

ITS AWARD-WINNING, ALUMINUM-CLAD DRIVING PRESSE AND OPTION OF ALCANTARA TO OPERATE MACHINERY.

**91 Castello Banfi Merlot Toscana Mandrielle 1995 \$32** Shows good structure for aging. Complex aromas of spices, mint and fruit. Full-bodied and very fruity, with a sleek tannic backbone and a lingering aftertaste. A beautiful Merlot from Tuscany. Best after 2000. 7,500 cases made.—J.S.

**91 Carpineto Cabernet Sauvignon Toscana Farnito 1995 \$25** Fabulous aromas of blackberry, black currant and mint. Full-bodied, full of tannins, yet polished and reserved. Slightly closed on the finish but should give more fruit with time. A top-notch Cabernet nearly every vintage. Best after 2000. 6,500 cases made.—J.S.

**91 Marchesi de' Frescobaldi Merlot Toscana Lamaione 1995 \$42** Offers subtle aromas of berries and dark chocolate, then sneaks up and grabs you by the tongue, telling you to pay attention. Full-bodied with masses of tannins, yet they're polished and succulent. Best after 2000. 3,300 cases made.—J.S.

**91 Le Macchiole Toscana Messorio 1995 \$NA** Juicy, rich and decadent. Deep, dark and brooding, with currant and berry oozing from the glass. Full-bodied, with well-integrated tannins and a lovely mint, berry and cherry aftertaste. Why drink only Pomerols if you love super Merlot? Try this. 200 cases made.—J.S.

**91 Podere Poggio Scalette Toscana Il Carbonaione 1996 \$55** A fine, well-made red with lots of dried cherry, plum, smoke, game, vanilla and berry aromas and flavors and a long, pepper and fruit aftertaste. Full-bodied, with well-integrated tannins. Best after 1999. 3,500 cases made.—J.S.

**91 Fattoria Le Pupille Toscana Saffredi 1995 \$34** Bold aromas of plum, blackberry, earth and tobacco. Full-bodied, with layers of velvety tannins and a caressing texture. From "the" producer in an up-and-coming region. Best after 2000. 1,250 cases made.—J.S.

**91 Tenuta del Terriccio Toscana Lupicaia 1996 \$85** Less polished than the '95, more like the stupendous '93. I like it. Chunky, ripe and rich Cabernet character. Gorgeous plum, blackberry and wet earth aromas. Full-bodied, with velvety tannins and a long, ripe fruit aftertaste. Best after 1999.—J.S.

**91 Tua Rita Toscana Giusto di Notri 1996 \$50** Gorgeous, fat and fruity. Shows everything it has right away. Dark-colored, with intense, grapey, blackberry and raspberry aromas. Full-bodied, packed with fruit and velvety tannins. Long, long finish. California Cab lovers should dig this. Drink now through 2003. A blend of Cabernet and Merlot. 450 cases made.—J.S.

**90 Antinori Toscana Solaia 1995 \$90** Always a voluptuous and rounded red. Gorgeous blackberry, black currant and lead pencil aromas. Full-bodied, with well integrated, soft tannins. Long, fruity aftertaste. Best after 2000. 5,000 cases made.—J.S.

**90 Avignonesi Toscana Grifi 1995 \$45** Solid, well-structured super Tuscan, with plummy, earthy aromas that follow through on the palate. Medium- to full-bodied, with chewy, slightly tough tannins and a mouth-puckering finish. Made from Cabernet Sauvignon. Best after 2000.—J.S.

**90 Fattoria Corzano e Paterno Toscana Il Corzano 1995 \$32** Subtle, yet outstanding in structure. Reminds me of Heitz Martha's Vineyard, but with Tuscan acidity. Dark-colored, adding intense black currant and eucalyptus aromas. Medium- to full-bodied, with a superfine tannic structure and a long, caressing finish. Best after 2000.—J.S.

**90 Isole e Olena Cabernet Sauvignon Toscana Collezione De Marchi 1995 \$40** Gorgeous Cabernet Sauvignon from Isole, with lovely harmony and fruit. Smells like fresh-picked blueberries. Medium-bodied, with full, polished tannins and a long, succulent finish. Best after 1999. 690 cases made.—J.S.

**90 Isole e Olena Toscana Cepparello 1996 \$45** Extremely grapey, with highlights of raspberries and mint. Medium-bodied, with silky, polished tannins from clever small-barrel maturation. Long, caressing finish. A gorgeous wine now but be patient, you will be rewarded. This super Tuscan is always a beauty. 2,100 cases made.—J.S.

**90 Castello della Panereta Toscana 1996-1996 1995 \$40** A big mouthful of a red with loads of fruit. Attractive aromas of blackberry, mint and blueberry. Full in body, with juicy, round tannins and a long, long aftertaste of ripe fruit. Best after 2000.—J.S.

**90 Fattoria Petrola Toscana Galatron 1995 \$38** Very polished Merlot, as well-cut as an underling. Violets and currants with an underlying ter on the nose. Medium- to full-bodied, with tannins and a caressing texture. Best after 2000. 170 cases made.—J.S.

**90 Fattoria Petrola Toscana Torrione 1995 \$38** Rich and concentrated, with lots of tobacco, berry and cherry aromas and flavors. Full-bodied, with ultrafine tannins and a long, succulent finish. Best from 1999 through 2003. 850 cases made.—J.S.

**90 Poggio Bonelli Toscana Tramonto d'Oca 1995 \$28** Silky, sexy red. Very intense aromas of ripe fruit with hints of game and dried fruit. Full-bodied and tannic, with a silky texture and an extremely ripe aftertaste. A beauty. Best after 1998.—J.S.

**90 Fattoria Poggipiano Toscana Rosso di Sera 1996 \$22** I never have tasted a wine from this estate; it is a big and rough young red with a lot of character and heart. Wonderful multilayered aromas of flowers and ripe fruits which follow through on the palate. Full-bodied, roughly tannic, with lots of fruit on the finish. Like a top California red from the 1970s. Stellar Sangiovese. Best after 1999.—J.S.



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