

Wine Spectator's Insider Weekly

A First Look at Our Editors' Most Exciting New Wines | May 27, 2020

Hot Wines

These are the most exciting discoveries from our editors' most recent tastings, published exclusively in Wine Spectator Insider. They are high-scoring wines from around the world that may be difficult to find, but are worth seeking out.

Chianti Classico Vigneto Bellavista Gran Selezione 2016 **96 points | \$230 | 40 cases imported | Red**

This is a contrast in elegance and power. The black cherry and black currant fruit is encased in a sheen of oak. Burly tannins and vivid acidity enhance the structure. Awkward today, this displays incredible elegance, with a laser of vivid acidity driving the exceptional length. Sangiovese and Malvasia Nera. Best from 2023 through 2043. From Italy. —B.S.



ABOUT THIS WINE: *Debuting in 1978, Vigneto Bellavista was the first single-vineyard Chianti Classico made by Castello di Ama. The inaugural vintage of Vigneto La Casuccia was 1985. Over decades of observation, proprietors Lorenza Sebasta and Marco Pallanti have defined and chosen the best parcels of grapes from the 59 acres of Bellavista's parcels and the 37-acre La Casuccia vineyard. Slightly higher than Bellavista in elevation, La Casuccia faces southwest, with higher clay content in its soils. The south-facing Bellavista is full of calcareous stone. As a result, the Sangiovese in La Casuccia is complemented by 20 percent Merlot, resulting in a fleshier, fruitier Chianti Classico, whereas the 20 percent Malvasia Nera in the densely structured Bellavista lends a spicy component. Both wines exhibit the tension and elegance of the 2016 vintage. — Bruce Sanderson*

Chianti Classico Vigneto La Casuccia Gran Selezione 2016 **95 points | \$230 | 40 cases imported | Red**

This aromatic Chianti Classico features violet, black cherry, leather, earth and spice flavors. A laser of bracing acidity and muscular tannins runs underneath. The balance tips toward the tannins today, but put this in your cellar for another few years. Sleek and very long. Sangiovese and Merlot. Best from 2023 through 2042. From Italy. — B.S.

