

News



A helping hand for Amatrice

Amatrice, in Lazio, has been devastated by this week's earthquake, together with a lot of towns and villages. Help is coming from all corners of Italy. Agricultural associations have pledged food and lodging and organized food collections, while some are helping through Amatriciana, the pasta sauce that is typical of the ravaged city. The Red Cross' "Amatriciana" and Confesercenti's and Città del Vino's "Un'Amatriciana per Amatrice" aim to have restaurateurs put the dish on the menu and give part of the proceedings to relief funds. And Carlo Petrini, founder of the Slow Food movement, has asked restaurateurs all over the world to do the same.



Apulia, luxury & "Masserias"

Apulia has been betting for quite some time now on wine & food as the selling point of its tourist appeal, like oil and wine, and has also done so with its old time manor farms, or masserias. One of those, according to the Virtuoso network, is the best in the world, namely Borgo Egnazia in Savellieri. It was built by the San Domenico group (which also owns Masseria San Domenico, Masseria Cimino and Masseria Le Carrube, all luxury-oriented), and has wooed no less than Madonna herself. It also has a Wine Academy, with top-level education and tastings, boasting names like Gaja, Antinori, Biondi Santi, Billecart Salmon, Tenuta San Leonardo, Jermann, Bellavista, Ferrari, Gianfranco Fino, Tormaresca, Polvanera, Leone De Castris and Due Palme.

Report

Prosecco, Aldi & Glasgow

The international discount chain Aldi has declared that during the first six months of its e-commerce wine sales in the United Kingdom a total of 16.000 transactions were completed, with Prosecco being the second most popular choice, bested only by Sauvignon Blanc, the UK's most important varietal (with annual sales at 623 million Pounds), and followed by Malbec. According to geographical data, the Prosecco "capital" of Great Britain is Glasgow, while Londoners tend to prefer Champagne.

First Page

Italian wine territories for "Condé Nast Traveller"

If one were to decide to travel around Italy's most important and iconic wine territories, the "classics" will definitely not let one down, from Piedmont to Veneto and Tuscany. But there are many important other territories, though less famous, that amply and excellently serve the same purpose. And, "Condé Nast Traveller" magazine has decided to suggest a list of some of them, but focusing, in a sense, on the latter rather than the former. Starting in northern Italy, there's Valtellina, in Lombardy, the land of Nebbiolo, which here is also called Chiavennasca and gave birth to Sforzato, the most famous wine in the area. Not far from there one can find Trentino Alto Adige, famous for its white wines, especially from the Alto Adige area and for the sparklings of Trentodoc, but the magazine also suggests the territory for Teroldego Rotaliano, one of its most important reds. Then comes Friuli Venezia Giulia, known both in Italy and all over the globe mainly thanks to the great whites of Collio, but "Condé Nast Traveller" suggests that one should head towards the Carso area, close to Slovenia, which has many tasty reds made from the native variety Terrano. Then comes the coastal region of Liguria, where one simply must try Rossese di Dolceacqua and visit its territory. Heading to central Italy, the magazine suggests Lazio, on the trail of Cesanese del Piglio, which is being rediscovered successfully, and Marche, mainly famous for Verdicchio, and the magazine suggests its Matelica variety, the lesser known one of the great white (with a mere 300 hectares of vineyards, compared to the 2.700 hectares of Verdicchio dei Castelli di Jesi). Heading south, one cannot pass by Campania, with Aglianico di Taurasi being its main selling point wine-wise, but according to the magazine, one should head to the area of Greco di Tufo, a true gem among Italian whites, all nested among a few municipalities, Tufo itself included, in the province of Avellino. And speaking of Aglianico, Vulture is the "trail", so to speak, that one can follow to discover Basilicata: a small, less-known region and wine territory, but one whose wine history has roots that date all the way back to 600 B.C.

Focus

Italy's best wine cooperatives

The world of cooperatives in Italy produces more than half of its wine output, but which ones are the best, quality-wise? Meininger's German magazine "Weinwirtschaft" tried to answer the question through a tasting of six wines per producer, and the results are as follows. Excluding those of South Tyrol, which were evaluated on their own (Terlano, Merano, Tramin, San Paolo, Andriano, Bolzano, Erste + Neue Caldarò, Nals Margreid, Colterenzio and Cortaccia on top), the first one is Cantina Valpolicella Negrar from Veneto, followed by Abruzzo's Cantina Tollo and by Veneto's Cantina Valpantena. Then come Terre Cortesi Moncaro, from Marche, Cavit from Trentino, the Sicilian Canicatti, Citra (Abruzzo), Vivalis (Trentino), La Marca - once more, from Veneto - and Piedmont's Vinchio Vaglio Serra. After this "top 10" ranking, the magazine mentions, in descending order, Cantina Colli del Soligo (Veneto), Mezzacorona (Trentino), Cantina Clavesana (Piedmont), Cantine Colomba Bianca (Sicily), Cantine Vitevis (Veneto), Cantine Settesoli (Sicily), La Vis (Trentino), Cantina di Soave (Veneto), Cantine Leonardo Da Vinci (Tuscany) and Riunite & Civ (Emilia Romagna).



Wine & Food

"The Duel of Wine" at the Venice Film Festival

According to its main star, Charlie Arturaola, "The Duel of Wine", directed by Nicolas Carreras, produced by Lino Pujia and distributed by Exit, aims to communicate wine in a different way, by telling the story of a sommelier who loses his sense of taste, and then finds it through extraordinary means while traveling through some of Italy's most important wine territories, like Montefalco, Barolo, Valpolicella, Sulcis and Soave. The movie will premiere during a screening for the press on September 6th, during the 73rd Venice Film Festival.

For the record

Young Italians flock to agriculture

According to Italian farmers association Coldiretti, no less than 10% of all new firms led by people under 35 years of age founded in the second quarter of 2016 are

agricultural, making agriculture the most favoured sector after trade. A total of 3.051 firms were founded, and half of the owners have a University degree.

