

SELECTED WINES**Marco De Bartoli Grappoli del Grillo 2005**

Enticing aromas of jasmine, orange blossom, banana, and a hint of pineapple that carry over on to the palate. Well structured but fresh, with a long, clean finish. **17**

Benanti Etna Bianco Superiore Pietramarina 2001

A white wine with the structure of a red. Full-bodied but fresh, with aromas of Spanish broom and lemon peel, with apple and honey on the palate and a long, mineral close. **17.5**

Murgo Etna Rosso 2004

Earthy aromas of fresh strawberry and raspberry, with ripe juicy red-fruit flavors laced with minerals and balanced by crisp acidity and soft tannins. **17.5**

Ceuso Ceuso 2004

Rich plum and blackcurrant aromas. Earthy flavors of lush black fruits elegantly layered with well-integrated oak and balanced by firm tannins. **18.5**

COS Cerasuolo di Vittoria Pithos

Intriguing floral bouquet, with nuances of blackberry and pure, succulent blackberry flavors, with hints of earth and mineral balanced by fresh acidity and silky tannins. Long, clean finish. **19**

Curto Nero d'Avola 2004

Enticing nose of black cherry and carob with hints of leather. Rich but restrained blackberry flavors beautifully balanced with good acidity and smooth tannins. **18**

Duca di Salaparuta Duca Enrico 2003

Nose of ripe berry, leather, and smoke, with opulent fruit flavors layered with herbs and licorice. Firm tannins and a lengthy finish. **18**

Faro Palari Palari 2004

Bright berry and rose fragrance with hints of earth and tobacco. Delicious cherry flavor with subtle vanilla and spice. **18.5**

Ciro Biondi Etna Rosso Outis 2004

Ripe strawberry and floral nose, with elegant flavors of berry and tobacco. Beautifully balanced, with pleasing acidity, silky tannins, and mineral finish. **18.5**

Planeta Nero d'Avola Santa Cecilia 2005

Earthy black-fruit aromas with a hint of leather and sea breeze. Juicy blackberry flavors with sweet tannins and a long finish. **18.5**

ACCOMMODATION

Excelsior Palace Hotel

Via Marchese Ugo 3

Palermo

Tel: +39 09 17 90 9; fax: +39 09 13 42 13 9

Palermo makes the perfect base for day trips to wineries on the western part of the island. Centrally located and completely renovated in 2005, the Excelsior Palace is still a gem from the Belle Epoque.

Masseria degli Ulivi

Contrada Porcari – SS287 Noto-Palazzolo Acreide (SR)

Tel: +39 09 31 81 30 19

A spacious and airy hotel renovated from a private country villa.

Hotel Villa Diodoro

Via Bagnoli Croci 75

Taormina (ME)

Tel: +39 09 42 23 31 2

Fax: +39 09 42 23 39 1

Beautiful views of the sea and Etna in the distance and centrally located in Taormina.

Tenuta San Michele

Via Zafferana 13

Santa Venerina (CT)

Tel: +39 09 59 50 52 0

Murgo's lovely agriturismo on the slopes of Mount Etna, surrounded by vineyards and with breathtaking views of the volcano. Good on-site restaurant.

RESTAURANTS

Antica Focacceria San Francesco

Via Alessandro Paternostro 58

Palermo

Tel: +39 09 13 21 02 64

Legend has it that even Garibaldi ate at this favorite spot for locals in the historic city center that serves up Palermo's traditional cuisine.

Trattoria Garibaldi

Piazza dell'Addolorata 1

Marsala (TP)

Tel: +39 09 23 95 30 06

Informal and always crowded, thanks to its wonderful seafood dishes.

La Madia

Corso Filippo Re Capriata 22

Licata (AG)

Tel: +39 09 22 77 14 43

Certainly deserving of its coveted Michelin star, thanks to chef Pino Cuttaia's delicious and creative renditions of local dishes made with the freshest ingredients, a wonderful wine list, and tasteful decor.

La Cialoma

Piazza Regina Margherita 23

Marzamemi (SR)

Tel: +39 09 31 84 17 72

One of the best small trattorie, in a lovely piazza near the harbor, serving fresh local seafood.

Ristorante Casa Grugno

Via Santa Maria dei Greci

Taormina (ME)

Tel: +39 09 42 21 20 8

This fine restaurant packs in locals in the know with its elegant atmosphere and refined cuisine.