

Banfi Vintners World Wine Varietal Descriptions

RED WINE VARIETALS	DESCRIPTION	INTERESTING FACTS	ITALY	SOUTH AMERICA	AUSTRALIA
SANGIOVESE/CHIANTI	Red fruit (especially cherry) and berries, with floral nuances (violets) and sometimes hints of tobacco and chocolate.	Has proven itself in the Tuscany region of Italy, esp. Brunello di Montalcino and Chianti. Castello Banfi, a leading producer, is recognized widely for its notable achievements.	Brunello di Montalcino & Chiantis from Banfi, Cecchi & Placido. Cecchi Morellino di Scansano, Vino Nobile di Montepulciano		
MERLOT	Plum, black cherry, raspberry and sometimes chocolate with light tannins which make it a soft, sensuous wine.	Often used to round out Cabernet Sauvignon, a popular, and sometimes, more approachable alternative to Cabernet.	Castello Banfi Mandrielle, Sartori, Placido	Casillero del Diablo, Xplorador, Frontera, Sunrise, Walnut Crest	Stonehaven Southeastern Australia
CABERNET SAUVIGNON	Full-bodied and complex. Cedar and chocolate with black cherry, spicy-cinnamon, and anise.	Grows in most moderate wine regions throughout the world. Red wine grape of superb quality but low yield. Most famous for fine, long lived wine. Very adaptable to climate when managed properly.	Castello Banfi Tavernelle, Placido	Concha y Toro Reserves (Don Melchor, Marques de Casa Concha, Terrunyo), Casillero del Diablo, Xplorador, Frontera, Sunrise, Trivento	Stonehaven Limestone Coast, Stonehaven Winemaker's Selection
SHIRAZ/SYRAH	Rich, full-bodied with aromas/flavors of berries and pepper spice.	Blends well with other varieties such as Cabernet, Merlot and Sangiovese, adding spicy, plummy fruit. (see Super Tuscan Blends).	Castello Banfi Colvecchio	Frontera, Walnut Crest, Trivento	Stonehaven Limestone Coast, Winemaker's Selection, Southeastern Australia
LAMBRUSCO (Red sparkling)	Refreshingly fruity, light and lively typically with a frizzante style. Ranges from dry to sweet.	The Lambrusco grape is over 2000 years old. Riunite is the major producer of Lambrusco -- America's favorite Italian for over 30 years. Remember... " <i>Riunite on ice...that's nice.</i> "	Riunite Lambrusco (also try Riunite White Lambrusco which is similar to White Zinfandel with a gentle sparkle).		
ROSA REGALE (Red sparkling)	Unique sparkling, fruit-forward red wine with raspberry flavors, light and refreshing style.	There is no other wine that looks so unabashedly beautiful in a glass. Rosa Regale is alone in its class because it is so light and offers a balance of full-bodied fruit freshened by just the right amount of crispness in the finish.	Rosa Regale (look for the rose on the label).		
SUPER TUSCAN	Wines so-named because they tend to be more aggressive than the traditional wines of Tuscany. They range in style from simple to complex and may be produced with a single varietal or a blend which may include Sangiovese along with Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Syrah, etc.	Red or white wines that did not conform to the DOC or DOCG standards. But, truth be told, they are called <i>Super</i> for a reason.	Castello Banfi ExcelsuS (Cab, Merlot), SummuS (Sangiovese, Cab, Syrah) and Cum Laude (Cab, Merlot, Sangiovese, Syrah), Cecchi Spargolo, Banfi Centine (Sangiovese, Cab, Merlot), Banfi Col di Sasso (Cab, Sangiovese)		
MALBEC	Wonderfully rich, complex, inky wines with supple tannins and ripeness. Aromas include cherry, plum, raisins, coffee and chocolate.	Berries are large, dark and round with bunches being large and loose. Malbec creates an intense, inky red wine often used in blending to create deep, rich color.		Xplorador, Trivento Golden Reserve, Trivento Select	
CARMENERE	The softness of Merlot and structure of Cabernet.	The sixth noble grape of Bordeaux, France (after Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Malbec and Petit Verdot). Actually, it disappeared from France and was rediscovered in Peumo, Chile.		Concha y Toro Terrunyo, Casillero del Diablo, Frontera	