

GREECE: RED

Greek whites are on page 34.

ref		bottle	dozen
C-GR301	Skouras Cuvée Prestige, Vin de Pays de Peloponnese, 2008. One of <i>The Times</i> Top 100 wines earlier this year, this charming wine has bright, juicy berry fruit, combining cabernet sauvignon and the local St George grape. 12.5% P	£8.95	£107.00



Black-figured kylix (drinking cup) from Athens, Greece, circa 550BC. The ploughing scene is thought to represent the Attic Thesmophoria, or fertility festival.

ITALY: RED

Italian whites are on page 34.

Italy produces vast quantities of wine from more than 350 DOCs and around 120 IGTs (broader origins, looser rules). There is much that is delightful, original and often excellent value, and rather more that is rather rough, or just dull. The Society's job, we believe, is to be a trustworthy guide, leading you to delicious examples from regions you know, or to places you might not have yet discovered.

Sebastian Payne MW

SOCIETY & EXHIBITION WINES:

C-IT2471	The Society's Montepulciano d'Abruzzo. From the Roxan co-operative, this delightfully fruity, full-flavoured red has been a conspicuous success with members and remains excellent value for money. 13%	£6.25	£75.00
C-IT5001	The Society's Chianti Rufina. The Grati family's Chianti is an excellent example of its type: fruity, soft and perfumed. 12.5%	£6.95	£83.00

For fine wines in parcels too small to list here, visit www.thewinesociety.com/finewine

RED WINE: ITALY

<i>ref</i>	<i>†new vintage</i>	<i>bottle</i>	<i>dozen</i>
C-IT12851	† The Society's Exhibition Chianti Classico, 2007. Completely delicious Chianti from Poggiopiano with lovely round flavour and perfume. 100% sangiovese aged six months in oak to enhance the silky flavour of the fruit. Now–2015. 13.5%	£11.95	£143.00

SOUTH:

Abruzzo, Basilicata, Marche, Puglia and Sicily

The southern regions of Italy and its islands, whose wines used to be under-represented in this country a couple of decades ago, have seen dynamic change, without losing their identities. This is an exciting section of our List.

C-IT12591	† La Ferla Rosso, Sicilia IGT, 2008. Ripe and exuberant red with an aroma and flavour reminiscent of plums and cherries, with a touch of Mediterranean herbs. It comes exclusively from the nero d'Avola grape grown on the hills inland from Agrigento. 13% (P)	£5.95	£71.00
C-IT12131	Villa Le Querce Rosso Piceno, 2007. Good value, fruity montepulciano from the Marche. 13% (S)	£5.95	£71.00
C-IT11191	Copertino Eloquenzia, 2004 (Masseria Monaci). A lovely vintage for Severino Garofano's home estate in the Salentino peninsula. Ripe, full and excellent value. 13%	£6.50	£78.00
C-IT12151	Vigna Alta Syrah Basilicata, 2008. An outstanding fruity red from Italy's instep. This is a bargain. 13.5% (P)	£6.75	£81.00
C-IT12481	Brindisi Rosso Vigna Flaminio, 2006 (Vallone). A cracking southern red made from negroamaro and montepulciano. Full flavoured and fruity, yet fresh. 13%	£6.75	£81.00
C-IT12581	NEW Vigna Corvino Montepulciano d'Abruzzo, 2007. Wonderfully fruity and fragrant red from Rocco Pasetti's estate at Collecovino. In a very ripe vintage, this maintains vibrant freshness and charm. 13%	£6.95	£83.00
C-IT12431	Le Ralle Aglianico del Vulture, 2006 (Alovinì). Delightfully round and approachable example of southern Italy's noblest red grape variety, made by local expert Oranzo Alò. Now–2013. 13% (P)	£8.95	£107.00
C-IT11521	Sinfarosa Primitivo, 2007 (Accademia dei Racemi). A cracking primitivo with wonderful depth of ripe healthy blackberry fruit, the result of sourcing from the best vineyards in a wonderful vintage for the grape. Now–2011. 15%	£10.95	£131.00