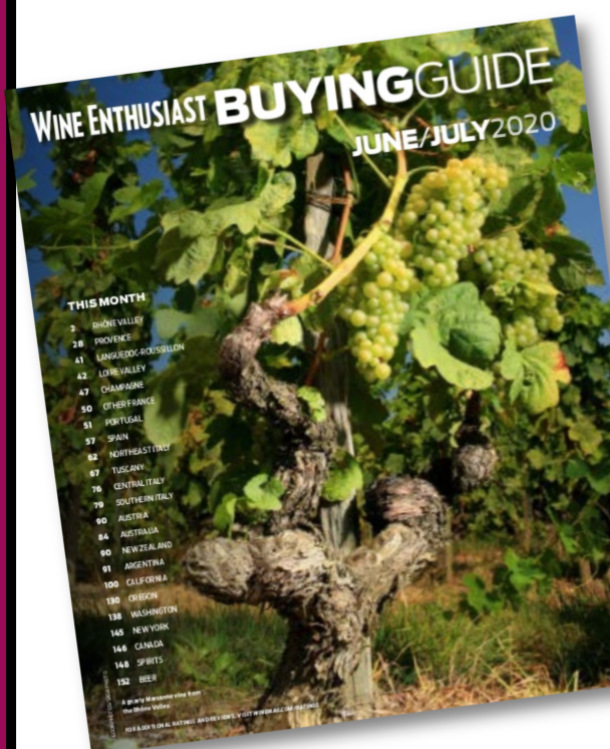


WINE ENTHUSIAST[®]

ADVANCE BUYING GUIDE

- LA VALENTINA 2016 SPELT RISERVA
- BINOMIO 2015 RISERVA



90 La Valentina 2016 Spelt Riserva (Montepulciano d'Abruzzo)

Bright red cherry melds with crushed granite and herbs on the nose of this red. The medium-bodied palate is juicy in a vibrant red-cherry flavor, with a line of crunchy tannins and vibrant acidity propping it up. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —A.P.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$22

86 La Valentina 2017 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo.

This wine is closed on the nose, offering a quiet tin-can tone. Light in feel, the fruit is not very intense on the palate, showing a straightforward juicy red-cherry note. Gentle tannins ride alongside bright acidity to lend support. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —A.P. **abv:** 13% **Price:** \$15

86 La Valentina 2018 Pecorino (Colline Pescaresi).

This ripe Pecorino offers mild aromas of melon, lemon and chamomile on the nose, which carry to the slightly oily palate. Bright acidity does well to lift the feel on the midpalate, generating a sharp contrast between honeydew and citrus flavors. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —A.P.

abv: 13.5% **Price:** \$17

91 Binomio 2015 Riserva (Montepulciano d'Abruzzo).

This joint venture between Fattoria La Valentina in Abruzzo and Inama Azienda Agricola in Veneto offers aromas of baked cherry, mentholated herbs and a hint of soy on the nose. Rounded and silken in feel, the rich red fruit on the palate is bolstered by lifted acidity and fine, integrated tannins. These flavors are propelled along a pulsing river of acidity, with hints of herbs and earth chiming in. It's approachable now but should hold well through 2025. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. —A.P.

abv: 14.5% **Price:** \$52

Alexander Peartree - www.winemag.com

