**VINITALY OPERAWINE: THE 130 BEST LABELS OF ITALY CHOSEN BY WINE SPECTATOR**

**TOP PRODUCERS FROM ALL REGIONS 'ELECTED' AS AMBASSADORS OF ITALIAN WINE**

**AT THE GRAND TASTING ON 1 APRIL**

**Verona, 2-5 April 2023** - One hundred and thirty producers representing all regions and as many wines selected as 'ambassadors' of Italian wine by Wine Spectator. The protagonists of Vinitaly OperaWine: the preview for the International Wine and Spirits Exhibition scheduled on Saturday 1 April at the former *Gallerie Mercatali* - opposite the exhibition centre - created by Veronafiere in collaboration with one of the most influential American magazines in the world.

The only event organized abroad by Wine Spectator, the 12th edition of the Vinitaly preview - this year with a graphic concept inspired by water - sees Tuscany (35 selected companies), Piedmont (19) and Veneto (17) as the top three Italian regions. Southerm Italy has grown compared to previous editions, especially thanks to wines Sicily and Campania, respectively with 10 and 8 top producers chosen as emblems of typical local wine-making and excellence.

Vinitaly OperaWine 2023 sees red wines out in front with 96 labels dominating the assessments of the American judges. The super-tasting on 1 April also includes 25 white, 7 sparkling and 2 sweet wines.

Seen in the USA an authentic guide to the wine lifestyle, Wine Spectator is the most authoritative influencer magazine on the stars and stripes market, in turn the main outlet for Italian wine exports that in 2022 posted an increase in value of +10% for a market share of 23% (Uiv-Ismea-Vinitaly Observatory data).

List of selected cellars: <https://bit.ly/404gDx0>

**Vinitaly OperaWine programme** (invitation only).

11.00 Arrival of 130 exhibitors

11.30 Welcome speech by Wine Spectator, press conference and inauguration

12.00 Traditional group photo

14.00 Grand Tasting begins

17.00 End of the event

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