

Wine Reviews: Italian Value

Posted by [Isaac Baker](#) 01-29-2022

These days, it seems everything costs more. In the wine world, so many producers I once bought and loved have gotten too expensive for me.

Finding good wine for little money is a passion of mine, and I love scoping all sorts of wine from Spain, Portugal, South Africa, Southwest France and more. Italy is a fount of wines that show a sense of their place without a huge price tag. From Abruzzi to Veneto, this week I have a range of interesting and delicious Italian wines, all for less than \$25.

These wines were received as trade samples and all the reds were tasted single-blind.

2018 Fattoria La Valentina Montepulciano d'Abruzzo – Italy, Abruzzi, Montepulciano d'Abruzzo
SRP: \$15

Deep ruby color. Plummy and fresh on the nose with raspberries, cola, warm clay and some tobacco and basil elements. Crisp and fun on the palate, light tannins, this has a zesty, smooth appeal with cherries and red plum fruit. Complexities of light roast coffee, dusty earth, sage and tobacco add a nice touch. Has a fun, fresh vibe but complex and savory, too. (87 points IJB)

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