TRAVAGLINO
IN CALVIGNANO DAL 1868

Forbes

Wines From Oltrepò Pavese: Unknown Italian Gems

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I write about wine (and sometimes food) from around the world.

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Oltrepò Pavese landscape near Casteggio, Lombardy PHOTO ©TOM HYLAND

Alessandro Cerri, co-proprietor, Travaglino, Calvignano, Oltrepò Pavese PHOTO ©TOM HYLAND

Travaglino

Gran Cuvée Blanc de Noirs Extra Brut 2018 - 100% Pinot Nero; 3 years on the lees. Bright, medium-deep yellow; appealing fresh aromas of Anjou pear, yellow plum and yellow peony. Medium full, this is highly impressive in several respects. There is lively acidity, significant backbone, excellent ripeness, very good acidity and notable freshness, along with very good complexity. Enjoy this over the next 4-7 years. (93)

Montecérésino Rosé Extra Brut 2019 - 100% Pinot Nero. Bright, medium deep orange; excellent persistent stream of small bubbles. Aromas of orange peel, pear and dried strawberry. Medium-full with a rich mid-palate, beautiful structure, excellent complexity and significant persistence. Enjoy over the next 5-7 years. (93)

Riesling Riserva Campo della Fojada 2019 - Aromas of apricot, golden apple and hyacinth. Medium-full, with a rich mid-palate, excellent persistence, very good acidity and notable varietal purity. This has developed beautifully, and at present there is a combination of impressive freshness along with an appealing maturity. Offering beautiful harmony, this is a lovely food wine; pair with Thai chicken or pork or perhaps Quiche Lorraine from Alsace. The finish is dry and there is notable persistence; this is one of the best Rieslings from Italy I have tried in several years. Enjoy over the next 4-6 years, although this may be appealing for a few additional years. (93)

Pinot Nero Riserva Poggio della Buttanera 2021 - Aromas of maraschino cherry, soy, dried rose petals and a hint of incense. Medium-full with impressive concentration, there is good acidity, excellent varietal character and persistence, well-integrated wood notes, medium-weight tannins and very good complexity. There is a distinct savory character that adds to the appeal of this wine. Approachable now, better in 2-3 years, peak in 7-8 years. (92)

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