



**CASTELLO di GABBIANO**  
**Bellezza**  
 Chianti Classico DOCG Gran Selezione

ANNATA	PUNTEGGIO	RIVISTA	RECENSIONE
<b>2017</b>	<b>94</b>	JAMES SUCKLING	"A full-bodied red with chewy, juicy tannins that frame the ripe fruit nicely. It's round and intense, but shows plenty of cherry, earth and spice on the finish. Drink or hold."
	<b>91</b>	VINOUS	"The 2017 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Cavaliere d'Oro Bellezza is another strong wine in this range from Gabbiano. Succulent dark cherry, licorice, mocha, spice, leather and menthol build in the glass. This rich, heady Gran Selezione shows the overt ripeness of the year, and yet is also nicely balanced, not to mention primed for at least a number of years of fine drinking." A.Galloni
	<b>90</b>	WINEENTHUSIAST	"Made entirely with Sangiovese, this offers aromas of violet, vanilla and mocha. The solid palate delivers baked plum, star anise and tobacco alongside polished tannins. Enjoy through 2025" K.O'Keefe
<b>2016</b>	<b>92</b>	DECANTER	"From a single vineyard, Bellezza matures in a combination of new and one-year-old French oak barriques and 15hL Tuscan oak casks. Intense black cherry aromas are punctuated by dusty thyme, smoked meat and toasty oak. Bringing in notes of mocha and crushed stone, the palate is draped in a substantial structure of chewy tannins which are ripe, subtle and backed up by lush, juicy fruit. With a bit more tension than usual, this is perhaps the finest Bellezza to date. Drinking Window 2022- 2032" M.Morris
	<b>94</b>	TONY WOOD	"Dark ruby red in colour. Black cherry with red berries. Burnt orange peel. Fresh mint notes. Well balanced silky red. Vanilla aromas, fine tannins. Has distinctiveness."TW
	<b>92</b>	WINESPECTATOR	"A bright style, exuding black cherry, blackberry, violet and mineral flavors. Firmly structured, yet harmonious, sleek and defined, this feels like it's beginning to lose its primary

fruit character, developing some woody elements on the long finish. Best from 2023 through 2043. 2,000 cases made, 900 cases imported." *BS*

**92** ROBERT PARKER "Of these new releases from Castello di Gabbiano, the 2016 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza Cavaliere d'Oro is by far the most classic, focused and tight. The wine relies on characteristic Sangiovese aromas of cherry, wet earth, tobacco and blue flower to lure you in. On the palate, it shows tonic brightness and a firm, mid-weight style. This vintage offers both power and elegance to sample with an aged Tuscan cheese." *M.Larner*

**93** WINEENTHUSIAST "Made entirely with Sangiovese, this structured red opens with enticing aromas of violet, black-skinned berry and underbrush. The delicious palate delivers Marasca cherry, raspberry jam, licorice, black pepper and tobacco alongside fine-grained tannins. It's balanced, with bright acidity. Enjoy through 2029." *K.O'Keefe*

**92** JAMES SUCKLING "Black-cherry and fresh-mushroom aromas follow through to a medium body, with juicy fruit and hints of spice and mushrooms. Precise and very pretty. Drink now or hold." *J.S.*

**90** VINOUS "The 2016 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza Cavaliere d'Oro captures all the best qualities of the Gabbiano house style. The 2016 is a flashy wine, but all the elements fall into place effortlessly. Super-ripe red cherry, sweet spice, rose petal and hard candy fill out the layers as the 2016 opens in the glass. There is plenty of immediacy here." *A.Galloni*

## 2015

**94** JAMES SUCKLING "This is a big and rich Chianti Classico with lots of crushed-berry and walnut character New-wood undertones. Full body. Chewy and rich. Shows tension and power. Give it two or three years to soften. Better after 2020." *J.S.*

**92**  
*Editors' Choice* WINE ENTHUSIAST "Made entirely with Sangiovese, this opens with aromas of redskinned berry, vanilla, cooking spice and a touch of eucalyptus. The juicy, balanced palate delivers raspberry jam, star anise, white pepper and tobacco alongside fine-grained tannins and bright acidity. Enjoy through 2026." *K.O.*

**92**  
*Highly Recommended* DECANTER "Pure class; a complexity of plum and pomegranate laced with acorn and oak copse; creamy, soft, mellow and enchanting. Drinking Window 2020 – 2028" Blind tasted by *A.Fiordelli, A.Jefford, M.Waldin*

**91** ROBERT PARKER "Showing a more contemporary style, the 2015 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza (100% Sangiovese) offers extra fruit padding and richness that accompanies this wine as it washes over the palate. On the nose, you get dark fruit, dried cherry, Spanish Cedar, tobacco and grilled herb. There is a note of fruity sourness on the close, but Bellezza compensates with its robust textural richness and Sangiovese-driven acidity. Some 26,400 bottles were made." *M.L.*

**90** VINOUS "Gabbiano's 2015 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza presents a decidedly amped up expression of Sangiovese. Black cherry, plum, new leather, tobacco, licorice, spice, new oak and menthol all flesh out in a succulent Chianti Classico that is all

			<p>about raciness. This is an especially modern, lush style, but the wine has come together nicely over the last year."A.Galloni</p> <p>"Fragole mature e amarene si fondono con note agrumate in sottofondo. Note di pepe nere a completare il quadro aromatico. Corpo pieno, tannini rustici ed un finale leggermente pesante. Meglio dal 2020." R.Vecchione</p>
<b>2013</b>	<b>92</b>	WINESCRITIC	
	<b>94</b>	TASTINGPANEL	"After spending 30 days on the lees during malolactic fermentation and aging for 16 months in French oak barriques and tonneau 400-liter barrels, this wine also sees a long period of maturation in bottle before release. Given that it tastes expensive and carries a Gran Selezione denomination, the price is pleasantly surprising. Spiced cranberry and vanilla bean lead the charge on the nose as leather and minerality arise on opposite sides of the flavor and textural spectrum. The hyperbolic acidity common in the Old World combines with cherrywood and silky tannins to heighten complexity." <i>Meridith May</i>
	<b>92</b>	WINE SPECTATOR	"This is settling into a nice groove, in a contemporary style, offering plum, black cherry, earth and tobacco flavors, framed by spicy oak. Balanced and beefy, with a long, spice-tinged aftertaste. Drink now through 2027." — BS.
	<b>91</b>	WINE ENTHUSIAST	"Made entirely with Sangiovese, this opens with aromas of black plum, vanilla, eucalyptus and a touch of ginger. The savory, balanced palate doles out ripe black cherry, licorice, white pepper and cedar alongside fine-grained tannins." K.O.
	<b>91</b>	VINOUS	
	<b>92</b>	JAMES SUCKLING	"Plenty of new wood at the moment with berry and chocolate undertones. Full body, round and juicy tannins and a flavorful finish. A little overdone but still outstanding."
	<b>91</b>	ROBERT PARKER	"The 2013 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza (100% Sangiovese) is the belle of the ball among this group of new releases. The wine offers bright intensity with a direct and honest delivery. The bouquet peels back to show wild fruit, balsam herb, cola and moist chewing tobacco. As the wine warms in the glass, it delivers more rosemary-like intensity that adds to the brightness and the direct appeal of the wine." M.L.
	<b>93</b>	MICHAEL GODEL	"..... Cette Bellezza est pure sangiovese, la meilleure Bellezza en années, classique pour rappeler il y a plusieurs années, mais un vin très moderne. C'est la situation de Gabbiano et la prédilection pour annoncer ce que Gran Selezione
	<b>91</b>	ANDREAS LARSSON	

signifie en un mot, bravo. Vous pourriez en boire maintenant de plus en plus de 25 ans”

"Mature ruby red colour. Complex and developed nose with fine oak, mild spices like clove and sweet pepper with dark cherry and red berries. The palate is dense with good extraction, integrated tannin and acidity, juicy fruit, some complex spiciness, layered and long finish with ripe fruit flavours. "

90 DECANTER

"A selection of grapes from a particularly beautiful single vineyard (belleza means beauty). This is aged in 60% barriques, 30% new, and as of 2013, the remainder is aged in botti made from local Tuscan oak called Roverella. Notes of vanilla, cherry and eucalyptus emerge first, followed by tobacco and plum. Supple, plush fruit is neatly girdled by chewy tannins on the palate. A flattering crowd pleaser. Drinking Window 2018 – 2026 " M.Morris

90 WINE&SPIRIT

#### 4GRAPPOLI

BIBENDA

#### Year's Best Tuscan Wines

90 LUCA MARONI

"Rubino tendente al granato. Ricco di note di frutta, mostra nel timbro balsamico e minerale una certa classe. Sorso teso e trama”

"Profumi complessi e articolati su note terziarie di tabacco e humus; in bocca è fresco, ordinato, arioso e continuo, ben stilizzato ed elegante, leggermente boisé nel finale

90 ERNESTO GENTILI

"Rubino trasparente. Esordio olfattivo dettato da aromi di ciliegia, arancia sanguinella e glicine, cui succedono sentori di liquirizia, resina di pino, origano e gelatina di mirtili. Il sorso è ampio e ben costruito nella sua impalcatura tannico-glicerica, compatto e scattante, con lungo finale fruttato che sfuma in una piacevole scia di sapidità ...”

4VITI VITAE

"profumi complessi e articolati su note terziarie di tabacco e humus; in bocca è fresco, ordinato, arioso e continuo, ben stilizzato ed elegante, leggermente boisé nel finale”

2012



92 WEINWIRTSCHAFT

" Mature ruby red colour. Complex and developed nose with fine oak, mild spices like clove and sweet pepper with dark cherry and red berries. The palate is dense with good extraction, integrated tannin and acidity, juicy fruit, some complex spiciness, layered and long finish with ripe fruit flavours »

91  
**Editors' Choice**

WINEENTHUSIAST

92 JAMESSUCKLING.COM

"Fruchtig-würzige Nase, verbunden mit reifen Aromen von Rum und Madeira, Kirsche, Pflaumen, Nougat,dicht, komplex mit Tannin-und Säurespiel"  
"Baked plum, Asian spice, vanilla and menthol aromas carry the nose. The elegantly structured palate offers fleshy black cherry, licorice, mint and well-integrated French oak alongside fine-grained

90 VINOUS

<b>2011</b>	<b>93</b>	NATALIEMACLEAN.COM	tannins that lend firm, polished support. A coffee note marks the finish." by Kerin O'keefe "A wine with a wonderful depth of fruit but slightly marked by the new wood. Full body, round and silky tannins and a medium finish. This needs two or three years to come together in the bottle. A solid red.
	<b>93</b>	JAMESSUCKLING.COM	"The 2012 Chianti Classico Gran Selezione Bellezza is plump, juicy and expressive. Succulent red cherries, plums, sweet spices, leather and smoke flesh out nicely in the glass. The aromatics are slightly forward, which leads me to believe the 2012 will not be a long-term ager. Still, today the Bellezza is attractive and immediate, both qualities that make it an excellent choice for near term drinking." "Here's a knock-out Italian red that is at once robust and flavourful yet ultra-smooth and refined. All the elements have come together in this wine including a spectacular vintage. Aromas of dark fruit and smoke. Pair with rare steak."
	<b>92</b>	NATALIEMACLEAN.COM	"Wonderful aromas of dried berries, black pepper and spices. Full body with firm, silky tannins and a fresh, clean, tangy, fruity finish. Hints of walnut and smoky oak. Drink now."  "Full-bodied and supple with incredible concentration, depth and complexity. Elegantly balanced with a long finish. Notes of sun-dried tomatoes, dark tart cherry and earth. Just enough acidity to handle dishes with tomato sauce."
<b>2010</b>	<b>Gold-Diplom</b>	EXPOVINA	
<b>2010 2009</b>	<b>90</b>	WINESPECTATOR	Bruce Sanderson "Black cherry and black - berry flavors are framed by vanilla and toast in this polished red, whose finish is fresh and long, though the tannins still need time to integrate. Best from 2015 through 2024"—B.S.
	<b>90</b>	JAMESSUCKLING.COM	"This is a full-bodied red with lots of ripe fruit and loads of toasted oak character. Possibly a little too much new wood but it should come together nicely with a few more years of bottle age. Try in 2015".
	<b>89</b>	VINOUS	Antonio Galloni "The estate's 2010 Chianti Classico Riserva Bellezza (100% Sangiovese) is darker and richer than the straight Riserva, but not materially better or more complex in my view. If anything, the greater use of French oak is a bit distracting, given that the dark red, plummy fruit is so attractive in this vintage. Hints of mocha and sweet spices add texture on the close."
	<b>90</b>	NATALIEMACLEAN.COM	"Full-bodied Italian red wine with dark fruit, smoke and spice."

	<b>90</b>	GUIDA ORO I Vini di Veronelli - Daniel Thomases	
	<b>91</b>	WINEENTHUSIAST	"With fruit selected from a single-vineyard site, this riserva does a nice job of portraying a fresh cherry flavor within an elaborate framework of oak spice, leather and tobacco notes. The wine is propped up by tight wood-derived tannins, which gives it a firm structure. It could use a few more years of cellar aging" by Monica Lerner
<b>2009</b>	<b>SILVER AWARD</b>	DECANTER ASIA WINE AWARDS 2012	"Very rich and oaky with chocolate, ripe fruit and smoky notes. Very modern in style, well developed and showing finesse"
	<b>4 GRAPPOLI</b>	BIBENDA 2013	"Rubino dall'unghia sfumata, dona profumi di grande intensità. Toni di ciliegia in confettura, lamponi, tabacco scuro, viola, cuoio, fumo, pietra focaia, e una marcata nota boisé . Palato di assoluta rispondenza, avvolgente, ben sapido, con tannini misurati e ricco finale su toni da torrefazione."
	<b>90</b>	THE TASTING PANEL	Anthony Dias Blue "Smooth, lush and elegant with bright, tangy plum and ripe berry fruit; good depth, supple and refined with lovely texture and long, seamless flavors of fruit, spice and wood; complete and quite lovely."
	<b>92</b>	TASTED Journal (A. Larrson, M. del Monego)	"Medium deep, ruby red, high viscosity and a watery rim; the nose offers some new oak, vanilla and mocha, although well integrated with attractive fruit - dark cherry, blackcurrant and plum; the palate has good weight, volume and juicy dark fruit, fine spices, elegant oak, mellow acidity and long, warm finish. AL 92  Dark, purple red with violet hue and almost black centre. Distinct oak influence on the nose, quite modern style, mature fruit, intense spiciness and roasted aromas. On the palate well balanced with a certain opulence, fleshy with good length. Mdm92
<b>2008</b>	<b>87</b>	ANNUARIO DEI MIGLIORI VINI ITALIANI LUCA MARONI	"Di gran classe la sua speziatura, morbido al gusto, assai bilanciato nelle sue fondamentali doti...."
<b>2008</b>	<b>Grappoli 4</b>	DUEMILAVINI A.I.S.	
<b>2007</b>	<b>89</b>	I VINI DI VERONELLI	
	<b>92</b>	JAMES SUCKLING	"Beautiful fruit on the nose, with plums and dark berries as well as bitter chocolate. Full body, with plenty of fruit and spices. Loads of new wood, but doesn't bother me. Will come together with time. Big improvement here. Best after 2012."

	<b>92</b>	WINEENTHUSIAST	"Bellezza is now labeled Chianti Classico (through 2007 it was labeled only as Toscana), based on Sangiovese grapes that deliver aromas of cherry, toasted almond, chocolate, rum cake and exotic spice. The wine is long, fresh and intense in the mouth and would pair well with steak and grilled porcini mushrooms." ML
	<b>85</b>	ANNUARIO DEI MIGLIORI VINI ITALIANI LUCA MARONI	"...potente, carnoso, tramosamente tannico..."
<b>2007</b>	<b>Grappoli 3</b>	DUEMILAVINI A.I.S.	
	<b>88</b>	I VINI DI VERONELLI	
	<b>SILVER</b>	IWC 2011	
	<b>BRONZE</b>	IWSC 2011	
	<b>BRONZE</b>	DECANTER 2011	
<b>2006</b>	<b>84</b>	ANNUARIO DEI MIGLIORI VINI D'ITALIA LUCA MARONI Punteggio 84	
<b>2006 2005</b>	<b>Grappoli 3</b>	DUEMILAVINI A.I.S.	
	<b>Bicchieri 2*</b> (*passato selezione 3 bicchieri)	VINI D'ITALIA GAMBERO ROSSO	
	<b>15,5</b>	I VINI D'ITALIA L'ESPRESSO	
	<b>87 2 stelle</b>	I Vini di VERONELLI	
	<b>BRONZE MEDAL</b>	DECANTER 2010	"Bitter cherry and strawberry with prominent oak and lovely balsamic notes. Pure and clean mint flavours on the finish"
	<b>91</b>	WINEENTHUSIAST 2011	Bellezza is indeed a beautiful expression of Sangiovese (aged in oak) that peels back layer after layer with cherry, spice, leather and tobacco aromas. The fruit-driven finish is long, smooth and satisfying. — M.L.
	<b>85</b>	ANNUARIO DEI MIGLIORI VINI D'ITALIA LUCA MARONI	

<b>2005</b>	<b>Grappoli 4</b>	DUEMILAVINI A.I.S.	
	<b>Bicchieri 2</b>	VINI D'ITALIA GAMBERO ROSSO	
	<b>16</b>	I VINI D'ITALIA L'ESPRESSO	
	<b>88</b>	I Vini di VERONELLI	
	<b>88</b>	WINE SPECTATOR web 2010	"Fresh leather, with ripe cherry on the nose, follows through to a medium body. A slightly woody palate features some berry character. Racy. Sangiovese. Best from 2010 through 2015." JS
	<b>88</b>	WINEENTHUSIAST January 2009	"Bellezza (100% Sangiovese that ages 16 months in oak) is a modern and succulent wine with a supple feel and very good density. Generous layers of spice, black pepper and wet earth back aromas of black currant and cherry. Drink this wine with stewed meats and potatoes au gratin"
	<b>SILVER 'Best in Class'</b>	IWSC 2009	
	<b>COMMENDED 2005 Bellezza</b>	DECANTER 2009	
<b>"MENZIONE SPECIALE"</b>	VIII SELEZIONE VINI DI TOSCANA		
<b>2004</b>	<b>83</b>	ANNUARIO DEI MIGLIORI VINI D'ITALIA LUCA MARONI	
<b>2004</b>	<b>Grappoli 4</b>	DUEMILAVINI A.I.S.	
	<b>Bicchieri 2</b>	VINI D'ITALIA GAMBERO ROSSO	
	<b>14,5</b>	I VINI D'ITALIA L'ESPRESSO	
	<b>89</b>	I Vini di VERONELLI	
	<b>81</b>	WINE SPECTATOR web 2008	
<b>2003</b>	<b>81</b>	ANNUARIO DEI MIGLIORI VINI D'ITALIA LUCA MARONI	

<b>2003</b> <b>2001</b>	<b>Grappoli 4</b>	DUEMILAVINI A.I.S.	
	<b>Bicchieri 1</b>	VINI D'ITALIA GAMBERO ROSSO	
	<b>15</b>	I VINI D'ITALIA L'ESPRESSO	
	<b>89</b> <b>2 stelle</b>	I Vini di VERONELLI	
	<b>80</b>	ANNUARIO DEI MIGLIORI VINI D'ITALIA LUCA MARONI	
<b>2001</b> <b>2000</b>	<b>Grappoli 4</b>	DUEMILAVINI A.I.S.	
	<b>Bicchieri 2*</b> (*passato selezione 3 bicchieri)	VINI D'ITALIA GAMBERO ROSSO	
	<b>14,5</b>	I VINI D'ITALIA L'ESPRESSO	
	<b>91</b>	WINE SPECTATOR – October 31, 2005	“Gorgeous blackberry and cherries on the nose follow to a full-bodied palate, with soft, silky tannins. Long finish. What a turn around here. Sangiovese. Drink now.” JS
	<b>78</b>	ANNUARIO DEI MIGLIORI VINI D'ITALIA LUCA MARONI	
<b>2000</b> <b>1999</b>	<b>Grappoli 4</b>	DUEMILAVINI A.I.S.	
	<b>14,5</b>	I VINI D'ITALIA L'ESPRESSO	
	<b>88</b>	I Vini di VERONELLI	
	<b>86</b>	WINEENTHUSIAST – January 2006	“A lot of sawmill is present up front, but behind the loud oak there’s plum, raisin and some herbal leafiness. Attentive red fruit carries the palate, backed by a quick but clean finish that splits out the side doors. A bit gritty but will work with food”
	<b>87</b>	WINE SPECTATOR – October 31, 2004	“Aromas and flavors of toasted oak with ripe fruit...has lots of character. Full-bodied, with soft, round tannins.”
	<b>Bronze Award</b>	IWSC	
	<b>Approval Seal</b>	IWC	
		DECANTER	

	<b>77</b>	ANNUARIO DEI MIGLIORI VINI D'ITALIA LUCA MARONI	
<b>1999</b> <b>1997</b>	<b>Grappoli 3</b>	DUEMILAVINI A.I.S.	
	<b>13,5</b>	I VINI D'ITALIA L'ESPRESSO	
	<b>86</b>	I Vini di VERONELLI	
	<b>86</b>	WINEENTHUSIAST – January 2004	"Hints of mint, licorice and cedar precede grassy, leathery aromas. The palate on this Sangiovese is simple and slightly woody, with raspberry and strawberry notes. Finishes a bit thin and drying, with notes of oak and vanilla."
	<b>84</b>	WINE SPECTATOR – October 31, 2003	"Elegant and refined, with berry, plum and vanilla character. Light- to medium-bodied, with fresh acidity and a vanilla finish. Slightly too much wood. Sangiovese. Drink now." JS
	<b>Exceptional</b>	DAN BERGER'S VINTAGE EXPERIENCES – March 6, 2003	"More subtle in approach than the prior wine (Alleanza), but with deep well-aged herb and tomato notes, oak on the finish and a silky yet still tart aftertaste."
	<b>75</b>	ANNUARIO DEI MIGLIORI VINI D'ITALIA LUCA MARONI	
	<b>Grappoli 4</b>	DUEMILAVINI A.I.S.	
	<b>14</b>	I VINI D'ITALIA L'ESPRESSO	
	<b>85</b>	WINEENTHUSIAST – November 2003	"This 100% Sangiovese has sharp berry, leather and chocolate aromas, raspberry and strawberry flavors, and a lean, oaky yet fresh finish. Modest tannins work to spread the wine out, and the fruit, while thin and fading, seems ripe and not green"