

WINES OF ITALY

INTRODUCTION

- Italy ranks 1st in production just ahead of France and Spain with approx 50 million hectoliters.
- Also 3rd for consumption in volume and 2nd per capita.
- All twenty (20) regions of Italy produce wine.
- Italy ranks 3rd for vineyard surface planted. Approx 715,000 hectares
- Italy's reputation has always been based on its great reds. But whites have now reached high level of quality.
- The ambassador of Italian wine is Chianti.
- The King of Italian wine is the famous Barolo... so the Queen is Barbaresco.

THE «APPELLATION CONTRÔLÉE» SYSTEM OF ITALY

The Appellation system exists since 1963 and was revised for the first time in 1992. It has four levels:

- 1- Vino da Tavola :
- 2- Indicazione Geografica Tipica : 118 IGT
- 3- Denominazione di Origine Controllata : 330 DOC
- 4- Denominazione di Origine Controllata e Garantita : 73 DOCG

HOW ITALIAN WINES ARE NAMED

- 1- Name of grape variety :
- 2- Name of origin/locality :
- 3- Name of grape followed by name of origin:
- 4- Others :
 - Anecdote :
 - Historical fact :
 - Religious/Biblical fact :

THE MOST IMPORTANT REGIONS - VOLUME

- 1- Veneto :
- 2- Sicilia :
- 3- Puglia :
- 4- Emilia-Romagna :
- 5- Abruzzo :
- 6- Piemonte :
- 8- Toscana :

VOCABULARY:

Abboccato : semi sweet

Amabile : sweet

Annata : year-vintage

Azienda agricola : winery-producer

Bianco : white

Botte : barrel-barrique

Bottiglia : bottle

Cantina (sociale) : cooperative

Casa vinicola : winery-producer

Cascina : winery-producer

Cerasuolo : light red

Chiaretto : pale red

Consorzio : consortium

Dolce : sweet

Enoteca : wine shop

Fattoria : winery-producer

Frizzante : slightly sparkling-fizzy

Imbottigliata : bottled

Invecchiato : aged

Maso : winery-producer

Masseria : winery-producer

Passito ou Passita : from dried grapes

Podere : winery-producer

Produttore : producer

Recioto : from dried grapes

Riserva : special cuvée aged longer

Rosato : rosé

Rosso : red

Secco : dry

Spumante : sparkling

Superiore : from specific area or simply more alcohol or longer aged

Tenuta : winery-producer

Uva : grape (variety)

Vecchio : old

Vendimia : vintage

Vigna ou Vigneto : vineyard

Viticoltore : grape grower

Vino da tavola : table wine

Vino novello : vin nouveau

Vitigno : grape variety

**BY NICK HAMILTON
LES CONSEILLERS DU VIN**