

Brunello di Montalcino vintage 2001

91 The pretty 2001 Brunello di Montalcino opens with a delicate, expressive nose of flowers and spices. It displays attractive juiciness and length on the palate, with sweet notes of macerated cherries and tobacco supported by a medium bodied frame, with fine, silky tannins and a long, satisfying finish. Anticipated maturity – Antonio Galloni

Brunello di Montalcino vintage 2003

92 Soft-textured and powerful at the same time, Sesta di Sopra's 2003 Brunello di Montalcino gives the impression it is still holding back much of its potential. Dark fruit, earthiness, licorice, toasted oak, tar and spices all open in the glass as this intense wine gradually shows its pure breed. Like many wines from the southern part of the zone, it comes across as a wine that is best enjoyed on the young side but it is sure to provide much pleasure over the next few years. This is a terrific effort from Sesta di Sopra. – Antonio Galloni

Brunello di Montalcino vintage 2004

95 The 2004 Brunello di Montalcino is an intense, full-bodied offering loaded with dark fruit. The wine possesses tons of richness that carries through all the way to the finish, where notes of tar, licorice, new leather and minerals add further layers of complexity. Today it comes across as extremely primary, but this Brunello should develop beautifully with a few years in bottle. This is a striking wine of mind-bending purity. The Brunello saw a lengthy fermentation and maceration, and was subsequently aged in 30-hectoliter casks. – Antonio Galloni

Brunello di Montalcino vintage 2005

93 The 2005 Brunello di Montalcino is dark and powerful as masses of black cherries, plums, tar and licorice emerge from the glass. This is an especially dense, full-throttle Brunello in a vintage that yielded decidedly smaller-scaled wines. The intensity of the fruit carries all the way through to the finish without losing an ounce of vitality. This is impressive stuff! -- Antonio Galloni

Brunello di Montalcino vintage 2006

95+ The 2006 Brunello di Montalcino is a viscerally thrilling wine that takes hold of the palate and never lets up. Waves of dark fruit sit on a textured frame of incomparable class. The wine blossoms over time, with beautifully centered red fruit, tobacco, minerals and scorched earth, all of which flow in a rich, expansive style. The explosive finish is utterly beautiful. This is a superb effort from Sesta di Sopra. -- Antonio Galloni

Brunello di Montalcino RISERVA vintage 2006

92 The 2006 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva needs quite a bit of time in the glass to show its cards. Layers of dark fruit, spices and licorice flesh out in this muscular Brunello. There is plenty of intensity in the glass, but slight early signs of oxidation suggest the wine may have spent too much time in barrel. I don't quite find the finesse of the estate's best wines. -- Antonio Galloni

Brunello di Montalcino vintage 2007

94 The 2007 Brunello di Montalcino is endowed with tremendous power and richness. Dark red fruit, flowers, mint, licorice and spices come to life in this deep, expressive Brunello. The wine turns more feminine and delicate on the finish, where hints of dried flowers and tobacco add the final layers of nuance. The 2007 is a hugely pleasing wine and a great follow-up effort to the 2006. -- Antonio Galloni

Brunello di Montalcino RISERVA vintage 2007

89 The 2007 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva is a big, dense wine. Black fruit, smoke, licorice and tobacco all come to life in this strapping, broad-shouldered wine. The 2007 possesses excellent richness and density but the aromatics are already headed towards more tertiary, evolved nuances. The fruit is likely to fade before the tannins soften in this powerful, intense Riserva. -- Antonio Galloni

Brunello di Montalcino vintage 2008

91 Sesta di Sopra's 2008 Brunello di Montalcino is rather closed in its aromatics, but is more expressive on the palate, where layers of dark red fruit comes alive. Smoke, tar, licorice, scorched earth and smoke add an attractive element of gravitas on the finish. Deceptively medium in body, the 2008, nevertheless, packs a serious punch. The long, superbly delineated finish bodes well for the future, but the 2008 needs time in bottle to settle down a bit more. -- Antonio Galloni

Brunello di Montalcino RISERVA vintage 2008

91 A dark, brooding wine, the 2008 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva boasts terrific depth and intensity in its black cherries, mocha, scorched earth, game and black olives. The flavors are intense and pungent, while slight hints of oxidation suggest the 2008 is on its way to being fully mature. For now, though, the 2008 offers solid overall balance and plenty of personality.

Brunello di Montalcino vintage 2009

87 The 2009 Brunello di Montalcino from Sesta di Sopra is a solid wine with plenty of character. Iron, smoke, crushed flowers, game, tobacco, red cherries and earthiness take shape in a powerful, structured Brunello with good overall complexity. -- Antonio Galloni

Brunello di Montalcino vintage 2010

95 Sesta di Sopra's 2010 Brunello di Montalcino is fabulous. Dark red cherry, plum, smoke, cedar and savory herbs open up in a pliant, deep wine loaded with personality. Sweet and layered through the mid-palate, the 2010 is already incredibly delicious. The style is rich, resonant and ample, very much in keeping with the personality of this site in Castelnuovo dell'Abate. -- Antonio Galloni

Brunello di Montalcino RISERVA vintage 2010

89 The 2010 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva is ample and broad on the palate, while retaining a mid-weight sense of structure. Tobacco, licorice, dried stone fruit and spice are all nicely expressive. For my taste, the Riserva is dried out and lacking in fruit, although it offers reasonably good persistence. – Antonio Galloni.

Brunello di Montalcino vintage 2011

90 The 2011 Brunello di Montalcino is quite pretty and expressive. Lifted, perfumed aromatics meld into bright red cherry and plum fruit. This is one of the more delicate wines of the vintage, and also one of the most expressive. The 2011 offers lovely balance for the vintage in an understated, mid-weight style that can be enjoyed pretty much upon release. Sweet red plum, cherry pit and crushed flowers linger on the perfumed finish. – Antonio Galloni.