

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/life/food-and-wine/wine/wine-reviews/lapostolle-cuvee-alexandre-apalta-vineyard-cabernet-sauvignon-2011-chile/article18592462/>

La Valentina Montepulciano d'Abruzzo 2011, Italy

[Beppi Crosariol](#)

The Globe and Mail

Published Tuesday, May. 13 2014, 2:59 PM EDT

Last updated Tuesday, May. 13 2014, 5:27 PM EDT

- Rating 89
- Year 2011
- Region Abruzzo
- Varietal Montepulciano
- Food Pairing Pizza, pork chops, steak
- Price \$15.95

Those who need a familiar reference point might think of Montepulciano d'Abruzzo as poor man's Chianti. This one – at a premium to the under-\$10 price of its entry-level kin – could proudly sit alongside many Chiantis. That said, the style's a bit different. There's sweeter, jammier fruit in this Abruzzo red than in many similarly priced Chiantis from further north in Tuscany. Medium-full-bodied, it exhibits good balance between sweet-sour fruit and smoky-herbal savoury notes. A solid choice for a variety of foods, from pizza to pork chops to steak.

Follow Beppi Crosariol on Twitter: [@Beppi_Crosariol](#)