

A I E L L I



LUIGI'S SECRET CELLAR

At Aielli we are proud to offer some of the world's most outstanding wines. These wines have been gently laying in our temperature controlled, cedar-lined wine cellar since their release a decade or more ago.

A few of these magnificent wines are single bottles only and are indicated as such by (1) in front of the name.

SASSICAIA – *Sassicaia is one of the greatest wines of Italy. It was one of the first reds produced in Italy in the image of great Bordeaux. The first vintage was produced in 1968. Originally, Sassicaia was marked as "Vino da tavola" (table wine) usually attributed to simple wine not included in the DOC standards. Only since 1990 has it obtained the DOC designation. Sassicaia was also the first and only Italian wine to be honored with its own single-estate classification.*

(1) "SASSICAIA" 1996, TENUTA SAN GUIDO 595

A well-structured Sass, with plenty of blackberry and dried herb character. Full-bodied, with plenty of ripe tannins and a currant bush and herb finish. A well-structured Sass, with plenty of blackberry and dried herb character. Full-bodied, with plenty of ripe tannins and a currant bush and herb finish.

"SASSICAIA" 1997, TENUTA SAN GUIDO 625

Bricking dark red violet color; mature, mushroom, menthol nose; tasty, mature, currant, tart plum, menthol, tobacco, smoke on the palate. Now this is more like it. A very Bordeaux-like nose with cedar, cigar-box, autumn leaves and a touch of damp earth. With some aeration, more Morello evolves, a touch of raspberry. The palate is medium-bodied with fresh acidity, very crisp. Again, it is utterly in the vein of a Bordeaux, Saint Julien to be more precise with a fairly austere, reserved finish.

"SASSICAIA" 1998, TENUTA SAN GUIDO 495

Lovely, subtle yet complex aromas of currants, sage and green olives lead to a full-bodied red with a solid core of fruit and well-integrated tannins. The nose also delivers buoyant tones of dark fruit, spice and deeply balsamic herbal qualities. As the wine takes on more air, it reveals earthy accents of dried tobacco leaf and leather. Pungent accents of toasted chestnut or toasted almond husk reveal slight oxidation, but otherwise this is a stellar wine that is well along its evolutionary track. The mouthfeel is silky and long with a very fine tannic texture.

"SASSICAIA" 1999, TENUTA SAN GUIDO 699

This Sassicaia is like the David by Michelangelo, a masterpiece of the wine world. Deep garnet and very little sign of age in the colour. Dark cherry and still has some cassis. Very slight touch of coffee. Rich, smooth chocolate texture but it lightens up to a refined finish. Still has great balance and length and finishes with that mouth-watering freshness that is, for me, Sassicaia's hallmark. Lots of complexity.

"SASSICAIA" 2000, TENUTA SAN GUIDO 375

It is very dark on inspection, with a deeply pigmented central core running right out to a very thin rim. The nose is very intense; there is a great purity of fruit, with a slightly meaty-cherry character, and a toffee edge. It possesses a lovely, pure, cool style which it shows willingly on the palate, polished, direct and bright, with a wonderful composition. There is a fine tannic grip beneath, delicious acidity, with sappy and savoury fruit. A fine weight. Here is a wine with definition.

TIGNANELLO – *The original Super-Tuscan. It was the first Sangiovese to be aged in small oak barrels, the first red wine in modern times to use a non-traditional grape variety, Cabernet, in the blend, and among the first red wines made in Chianti with no white grapes. In all three instances, it set the example for a new breed of exceptional top-of-the-line Italian wine.*

Tignanello, originally a Chianti Classico Riserva labeled Vigneto Tignanello, was first vinified as a single vineyard wine in the 1970 vintage, when it contained 20% Canaiolo and 5% Trebbiano and Malvasia, and was aged in small oak cooperage. With the 1971 vintage the wine became a Vino da Tavola della Toscana and was named Tignanello after the vineyard from which it originates. Beginning with this vintage, Tignanello stopped adhering to the rules laid down by Chianti Classico Disciplinare, and with the 1975 vintage, white grapes were totally eliminated. Since the 1982 vintage, the blend has been 80% Sangiovese, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc.

(1) "TIGNANELLO" 1995, MARCHESI ANTINORI 300

Deep ruby-red. Vibrant aromas of blackberry, cassis and cedar. Thick and concentrated, with compelling sweetness buffered by strong extract. Fat and mouth filling. Notes of nutty oak and vanilla. Finishes with even, tongue-dusting tannins and outstanding grip and persistence. A strong vintage for this wine.

"TIGNANELLO" 1996, MARCHESI ANTINORI 290

Intensely fruity and complex on the nose, full-bodied, rich and complex in the mouth with exceptional structure and a lengthy finish. A clear Bordeaux nose – all leather, cedar and your grandparents old chest. Extraordinarily balanced with subtle hints of red fruit. Very dry with a crisp mouth feel. Sometimes shows a slightly cloudy appearance which does nothing to detract from a beautiful wine.

"TIGNANELLO" 1998, MARCHESI ANTINORI 260

Medium dark garnet, faint orange tinge. Black & red cherry bouquet with complex nuances of warm earth, Maraschino cherry, orange peel, cherry pit, tobacco, black tea, spice & burnt toast, slight hint of barnyard notwithstanding. Medium plus bodied, quite deep, intense, moderately concentrated, supple, smooth black & red fruit flavors, still some gently firm tannins with powdery extracts & notable medium soft acidity in the background maintaining fairly good harmony. Long sustained finish. Intensely fruity and complex on the nose, full-bodied, rich and complex in the mouth with exceptional structure and a lengthy finish.

"TIGNANELLO" 1999, MARCHESI ANTINORI 240

Deep red color with some cloudiness. Aromas of red fruits, rhubarb and wood spices. Ripe, beautifully structured and integrated fruit in the mouth with excellent depth and great persistence on the palate.

ORNELLAIA – *Ornellaia is considered one of Italy's leading Bordeaux-style red wines. The estate also produces a second wine, Le Serre Nuove, the blend Le Volte, the Merlot varietal labeled wine Masseto, in addition to estate production of grappa and olive oil. In 2012, the winery's name was changed from "Tenuta dell'Ornellaia" to "Ornellaia e Masseto", in recognition of the increasing importance of the Merlot-based wine.*

**"ORNELLAIA" 1999,
TENUTA DELL'ORNELLAIA**

425

Spicy and full of cassis, tobacco and coffee aromas. Texture and mouthfeel are what this wine is all about; it is plush like velvet carpet. Deep, satisfying flavors of plum, black currant and vanilla lead into an ultrasoft finish. Purple color. Even after 90 minutes the palate was deeply imploded, with eventual layers of blackberry, currant, licorice, and earth. Lower acidity, smoothed tannin. Longer finish of stone and black fruit. Needs healthy decant. Powerful wine.

**"ORNELLAIA" 2000,
TENUTA DELL'ORNELLAIA**

399

Deep and delicious, with an earth-driven nose that conveys quality. Chunky plum pervades the chewy, dark palate, which offers a gorgeous mouthfeel and admirable depth. Only on the finish do you get a slight hint of oak. Overall it's entirely solid and very likable, but as good as it is, it's not quite on the level of the '98 or '99, which were amazing.

**"ORNELLAIA" 2001,
TENUTA DELL'ORNELLAIA**

465

Fragrances of well-ripened dark and red berry fruit, together with judiciously-balanced tannins, supple and silk-smooth, marry together with the other components of Ornellaia's structure to create a wine with superb body and a finish that seems to continue forever.

"MASSETO" 2001, TENUTA DELL'ORNELLAIA

1899

100 POINTS JAMES SUCKLING - This has an intense nose of brown sugar, porcini mushrooms, dark fruits, tobacco, olives, cigar box... I am running out of words to describe the nose. The palate is full bodied and ultra rich. This is a monumental wine that arouses all your senses. Truly exotic and sensual. Enjoy this for the rest of your life.

100 POINTS WINE SPECTATOR - Wonderful aromas of blackberries, raspberries and fresh tobacco, with a hint of exotic fruit. Fullbodied, with loads of velvety tannins and a long, long finish. Very silky indeed. A gorgeous, seductive and classy red. A monument to Tuscany. Layers and layers of fruit and tannins. This will live forever. As great as the legendary 1985 Sassicaia, and perhaps the greatest Tuscan red ever. Always magnificent.

98 POINTS ANTONIO GALLONI - The 2001's reputation as one of the great all-time Massetos was easy to see. The wine boasted superb power, depth and concentration, not to mention superb overall balance.

97 POINTS ROBERT PARKER - The 2001 Masseto lives up to its reputation as a modern-day legend. The wine has everything: beautifully delineated aromatics, generous fruit and plenty of structure to support all of the elements. It is a big, massive Masseto endowed with huge fruit and an exotic, powerful personality. An eternal finish rounds things out in style. The 2001 is dazzling from start to finish. Anticipated maturity: 2011-2023

TUSCANY/PIEDMONTE

**"GUADO AL TASSO" 1996,
MARCHESI ANTINORI - TUSCANY 279**

Intensely fruity, more of cherry than cassis, with hints of toast, coffee and dark chocolate. Finely structured and complex; balanced, with soft tannins and a lingering finish. Displays unmistakable varietal flavor while retaining strong regional character. 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 10% Syrah and other red grape varieties

**"GUADO AL TASSO" 1999,
MARCHESI ANTINORI - TUSCANY 239**

Extraordinary intense ruby red in colour. Intensely fruity, more of cherry than cassis, with hints of toast, coffee and dark chocolate. Finely structured and complex; balanced, with soft tannins and a lingering finish. Displays unmistakable varietal flavor while retaining strong regional character. 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 10% Syrah and other red grape varieties.

**"GUADO AL TASSO" 2000,
MARCHESI ANTINORI - TUSCANY 259**

Gorgeous aromas of black currant, coffee and vanilla oak. Medium+ body seamlessly weaving its ripe, dark fruits, grippy acids and minerals across its wall of tannin. Stylish, polished and addicting all at once. 60% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Merlot, 10% Syrah and other red grape varieties.

**"SIEPI"1997, MAZZEI CASTELLO DI
FONTERUTOLI - TUSCANY 269**

Delicious. Very fresh, with great mouth-feel and a smooth, long finish. Dark ruby color with no signs of bricking. Tannins are nicely resolved but dense fruits gives balance. Cassis, earth, leather and berry. Cherry on the nose. Very slightly hot. Long finish. Sangiovese and Merlot.

**"L'APPARITA" 2003,
CASTELLO DI AMA - TUSCANY 399**

Deep red Color with Brown reflexes. Very beautiful nose: leather, smoke, Wood, tobacco. Smooth and well integrated tanins, very silky and elegant yet powerful wine with a Long finish. Merlot

**BARBARESCO 2000 "FASET" BRICCO
ASILI CERETTO - PIEDMONTE 199**

Very rich indeed. Lighter in color than many 2000 Barbarescos, but delivers decadent meaty, earthy, ripe fruit aromas. Medium- to full-bodied, with soft tannins and a ripe, rich finish. Long in the mouth. Nebbiolo.

**BAROLO 1999 "PRAPO"
BRICCO ROCHE CERRETTO 299**

The nose of the 1999 Barolo Prapo, a deep garnet, is dominated by asphalt and anisette aromas with the vanilla and mocha of the oak more in the background. Long, firm and intense in flavor, still slightly tannic, it will need some time in decanter to round off the slight graininess of its texture. Charry and smoky, with masses of red fruit and some citrusy overtones, this medium-weight wine features a long, chewy, cranberryish finish that raises it to the elite level. Nebbiolo

**(1) SANGIOVESE 1999 "SASELLO"
CASTELLO DI VERAZZANO 189**

Clear, deep garnet. Shy nose of morello cherry, plum, refined spices and a vegetal dimension. On the palate, a lively, svelte wine with spicy, saline, vegetal and charred perfumes displaying admirable, nascent intensity. Nicely crafted, classic style.

**BARBARESCO 1996 "IL BRICCO"
PIO CESARE 275**

A big, round wine, with loads of fruit and ripe tannins. Full-bodied, with lots of chocolate, meat, berry and cherry character. A beauty. Bright, deep ruby-red. Sappy, complex aromas of black raspberry, black cherry, minerals and violet. Powerful and concentrated, with deep dark berry fruit flavors. Seriously structured and quite tannic but not astringent. Finishes with impressive length and noteworthy finesse

**BARBARESCO 2000 "FASET"
BRICCO ASILI CERETTO 210**

Powerful wine. Bright acidity with wonderful cherry flavors. Beautiful nose of spice, balsamic, and balsam

wood. Medium-bodied, with red cherry, spice, and leather. Moderate finish, with red fruit and espresso notes. Nebbiolo

**SANGIOVESE 1999 "FONTALLORO"
FATTORIA DI FELSINA 199**

Big, sweet, luscious perfume of spicy, toasty oak, cedar, fruitcake, leather, espresso, and black currants. Medium to full-bodied, with great fruit on the attack and mid-palate, and a long, opulent finish.

**BARBARESCO 1995 "IL BRICCO"
PIO CESARE 199**

Darkish color with some bricking. Aromas of plums, dark berries, jam, coffee and some game.

1999 GAJA SPERSS 699

96 POINTS JAMES SUCKLING

A vivid, super-expressive wine, the 1999 Sperss is in a beautiful place right now. The flavors are remarkably nuanced in the glass. Precise but also broad and structured, the Sperss pulses with dark fleshed fruit and plenty of tar, licorice, incense and smoke overtones. What a gorgeous wine this is.

95 POINTS ROBERT PARKER

Dark ruby. The 1999 Sperss displays much Serralunga character in its licorice, asphalt, herb, and sweet dark fruit flavors, with notable persistence on the palate and a potent personality. A rising of menthol beautifully frames the big, tannic finish. A wine that kept developing in the glass, this Sperss offers outstanding potential for those who are patient enough to wait at least a few years.

**94 POINTS STEPHEN TANZER'S
INTERNATIONAL WINE CELLAR**

Good full, deep red. Wild aromas of currant, camphor, leather, tar, dark chocolate and game, with an enticing floral topnote. Lush, sweet and concentrated, but with a powerful underlying spine. Classic sweet-but-dry Barolo of great brooding richness. Quite dominated today by its structure and austere on the aftertaste, but this young Barolo offers terrific depth and persistence on the palate. May well merit an even higher rating by the end of this decade.

(1) BARBARESCO 2000 "SORI TILDIN SAN LORENZO" GAJA - PIEMONTE 819

This is some serious piemonte vino! Highly perfumed - floral, earth, tar...the usual nebbiolo nose but intense at such a young age. Stunning nose of plum, dark fruit, earth, roses and tar. Deep smooth and lovely balance. Elegant and powerful on palate with medium-plus finish. Modern day style which is already drinkable but will still benefit from few years of cellaring. Nebbiolo.

NAPA VALLEY - U.S.A.**(1) "INSIGNIA" 1998, JOSEPH PHELPS 520**

Mature, rich and concentrated, this is pleasantly earthy, with mineral-laced currant, dried berry, anise and sage flavors that are complex, balanced and supported by firm, dry tannins. With complex aromas of black cherry, plum, chocolate, currant and toasty oak, the wine displays layers of flavor and richness that disguise its power and longevity. Beautifully crafted and balanced, the 1998 Insignia reflects a new level of quality from both the vineyards and the growing regions.

(1) "INSIGNIA" 2001, JOSEPH PHELPS 540

Wine has continued to evolve into a super balanced well integrated cabernet blend. The malbec actually is more present at this stage even though it is in the single percentages. Tannins have softened and the resulting blend is harmonious. Just a fine drinking wine. Perfectly integrated with notes of Blackberries, Blueberries, leather and graphite.

(1) "INSIGNIA" 2002, JOSEPH PHELPS 590

Doesn't get much better. This is one of the wines that make you realize just how good Napa Valley wines can be when well tendered and nursed. Black currant, red seedless grapes with blackberry just peaking through.

"OPUS ONE" 2001, OPUS ONE WINERY 695

Starts with tons of rich new oak in the aroma, showing the most inviting notes of cedar, cigar box and pencil lead that segue to the remarkable fruit. The attack is powerful, with a punch of cassis spreading broadly and deeply across the palate. With its sturdy, clean tannins, this beautiful wine displays classic power, elegance and balance.

CABERNET SAUVIGNON 1999, SPOTTSWOODE 495

The 1999 Cabernet Sauvignon (95% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc) possesses a deep purple color in addition to a restrained but intense nose of black currants

intermixed with lead pencil shavings, subtle toast, and a hint of acacia flowers. This textured, elegant, medium-bodied Cabernet is Chateau Margaux-like in its elegance, gracefulness, and balanced restraint. It displays surprisingly sweet tannin for a 1999 as well as outstanding purity.

CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2005, SPOTTSWOODE 995

97 POINTS WINE ENTHUSIAST - Tasted in a big lineup of St. Helena Cabernets, Spottswode's magnificent '05 stood out. It's a massive powerhouse, explosive in black currant, cherry pie, plum, chocolate, anise and cedar flavors that are detailed and precise. However, the wine, which was blended with a little Cabernet Franc, is graceful and balanced. Drinkable now due to its softly refined tannins, but has the integrity to ride out the years. Easy to find, with 3,896 cases produced.

96 POINTS ROBERT PARKER'S WINE ADVOCATE - The utterly profound 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon Estate (95% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc) will benefit from several years of bottle age, and should keep for 25-30 years. This extraordinary effort exhibits notes of blueberries, cassis, spring flowers, licorice, and forest floor. Beautifully pure and full-bodied with excellent overall harmony as well as superb purity, it reveals a Chateau Margaux-like personality.

95 POINTS JAMES SUCKLING - Hints of sweet tobacco, currants and berries on the nose. Full bodied and round, velvety with a lovely balance. Long and gorgeous.

ST EDEN" 2002, BOND 989

100 POINTS ROBERT PARKER - The 2002 St. Eden, which comes from a valley floor vineyard in the Oakville corridor, is unreal. I had given the 2001 a perfect score, but the 2002 is showing incredible elements of cedarwood, licorice, chocolate and creme de cassis as well as exquisite texture, full-bodied intensity, and unbelievable purity and length. It is only the second vintage for this vineyard, leased by Bill Harlan for several decades, and it has turned out to be a killer Cabernet Sauvignon and a great classic of Napa.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD**(1) CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2001
"MARTHA'S VINEYARD" HEITZ CELLARS 495**

95 POINTS ROBERT PARKER - This was a spectacular performance from this hallowed vineyard as well as one of Napa Valley's great historic terroirs. Made from 100% Cabernet Sauvignon, it reveals a still youthful personality and will benefit from another 5-7 years of bottle age. An opaque purple color is followed by aromas of graphite, creme de cassis, flowers and background earth as well as spice. It is unquestionably a youthful classic.

**(1) CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2002
"MARTHA'S VINEYARD" HEITZ CELLARS 465**

92 POINTS ROBERT PARKER - The 2002 Martha's Vineyard offers hints of black cherries, black currants, earth, new saddle leather and spice box. Full-bodied, dense and concentrated as well as high in tannin, this youthful effort no longer reveals this cuvee's famous eucalyptus aroma, but it does not lack for power, richness or aging potential.

**(1) CABERNET SAUVIGNON 2003
"MARTHA'S VINEYARD" HEITZ CELLARS 445**

A legend in Napa Valley Cabernet, Martha's Vineyard in the Valley's Oakville appellation is now certified organic by CCOF. Lively currant and mint aromas that are characteristic of this highly sought wine, reveals layers of black cherry and bittersweet chocolate framed by firm tannins, hints of oak and bright acidity on the palate.

CHAMPAGNE**CHAMPAGNE BRUT 2000 CUVÉE
DOM PÉRIGNON 350**

Nutty and toasty, this is already maturing. It has a ripe, soft texture, deliciously balanced between acidity, grapefruit and riper peach flavors. It feels sumptuous, rich and certainly ready to drink.

94 POINTS ROBERT PARKER'S WINE

ADVOCATE - The 2000 Dom Perignon is a gorgeous, seductive wine that floats on the palate with remarkable grace. Toasty aromas meld into freshly cut flowers, apricots and pears, with sweet notes of mint and licorice that linger on the long finish. This perfumed, inviting Dom Perignon is elegance personified, and in this vintage the wine fully merits its lofty reputation.

94 POINTS WINE & SPIRITS - Playing off the ripe 2000 vintage, this bottling of Dom Pérignon has intriguing layers of fruit complexity, from mature golden apple to lemon and greener tones of lima and wax beans. The flavors are clean and lasting, transformed into the glistening minerality of limestone. Firm and harmonious, this should develop for a decade or longer.

**CHAMPAGNE BRUT 2002 CUVÉE
DOM PÉRIGNON 385**

The 2002 Dom Pérignon speaks to opulence and intensity. Rich, layered and voluptuous in the glass, the 2002 shows off its flamboyant personality with flair. Butter, cooked apple and tropically-leaning fruits mesh together effortlessly. Interestingly, with time in the glass the 2002 gains in freshness and energy without losing its essential opulence. A truly epic Dom Pérignon.

96 POINTS ROBERT PARKER'S WINE

ADVOCATE - The 2002 Dom Perignon is at first intensely floral, with perfumed jasmine that dominates the bouquet. With time in the glass the wine gains richness as the flavors turn decidedly riper and almost tropical. Ripe apricots, passion fruit and peaches emerge from this flashy, opulent Dom Perignon.

96 POINTS WINE & SPIRITS - Think of standing above a well at the edge of an apple orchard, the cool feel of the earth deepening the bosky scent of the ripening fruit. This wine may take you there, then leave you to contemplate its complexity: full-on limestone-derived power, juicy nectarine and apricot scents, candied lemon and lasting spice, all of it rounded into a supple shape and a subtle mist of a finish. A great vintage this will age with grace.

CHAMPAGNE

CHAMPAGNE BRUT 2002 "CRISTAL" LOUIS LOUIS ROEDERER

425

100 POINTS WINE & SPIRITS - If a wine could ever make you want to pull the top down on your '68 Ferrari convertible, rip off the rearview mirror and take off, this is it. It has a different kind of energy than the '02 Cristal Rosé, which is more ethereal, like strawberries at the right hand of some ancient Gallic god. This is more insolent, brash, earth bound. All the scents and flavors seem to emanate from limestone, as does the acidity, which hits at the front of the mouth and powers through the wine with the kind of solar energy that lifts mist off the white chalk on a cool morning in Cramant. The wine goes on for miles. It's already irresistible, and will only improve with ten, 20, 30 and 40 years of age.

99 POINTS JAMES SUCKLING - An exceptional vintage with the same piercing drive and precision as the scintillating 1996. Intensity and fine concentration are the hallmarks of this fine Champagne; chalky aromas, fine citrus and tight, minerally restraint, some quite concentrated stone fruits here, peach and nectarine, really assertive, some flint and mineral too. The palate is needle-like in its precision, piercing acidity and fine floral notes, clean and long. Not one to be missed. A concentrated vintage with wind dehydrating the grapes ahead of harvest. An exotically flavoured, yet tightly structured Cristal.

98 POINTS WINE ENTHUSIAST - This is an exceptional wine, as is the vintage. The fruits - grapefruit, crisp red apple - balance with a fine yeasty character. There is a great depth of flavor, the fruits going in a pure line of freshness. The one problem is that it is much too young, the result of the demand from the market for the next vintage. Age this wine for at least four years.

96 POINTS CONNOISSEURS GUIDE - *Three Stars* Its Pinot Noir portion notwithstanding, this wine has a crisp, chalky, lightly citrusy, lightly toasty aroma that is more than a little bit suggestive of an elegant Blanc de Blancs. And perhaps that is its secret. It is an incredibly refined yet deep wine whose suggestions of roasted soy and caramel are kept as complex nuances within a well-filled, refreshing, crisp set of flavors and a graceful, lengthy aftertaste. It occupies a comfortable middle ground between the quiet refinement of Dom Perignon and the bold approaches of the top Bollinger and Krug wines.