

Please remember that many of the wines are young, recent releases. Therefore, the wines may need a few years of bottle age to come into their own. For example, you may find some of the young reds rather tannic but their tannins will soften with time, like all great wines of the world. The concept of all our tastings is to provide access to some of the best wines, wineries and winemakers around the world where you can taste and evaluate the wines.

Cheers, and we hope you enjoy the tasting!

The James Suckling Wine Central team

White

#1 Bibi Graetz Toscana Bianco Colore 2020

96pts

Aromas and flavors of dried grapefruit and pear with some stone and apple. It's full-bodied and layered with pretty fruit and a salty and apple aftertaste. A little oily. Just a hint of nut makes it very interesting as it grows on the finish. Sort of Rhone-like. Drink or hold.

Red

#2 Siro Pacenti Brunello di Montalcino Vecchie Vigne 2017

94pts

Ripe fruit with lavender and sandalwood as well as some new wood on the nose. Medium to full body, with firm and structured tannins that are polished and curated. Needs time to soften and come together. Bigger style for Pacenti due to the hot vintage. Try after 2023.

#3 Valdicava Brunello di Montalcino 2017

Intense aromas of flowers and dark cherries. Perfumed and bright for the vintage. Full-bodied and firm with chewy yet polished tannins and a succulent and fruity finish that is in line and framed. Give it two or three years to soften. Try after 2023.

#4 La Magia Brunello di Montalcino Riserva 2015

Very pretty blackberries and plums on the nose with floral and lavender undertones. Medium to full body and firm, fine tannins that have layers of beautiful textures. So hard not to drink now, but will age wonderfully. Drink or hold.

#5 Tenuta Buon Tempo Brunello di Montalcino 2014

Attractive character of cedar, berries, cherries and flowers on both the nose and palate. Medium-bodied with firm and creamy tannins. In balance and check. Drink or hold.

#6 Tenuta Buon Tempo Brunello di Montalcino 2013

Dense and layered, showcasing berries, cedar and fresh herbs. Some leaves. Full and dense with silky tannins and a long and flavorful finish. Juicy and well-crafted. Drink now.

#7 Piancornello Brunello di Montalcino 2013

Huge fruitcake nose but there's nothing heavy or exaggerated about this. Massive and lush palate with serious tannins behind it. Very long and rather complex finish. With a touch less sweetness, this would rate even more highly.

#8 Tenuta Buon Tempo Brunello di Montalcino p.56 2013

94pts

Interesting tobacco, fresh-herb and dark-fruit character. Full body, layered and very pretty. Juicy fruit. Chocolate and cherry flavors. Some smoke, too. Fascinating. Drink now.

#9 Frescobaldi Brunello di Montalcino Ripe al Convento di Castelgiocondo Riserva 2013

97pts

This has a regal feel with a wealth of ripe blueberries and a complex array of new leather, warm earth, terracotta and spice. The palate has concentration and depth with assertive, fine and long tannins delivering a long, unwavering impression on the palate, bathed in ripe red and dark-fruit flavors. Drink or hold.

#10 Máté Brunello di Montalcino Riserva 2012

93pts

Plenty of ripe plums and cherries to this one. Hints of cedar and perfume, too. Full body, round and polished tannins and a flavor finish. Attractive aftertaste. Drink now.

#11 Piancornello Brunello di Montalcino Riserva 2012

94pts

A very serious wine with great concentration and really fine tannins, which beautifully support the huge body. I love the black cherry and floral notes, and they echo on the long and deep finish. Drink or hold.

#12 Fanti Brunello di Montalcino Vigna Le Macchiarelle Riserva 2012

93pts

Good richness and complexity with earthy notes with light tobacco and assertive fruit presence. A little lift, too. The palate has a bold fruit core, which really claims the palate with plenty of mixed red and blue fruit flavors. Try from 2021.

- #13 Celestino Pecci Brunello di Montalcino Poggio al Carro 2012** 94pts
A rich and velvety Brunello with cherry, dark-chocolate and walnut character. Full body, chewy tannins and a long and flavorful finish. Needs two or three year to soften. Yet delicious now.
- #14 Castello Banfi Brunello di Montalcino Poggio alle Mura Riserva 2012** 93pts
Pretty aromas of balsamic and plums with hints of spices. Medium body, round and silky tannins and a flavorful finish. Round and juicy tannins. Savory fruit. Drink now.
- #15 Celestino Pecci Brunello di Montalcino 2012** 95pts
Aromas of blackcurrants, berries and chocolate. Remains subtle and perfumed. Full body, lots of fruit and chocolate character and a hint of vanilla. Fascinating young Brunello that needs two or three years to come together.
- #16 Fanti Brunello di Montalcino Vallocchio 2011** 93pts
Shows very ripe fruit character but remains fresh and flavorful. Flamboyant, with plum, cherry, chocolate and walnut aromas and flavors. Opulent and delicious. Drink now.
- #17 Tenuta Sette Ponti Toscana Oreno 2021** 98pts
Blackcurrants and black cherries with lovely flowers on the nose. Medium-bodied with ultra fine tannins that give focus and tension to the wine. Pretty and poised. A little shy now. From organically grown grapes. Drink after 2027.
- #18 Argiano Toscana Solengo 2019** 96pts
This is very structured and linear with currants, blackberries, dried citrus, chocolate and some smokiness. It's full-bodied, but very tight and structured. Flavorful finish. Try after 2024.
- #19 Petrolo Valdarno di Sopra Galatrona 2019** 99pts
The violets and flowers with some asphalt and blackberries are so enticing on the nose. Green olives, too. It's full-bodied and very tight in the mid-palate and surrounded by fine, polished tannins. It has a unique mouth-feel. Very impressive and enticing. Try after 2025, but already seductive.
- #20 Fattoria Le Pupille Maremma Toscana Saffredi 2019** 99pts
So much crushed stone, rosemary, lavender, mint and blackberry. Full-bodied and very structured with layers of powerful and polished tannins. It goes on for minutes. Ink, blackcurrants and blueberries. 60% cabernet sauvignon, 35% merlot and 5% petit verdot. Needs at least five or six years to open. Try after 2025.
- #21 Tua Rita Toscana Giusto di Notri 2019** 97pts
Sweet berries and spice with dried-chili and walnut undertones. Currants, too. Full-bodied with chewy tannins that are polished and savory. Very sophisticated and structured. Savory. Cabernet sauvignon, merlot and cabernet franc. Give this time to soften. A beauty this vintage. Try after 2024.
- #22 Marchesi Antinori Bolgheri Superiore Guado al Tasso 2019** 98pts
This has a wild and perfumed nose of dried thyme, sage, blackberries, cocoa, graphite and white and green peppercorns. Then dried flowers. Full-bodied with firm, tight and precise tannins. Vibrant. There's so much character and structure. A new benchmark for this winery. More cabernet franc than in the past. Best yet? 65% cabernet sauvignon, 25% cabernet franc and 10% merlot. Try from 2025.
- #23 Bibi Graetz Toscana Colore 2019** 99pts
This is so perfumed and seductive, with blackberries, cherries, dried flowers and perfume. It's full-bodied and tight with very fine tannins. Really structured and long. Superb tannin texture. So fine, yet so powerful. This is an incredible combination of fruit and structure. Old-vine magic. Drink after 2026.
- #24 Ornellaia Bolgheri Superiore 2019** 97pts
The aromas of blackcurrants, fresh basil and thyme, as well as cedar and sandalwood are so attractive. It's full-bodied and very linear with tight tannins that draw you down the length of this young wine. Wet-earth and cool-stone undertones. It's solid and so structured. A classic Ornellaia for the cellar. Try after 2027.

- #25 Tenute San Fabiano Colli della Toscana Centrale Armaiolo 2016** 92pts
A juicy, fruity red with blackberry, black cherry, mushroom and oyster shell. It's medium-bodied with firm, fine tannins and a mellow finish. Subtle and fine. Sangiovese and cabernet sauvignon. Drink or hold.
- #26 Piaggia Carmignano Il Sasso 2016** 93pts
This shows depth and intensity with sweet tobacco and blackberry character. Full body, round and chewy tannins and a flavorful finish. A blend of sangiovese, cabernet sauvignon, cabernet franc and merlot. Drink in 2022.
- #27 Fabrizio Pratesi Carmignano Il Circo Rosso Riserva 2015** 94pts
Aromas of currants and blackberries with hints of flowers. Full body, wonderfully ripe tannins and a mineral and spice undertone to the fabulous, rich fruit. One for the cellar. Drink or hold.
- #28 Petra Toscana 2014** 91pts
Cherry compote, dried herbs and plenty of red licorice and tulip character. Medium body, firm tannins and a juicy, spicy finish. Drink now. A blend of cabernet sauvignon and merlot.
- #29 Feudo Maccari Nero d'Avola Sicilia Saia 2020** 94pts
Aromas of black licorice, crushed plum and ground spice. Medium-to full-bodied with powdery yet firm tannins. Fresher and crunchier than past vintages. The red and black fruit on the palate is nicely articulated by steady acidity and some mineral notes. Best after 2025.
- #30 Argiolas Turiga 2017** 95pts
Complex and subtle aromas of brambleberries, blackberries, cloves and perfume. Full-bodied with tannins that are round-textured and rather soft, but there's still plenty of structure. It's long and very flavorful, but reserved at the same time. Another three or four years should take this to another level. Try after 2025.
- #31 Antichi Poderi Jerzu Cannonau di Sardegna Chuèrra Riserva 2016** 92pts
A perfumed and very pretty wine with flowers and hints of tobacco and plums. Medium to full body, fine, chewy tannins and a fresh and intense finish. Drink or hold.
- #32 Tasca d'Almerita Sicilia Contea di Sclafani Tenuta Regaleali Rosso del Conte 2016** 95pts
This is a really pretty Sicilian red with dried-cherry, smoke, walnut and mushroom aromas and flavors. The sour-cherry character kicks in at the finish. Drinkable now, but better in two or three years.
- #33 Kellerei Cantina Terlan Porphy Lagrein Riserva 2016** 96pts
You rarely, if ever, see this level of complexity in a lagrein, which goes headlong through bracken, tea leaves, vanilla, blackberries, undergrowth, heather and violet extract. Full-bodied and very structured indeed, the chewy tannins envelop layers of compact yet exuberant dark fruit. Elements of undergrowth and spice linger on the long finish. Stunning. Delicious now.
- #34 Regio Cantina Aglianico del Vulture Superiore Campo Melograno Riserva 2013** 92pts
Really floral nose here with hints of violets, jasmine and crushed blueberries. Hints of orange peel, too. Full body, polished tannins and a precise and balanced finish.
- #35 Romano Dal Forno Amarone della Valpolicella Monte Lodoletta 2015** 100pts
This is black as pitch in the glass and, yes, there's a light, tarry edge to the super-concentrated prune, date and currant fruit. But even more interesting are the complex notes of bitter-orange liqueur, aged balsamic, fresh roasting herbs, cinnamon, roasted chestnuts, black tea and licorice. The more you decant in advance, the more nuances will emerge. It's full-bodied with huge concentration and lots of chewy tannin that is managing to hold the fruit back for now. This needs plenty of time to develop in the bottle. Just superb. One of the greatest Dal Forno's ever.
- #36 Garbole Amarone della Valpolicella Hatteso Riserva 2010** 93pts
A hedonistic Amarone that shows a ton of dried plums, vanilla, resin, bark and tiles. Sweet and very mouth-filling with layers of plush black fruit and succulent tannins. A huge wine that will, no doubt, blow away those who love this style. Drink from 2023.