

# FAMIGLIACECCHI

## the drinks business

THEDRINKBUSINESS.COM – 20 AGOSTO 2019

## Tasted and rated: the top wines from the Tuscan Masters 2019

Following last month's Tuscan Masters, we review the top-scoring wines of the competition, which is part of the Global Wine Masters series from *the drinks business*.



Castelnuovo dell'Abate, near Montalcino in Tuscany

Taking in all the great areas of Tuscany, our handful of 'Masters' from the day's tasting included reds from Montepulciano, Montalcino, Bolgheri and Chianti Classico, highlighting the wide range of places for brilliant wines within this famous part of Italy.

Indeed, [as previously reported by the drinks business](#), relative to the number of wines that featured in this tasting, the results in the Tuscan Masters were better than any other competition we've hosted, with not only four Masters awarded – the ultimate accolade for outstanding entries – but also an incredible 16 Golds given out, meaning that more than one quarter of the samples picked up a top result.

"I saw more star wines today than at any other tasting in the Masters Series," said Jonathan Pedley MW, tasting panel chair, after the Tuscan sampling was over.

Similarly enthusiastic, long-time Global Masters judge Patricia Stefanowicz MW commented that she "could judge these wines all day without palate fatigue," due to "the refreshing acidity and judicious oak use and well-managed tannins in the red wines."

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While the Global Wine Masters runs a series of blind-tasting competitions throughout the year focused on varieties – from Chardonnay to Cabernet – and wine styles, from rosé to sparkling, the programme of events also includes judging sessions on key regions to shine a spotlight on wine quality and style in a particular place.

Over the years, such tastings have taken in Rioja, Champagne, and Prosecco, and this year we decided to add to that list with a competition for the range of wines produced across Tuscany, believing this part of the wine world to be underrated for value and quality.

The wines were judged over the course of one day at Les 110 de Taillevent in London on 11 July by myself, Patricia Stefanowicz MW, Jonathan Pedley MW and Matthieu Longuère MS.

Below I have reviewed the four outstanding wines of the day's tasting, while a full list of all the medallists will be published in full in the September edition of *the drinks business*.

Please [visit the Global Masters website](#) for more information, or, to enter future competitions – giving you the opportunity to feature online and in print – please call +44 (0)20 7803 2420 or email Sophie Raichura at: [sophie@thedrinksbusiness.com](mailto:sophie@thedrinksbusiness.com)

## Famiglia Cecchi, Villa Rosa, Chianti Classico Gran Selezione, 2015



Representing the newly-instated top tier of Chianti Classico, called Gran Selezione, this red from Cecchi displays the wonderful hallmarks of great Sangiovese grown in this famous and historic part of Tuscany's wine map: Chianti Classico.

Using high-altitude sites and Cecchi's top vineyard soils, this specialist Sangiovese has plenty of ripe red berry fruit, with a touch of strawberry sweetness, offset by a slightly tangy finish of cherry stone and orange zest. A wonderfully balanced wine that highlights the greatness of top-end Chianti Classico, and the wonders of beautifully-crafted, pure Sangiovese.

**The wine:** Famiglia Cecchi, Villa Rosa, Chianti Classico Gran Selezione, 2015

**The source:** Chianti Classico DOCG, Italy

**The grape(s):** 100% Sangiovese

**The style:** A youthful, medium-weight complex red with dry tannins, fresh acidity, and sweet ripe red cherry fruit.

**The price:** £35

**The medal:** Master – The Tuscan Masters, 2019