

**1979 Montevertine Le Pergole
Torte Vino da Tavola**

The 1979 Le Pergole Torte is strikingly beautiful. Sweet red cherries, flowers, autumn leaves, tobacco and cedar are some of the notes that flow from the glass, but this is really a wine that stands out for its textural elegance and silkiness. Even at 33 years of age, it is easily one of the greatest wines ever made in Italy. Words can't really do this wine justice, but suffice it to say that the 1979 is a monument to the heights Sangiovese is capable of reaching. Perfectly stored bottles will last another decade. Put simply, the 1979 Pergole Torte could be served alongside any of the world's other great, great wines. Martino Manetti told me he chose to include the 1979 because it is the first wine he has a vivid recollection of tasting as a child. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2019.

In a week during which I tasted most of the reference point Sangioveses and Sangiovese-based reds, one wine stuck out - Le Pergole Torte. Quite honestly, I had a hard time getting to sleep the night I tasted these wines. They were that viscerally thrilling. Le Pergole Torte isn't a great Tuscan or Italian wine. It is simply one of the world's elite wines. Montevertine is located in Radda, one of the coolest, highest-altitude spots in Chianti Classic...

- Antonio Galloni (June, 2012)

**1981 Montevertine Le Pergole
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The 1981 Le Pergole Torte doesn't have the textural elegance or finesse of the 1979, but then again, that is an unfair measuring stick. Still deeply colored and rich for its age, the 1981 offers up an exotic melange of dark cherries, plums, mint, tobacco, incense, leather and spices, all woven into a fabric of incredible class. This is a fabulous showing from a wine that falls just short of reaching icon status by the lofty standard established at this historic estate. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2022.

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**1986 Montevertine Le Pergole
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The 1986 Le Pergole Torte boasts an extraordinary, exotic bouquet redolent of hard candy, flowers, mint, spices, kirsch and sweet red cherries. This is a mid-weight Pergole Torte that impresses for its sensual perfume and great overall balance. The 1986 isn't a huge wine, but it is still young, vibrant and impeccably pure. The haunting, weightless finish is impossible to forget. Think of the 1986 Le Pergole Torte as an Italian Musigny. Martino Manetti chose to show the 1986 over the 1985 because he thinks it is a more complete vintage. The harvest took place in mid-October that year, typical for the era, but late by today's standards. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2021.

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