

# There's an Italian Rosato for Every Rosé Fan

BY WINE ENTHUSIAST



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If you fancy yourself a rosé aficionado, then rosato should be on your radar. Made from a range of indigenous Italian grapes, these pink wines come in several unique styles depending on where in Italy they're from, and offer a breadth of variety that may surprise even the most engaged rosé lover.

Those who desire a crisper wine profile should look for brisk Bardolino Chiarettos from Veneto. If you're willing to go deeper, the Etna rosatos of Sicily bring salty, savory notes. Meanwhile, fans of bold fruit and spice should seek offerings from Puglia. Ready to start your exploration? Here are the latest reviewed Italian rosatos to enjoy now.



## *15 Italian Grapes Every Rosé Fan Should Know*

**I Custodi delle Vigne dell'Etna 2019 Contrada Mugnazzi Alnus Rosato (Etna); \$25, 92 points.** Red berry, Mediterranean scrub and wildflower aromas form the alluring nose on this Nerello Mascalese and Nerello Cappuccio blend. On the bright, savory palate, tangy acidity accompanies juicy red cherry, blood orange and star anise before a saline close. Porto Vino Italiano. —*Kerin O'Keefe*

**Torre Mora 2019 Scalunera Nerello Mascalese Rosato (Etna); \$23, 92 points.** Fruity and fresh, this savory rosato opens with aromas of red berry, blue flowers and citrus. Made entirely with Nerello Mascalese, the racy, delicious palate doles out tangy strawberry, blood orange and saline mineral notes before a baking spice close. 8 Vini, Inc. —*K.O.*

**Cà dei Frati 2019 Rosa dei Frati Rosé (Riviera del Garda Classico); \$20, 91 points.** Tangy and delicious, this vibrant rosato has inviting aromas of grapefruit, elderflower and grilled herb. On the dry, savory palate, crisp acidity and white pepper notes accent ripe red cherry, peach and citrus zest. Ethica Wines. ***Editors' Choice.*** —*K.O.*

**Cavalchina 2019 Bardolino Chiaretto; \$17, 91 points.** Fresh and savory, this tangy rosé has aromas of red berry, peach and yellow wild flower. On the crisp palate, vibrant acidity accompanies strawberry, sour cherry and baking-spice notes before a lemon-thyme close. de Grazia Imports, LLC. ***Editors' Choice.*** —*K.O.*

**Gambino 2019 Tifeo Rosato (Etna); \$24, 91 points.** Refreshing and savory, this tangy Nerello Mascalese rosato has fruity and floral aromas of wild red berry, orchard fruit and Spanish broom. The crisp palate offers juicy sour cherry, peach and pink grapefruit before a saline close. Total Wine & More. —*K.O.*

**Le Fraghe 2019 Rodon (Bardolino Chiaretto); \$16, 91 points.** Made with organically farmed grapes, this savory rosato offers delicate, enticing aromas of spring wild flower, yellow stone fruit and botanical herb. Juicy, refreshing and delightfully drinkable, the tangy palate doles out pomegranate, sour cherry, orange zest and white pepper alongside crisp acidity. It closes on a saline note. Oliver McCrum Wines. ***Editors' Choice.*** —*K.O.*

**Leone de Castris 2019 Five Roses Rosato (Salento); \$21, 91 points.** This iconic bottling from a historic estate offers a zesty, fresh nose of pink grapefruit, crushed black pepper and melon. The palate is cohesive and lifted in tones of strawberry, melon and citrus, with a gentle floral kick on the midpalate and a gentle cherry skin note on the lingering close. Vias Imports. —*Alexander Peartree*

**Castello Monaci 2019 Kreos Negroamaro Rosato (Salento); \$14, 90 points.** A slick nose of wet stone, papaya and watermelon starts off this well-balanced rosato. The flavors build on the palate, beginning with a melon tone that leads to crushed strawberry and blood orange. There's a gentle tannic grip and fresh acidity to house all the fruit, with a lick of peppery spice to add depth, while crushed cherryskins linger on the close. Frederick Wildman & Sons, Ltd. ***Best Buy.*** —*A.P.*

**Masseria Li Veli 2019 Primerose Negroamaro Rosato (Salento); \$13, 90 points.** A bright, boisterous nose of peach, melon and apricot starts off this fruity but balanced rosato. Rounded and juicy in feel, the palate offers creamy melon and stone fruit flavors upfront that progress to more citric elements of grapefruit and orange zest. It ends on a lingering apricot peel note that leaves a crisp, delightfully tactical sensation. Dalla Terra Winery Direct. ***Best Buy.*** —*A.P.*

**Monte del Frà 2019 Bardolino Chiaretto; \$16, 90 points.** Aromas of red berry, baking spice and botanical herbs lead the nose. Tangy and delicious, the smooth, easy-drinking palate doles out sour cherry, pomegranate and nutmeg set against crisp acidity. It closes on an almost salty note. It goes down so easily, one bottle probably won't enough. Vision Wine & Spirits. ***Editors' Choice.*** —*K.O.*