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POINTS

ROBERT PARKER

robertparker.com

by Monica Lerner

"The 2016 Brunello di Montalcino offers clean and pristine fruit and otherwise delivers a textbook interpretation of the vintage. Given the large extension of vineyards farmed by this estate, which is located on the southern side of the appellation, and the deft technological approach employed in the winery, you can count on Castello Banfi to offer an authentic read of any of their wines about to hit the market or that have been aged at the back of your cellar. Indeed, the Banfi library of wines acts as an institutional memory of modern Brunello. This edition shows sharp and focused fruit with leather, potting soil and balsam herb. For a straight-up classic Brunello, this wine delivers the goods."



Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

2016 - CASTELLO BANFI BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO



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"This is a new wine from Castello Banfi that I can say, with a certain amount of pride, I witnessed come to life. For a few years, I have enjoyed parcel-by-parcel tastings with the winemaking team at Castello Banfi, and little did I know back then that this special vineyard was being singled out for its own bottling. The soils have layers of lime and fine sand in some spots, with rocky clay in others. The introduction of the 2016 Brunello di Montalcino Vigna Marrucheto is big news for this estate, as it represents a shift toward vineyard mapping and micro vinifications that is quickly becoming part of the definition of a modern Brunello. Castello Banfi has been ahead of the curve on these fronts for many years. This new wine shows depth and power, yet it holds back so as never to be overpowering. The dark fruit is most certainly characterized by darkness and savory concentration, and there are plentiful notes of leather, tar and aniseed. What stands out here is the balanced intensity of the fruit that feels pure, linear and direct. That intensity is taken down a notch in the palate, where the wine is given more opportunity to show a more elegant side. For its inaugural vintage, Vigna Marrucheto is born under that lucky 2016 star. With 13,000 bottles made, this wine won't be released until September 2021 (and is not yet priced)."



Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

2016 - BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO VIGNA MARRUCHETO



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by Monica Lerner

"The Castello Banfi 2015 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva Poggio all'Oro is the top-shelf wine and shows careful integration and well-managed intensity. It opens to tart berry fruit, cassis and sour cherry. As it reveals itself in the glass, it begins to slowly deliver more spice, smoke and tar. All these various elements come together with balance and harmony, although these 2015 Riservas remain plumper and richer compared to their counterparts from 2016. Wait a few more years before opening this bottle; it needs more time. Some 27,000 bottles were made, and this wine will be released in September 2021."



Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

2015 - POGGIO ALL'ORO BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO RISERVA



95+

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ROBERT PARKER

robertparker.com

by Monica Lerner

"This wine represents a selection of fruit from vineyards near the property's postcard-perfect Castello, and it's often the most representative of the new releases presented each year by Castello Banfi. From a classic and balanced vintage, the 2016 Brunello di Montalcino Poggio alle Mura shows beautiful depth and balance with dark fruit, cassis, dried cherry, licorice, balsam herb and earthy tones. The wine is symmetrical, tight and elegant with long, silky tannins. This is the full Banfi package."



Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

2016 - POGGIO ALLE MURA BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO



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by Monica Lerner

"The 2015 Brunello di Montalcino Riserva Poggio alle Mura sneaks up to full-bodied intensity, but slowly at first. I tasted this wine twice over a 12-hour period, and it took time to open. Dried cassis and berry fruit tones are followed by tar, licorice and rosemary essence. Give it time and this Riserva is an open and accessible expression that underlines intensity, depth and the broad shoulders expected of a Riserva. The fruit is darker and the oak is more prominent, so is the general extraction and richness. This wine draws its fruit from a vineyard with in-house select clones planted in 1982. With 20,000 bottles made, we won't see this wine until April 2021."



Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

2015 - POGGIO ALLE MURA BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO RISERVA

