

## **Chomping at the Bit: New Releases from Abruzzo**

BY ERIC GUIDO | AUGUST 24, 2023

Abruzzo could be the next emerging region in Italy. Beneath the ocean of forgettable tank wines and vast vineyards that feed the large production cooperatives, there's a murmur of a high-quality, artisanal revolution. However, the road to achieving such status will be long, and it will take even longer to convince consumers that this is the case.

### **2021 Trebbiano d'Abruzzo Riserva Spelt**

90 pts - Drinking Window 2023 - 2025

*A dusting of autumnal spice, raw almonds and musky dried apricots create an inviting bouquet as the 2021 Trebbiano d'Abruzzo Riserva Spelt opens in the glass. There's a pretty inner sweetness up front complicated by saline minerals and tart orchard fruits. This finishes crisp and with admirable length, leaving tropical inner florals.*

### **2020 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Riserva Spelt**

92 pts - Drinking Window 2024 - 2028

*The 2020 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Riserva Spelt is dark and earthy in the glass, with undergrowth and crushed stones giving way to black cherries and spice. This is round and silky in feel, with ripe wild berry fruits and spices that cascade*

*throughout. Plum and medicinal blackberry linger as the 2020 tapers off long, lightly structured, yet relatively fresh. Well done.*

## **2020 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Riserva Belovedere**

93 pts - Drinking Window 2025 - 2030

*A rich plum and cherry sauce is offset by autumnal spice and a dusting of cocoa as the 2020 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Riserva Belovedere comes to life. It's silky-smooth with a pretty inner sweetness balanced by zesty acidity and tart wild berry fruits as a mineral tinge adds traction toward the close. This tapers off long and staining with grippy tannins, leaving licorice and clove hints. While quite intense and verging on opulent, balance is expertly maintained.*

## **2020 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Binomio**

93 pts - Drinking Window 2024 - 2031

*Red plums and cherries come together with sage, cocoa and traces of sweet tobacco as the 2020 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Binomio blossoms in the glass. This is velvety and elegant in style, with an intense wave of ripe wild berry fruits energized by zesty acidity. The 2020 finishes dramatically long and structured, balancing grippy tannins against sour citrus and blackberries. While almost hedonistic at times, the balance here can not be denied.*

## **2017 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Binomio Collezione**

92 pts - Drinking Window 2024 - 2031

*Dark and brooding, the 2017 Montepulciano d'Abruzzo Binomio Collezione opens with a whiff of cedar and sweet spice complementing crushed plums. It flows across the palate with silken textures and masses of ripe red and blue fruits, neatly balanced*

*by a twang of citrus toward the close. Violet candies, lavender and mint can all be found as the 2017 finishes potent yet fresh.*