

Decanter[®]

BEST

Great value Valpolicella Ripasso reds: Five under £25

We picked out some of the best value options from our recent panel tasting...



Ellie Douglas April 27, 2020



Corteforte, Valpolicella Credit: Daniel Vogel / Unsplash

Although our judges – Andrew Jefford, Aldo Fiordelli and Michael Garner – found this particular tasting a bit of a ‘mixed bag’, they did observe some of the advantages of Valpolicella Ripasso.

‘Ripasso is a very popular wine and its importance in the landscape of Veronese reds is at its highest peak ever now,’ said Michael Garner.

It is also bit more versatile than amarone, which can be more difficult to match with food, so ripasso remains a useful weapon in the armoury of Veronese reds overall, said the judges.

Another advantage is that ripasso wines do not necessarily need a long time in the cellar.

‘It’s a style that actually isn’t that suitable for ageing for very long, and is usually best enjoyed within two or three years of the vintage,’ Garner confirmed.

The following wines all scored at least 90 points from the panel tasting and are £25 or under.

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Five great value Valpolicella Ripasso reds to try



Monte del Frà, Valpolicella, Ripasso Classico Superiore, 2016

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Subtle, sweet clove, anise and nutmeg, creamy vanilla and red orchard fruits. Ample, soft and velvety with a long toasty finish.

Points 91



Rubinelli Vajol, Valpolicella, Ripasso Classico Superiore, 2015, € 51.39, Amazon

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€ 51.39 [VIEW AT AMAZON](#)

An opulence of mature, succulent fruit and peppery spice; soft and rewarding with a lush silky texture and tannins.

Points 91



Corteforte, Podere Bertarole, Valpolicella, Ripasso Classico Superiore, 2017

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Splendid violet florals and youthful cherry fruit, with well-constructed oak, fresh tannins and a bitter twist on the finish.

Points 90



Fattori, Col de la Bastia, Valpolicella, Ripasso Superiore, 2017

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A beautiful crunch of youth with fresh cherry and decadent dark chocolate flavours; poised, elegant and a joy to drink.

Points 90



Tenuta Sant'Antonio, Monti Garbi, Valpolicella, Ripasso Superiore, 2017

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A delicious drive of juicy dark fruit, polished chocolate, liquorice and tar; intense and concentrated with long, savoury finish.

Points 90