

ITALY

Veneto & Northeast

ATTEMS

Collio Cichis 2009

91 points | \$40 | 85 cases imported | White

A rich white that maintains a sleek, elegant profile thanks to its racy acidity. Smoky mineral, straw and vanilla bean base notes are layered with peach pastry, almond and tangy green apple and gooseberry. Open-knit and fresh, with a lingering finish. Sauvignon, Friulano and Pinot Bianco. Drink now through 2017.—A.N.

BERTANI

Valpolicella-Valpantena Villa Arvedi 2007

91 points | \$50 | 65,000 cases made | Red

Elegant, with an appealing thread of fragrant herb and spice notes weaving through flavors of ripe cherry, black raspberry, fig paste and cocoa powder. The mouthwatering finish shows a hint of the tannic structure. Drink now through 2020.—A.N.

TOMMASO BUSSOLA

Valpolicella Classico Superiore TB 2006

91 points | \$36 | 750 cases made | Red

Smoky and aromatic, with creamy layers of prune, sun-dried cherry, balsamico, dried mint and dark chocolate shavings. Rich and balanced, with a moderate finish. Drink now through 2017.—A.N.

TOMMASO BUSSOLA

Valpolicella Superiore Ca' del Laito Ripasso 2007

91 points | \$24 | 1,500 cases made | Red

A sweet, smoky note runs alongside the black cherry, balsamic, soft raisin and espresso flavors, while tangy acidity and chewy tannins provide structure. Features a fragrant, herbal finish. Drink now through 2020.—A.N.

MEROI

Colli Orientali del Friuli Ros di Buri 2009

91 points | \$55 | 150 cases imported | Red

Polished tannins and juicy acidity mix with brooding notes of black currant coulis, fig paste, roasted plum and blackberry preserves, while layers of charcoal, vanilla bean and spice lead to the vibrant finish that echoes a sweet fruit note. Merlot. Drink now through 2020.—A.N.

BERTANI

Valpolicella Classico Superiore Villa Novare Vigneto

Ognisanti 2007

90 points | \$33 | 30,000 cases made | Red

There's a subtle vibrancy to the aromatic notes of ripe black cherry, date, black licorice, mineral and tea rose. This is more about elegance and balance than power. Drink now through 2017.—A.N.

MONTE DEL FRÀ

Valpolicella Classico Superiore Tenuta Lena di Mezzo

Ripasso 2009

90 points | \$24 | 500 cases imported | Red

An elegant red, showing hints of black raspberry, plum and strawberry fruit bolstered by a spicy undertow of ground pepper, dried mint and thyme, anise and vanilla bean, with a mineral-tinged finish. Drink now through 2019.—A.N.

SANT'ELENA

Venezia-Giulia Quantum L'Autoctono 2007

90 points | \$60 | 300 cases imported | Red

A dry red, offering dusty tannins and compact notes of black raspberry, smoke, iron and roasted plum, with a hint of mushroom and a floral finish. Tightly meshed but balanced, suggesting this may benefit from decanting. Pignolo. Best from 2014 through 2017.—A.N.

SCARBOLO

Sauvignon Friuli Grave 2010

90 points | \$22 | 800 cases imported | White

Elegant, with lovely notes of spring blossom and verbena running through flavors of kumquat, white peach, stone and spice. Well-knit and creamy, with racy acidity leading to the mouthwatering finish. Drink now through 2015.—A.N.

SCARBOLO

Venezia-Giulia Campo del Viotto 2008

90 points | \$46 | 250 cases imported | Red

Ripe currant and black cherry fruit mixes with smoke, espresso, vanilla bean and tomato leaf in this spiced red, which is creamy and balanced, with an open-knit, accessible structure and fine tannins. Merlot. Drink now through 2018.—A.N.

VIE DI ROMANS

Sauvignon Blanc Friuli Isonzo Vieris 2009

90 points | \$49 | 50 cases imported | White

Rich and creamy, with smoke and vanilla accents to the flavors of lemon pound cake, peach, cantaloupe and thyme. Fresh, citrusy acidity drives this balanced white to a lightly mouthwatering, floral finish. Drink now through 2014.—A.N.