

Wines & Wineries to Watch

ITALY—Hard to find better medium priced classic method sparkling wines than Rotari's 2013 Brut and 2013 Rose Brut ... Carpene Malvolti is a top Prosecco producer ... Excellent Italian whites to seek out include Sartori's 2015 Ferdi and Marotti Campi's 2013 Salmariano Verdicchio Riserva ... Piedmont's Filipo Gallino is producing wonderful Barbera d'Alba and Langhe Nebbiolo at very modest prices ... Carla Benini's Sassotondo Ciliegolo from Maremma is an outstanding wine and a great value ... I Saltari's 2012 Valpolicella Superiore is a remarkable wine ... Lungarotti's 2010 Rubesco Riserva, Vigna Monticchio is one of Italy's best Sangiovese-based wines ... Outstanding 2011 Chianti Classico Riservas include those from Casaloste, II Molino di Grace, Rietine, Setriolo, and Vignavecchia ... Le Fonti di Panzano's 2013 Chianti Classico is exceptional ... As are the 2014 Chianti Classicos from Poggio Scalette and Savignola Paolina, both in Greve in Chianti.

AZ. AGR. MAROTTI CAMPI, 2013 SALMARIANO, $\star \star \star \star \star$ CASTELLI DI JESI VERDICCHIO CLASSICO

RISERVA, \$176 (\$22)

Outstanding Verdicchio: full bodied, intensely flavored, crisp, and well balanced; a wine with excellent depth, and apple, lime, pineapple, and toast aromas/flavors. Very long, vibrant finish. First rate. Aged 12 months, largely in stainless steel vats; a small portion in oak barrels. 13.5% [2017-2019] Villa Italia, S. San Francisco, CA 650.873.6060

AZ. AGR. MAROTTI CAMPI, BRUT ROSE,

MARCHE, \$166 (\$20.75)

Round, medium full bodied, and ripely flavored, this is a floral and fruity sparkler, with rose petal, strawberry, plum, and lemon aromas/flavors, and a medium length finish. From the indigenous Lacrima variety. 1% R.S. Excellent 12% [2017-2018] Villa Italia, S. San Francisco, CA 650.873.6060

AZ. AGR. MAROTTI CAMPI, 2015 LUZANO, VERDICCHIO DEI CASTELLI DI JESI CLASSICO SUPERIORE, \$128 (\$16)



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An excellent wine and a fine value. It is medium bodied, supple in texture, balanced, and crisp on the finish, tasting of apple, honey, lemon grass, and lime. 13.5% [2017-2018] Villa Italia, S. San Francisco, CA 650.873.6060