



Brunello di Montalcino, Sesta di Sopra

Brunello di Montalcino 2015

Here's an elegant and classic expression of the vintage. The Sesta di Sopra 2015 Brunello di Montalcino shows a solid balance with its dark fruit flavors offset by tart cherry and fresh menthol. The oak tones are nicely tucked in and integrated, offering substance that builds the wine's structure but does not take away from its elegance. Balanced acidity adds a pretty touch to the mouthfeel. Some 4,300 bottles were made. Drink Date: 2021-2033.

94

Brunello di Montalcino 2015, Riserva

Here's a precious wine with a mere 900 bottles in existence. The Sesta di Sopra 2015 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva opens to a tight and dense bouquet that takes a little extra effort to unpack. At this very young stage in the wine's life, you get dark cherry and wild plum, with subtle spice, earth, cola and medicinal herb. This estate farms schistous soils (galestro), and that mineral imprint of pencil shaving, brimstone and gravel is unmistakable. The wine will be more accessible at the 10-year mark for sure. Drink Date: 2024-2044.

95



Brunello di Montalcino 2016

The 2016 Brunello di Montalcino turns the dial up a notch in terms of intensity and power. The bouquet reveals dark fruit, dried cherry, cassis, cola, spice and rosemary essence. I can't help but notice the wide aromatic presentation and the considerable depth. There is a touch of white chocolate or bitter almond as well that is unique to this wine. Winemaking is executed in a traditional manner, with aging in large Slavonian oak casks that lasts three careful years. The vineyard site is home to schistous galestro soils, and defining mineral characteristics are carried through on the close. Only 4,700 bottles were made. Drink Date: 2023 - 2040

94+

Brunello di Montalcino 2016, Riserva

The Sesta di Sopra 2016 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva shows medium concentration and an elegant, vinous appearance. The wine is beautifully generous and rich but not in an overbearing manner. In fact, it remains lithe and graceful throughout, and it carefully produces measured aromas of cherries, wildflowers, lavender and red brick or clay. I am especially taken by the silky elegance awarded by this classic Riserva, but sadly, only 590 bottles exist, likely making this special wine hard to find. Drink Date: 2024-2044.

96

Brunello di Montalcino 2017

The 2017 Brunello di Montalcino (with 4,500 bottles made) offers great balance and a very pretty personality that is grounded in bright fruit (cherries), earthiness and crushed flowers. The wine is very smooth and integrated, most notably in terms of its polished tannins, and there is of course a spot of bright acidity on the close. It never reveals that it was in fact born in a hot, drought-prone vintage. Drink Date: 2024-2038

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