

L'OCCASION

BE IN ITALY FOR THE HOLIDAYS WITH THIS BUBBLY WINE LINEUP | #ITALIANFWT

By Jill Barth | 12/05/20

Sparkling wine offers such sensual texture. Not only can one taste and smell the experience, but one can feel and hear it too. Alive in the glass, sparkling wines add dynamism and dimension. While bubbles are produced in many places around the world, the landscape for this product reaches a pinnacle of diversity in Italy. Rather than focus on one category of these wines, I've chosen to reflect mindfully, a focused meditation on my good fortune, on some of the bottles that have crossed my doorstep this year. (And others that I dream about!) Wines that bring with them the makers, the terroirs, the biodiversity, the traditions and cultures of the places from which they came. A virtual trip, for our purposes today, isn't one where we are shown images and voices on a screen, but rather a trip we feel in our hearts through mindfulness, through awareness. Here's what I have to share.

STABILITY. It was a year of great Prosecco, in our house, highlighted by a conversation with Gianluca Bisol, the 21st generation at Bisol in the Veneto. The winery organically cultivates 21 plots in the highest hills of the Prosecco region, including the renowned Cartizze hill. Bisol says that here grapes can gain a longer hangtime than other nearby vineyards, packing more flavor into their delicate skins. "This is the best natural cocktail in the world," insists Bisol. "A cocktail of flavors, creamy and acidic, such layers of fruits." Try **Bisol Cartizze Valdobbiadene Superiore Di Cartizze DOCG** to experience this stunning combination and see for yourself.

The **Consorzio of Conegliano Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore** has excellent resources about discovering the classification. Alpana Singh MS calls this a region of "heroic harvesting and skilled labor" and "the absolute protagonist of the Glera grape." She reminds us that this type of sparkling wine "is not just the inexpensive wine for when you don't want Champagne," but rather a "legacy of history, terroir, small production and family." Conegliano Valdobbiadene Prosecco Superiore is a union of 3,000 growers, and 40% of the workforce is comprised of women. Try Tenuta degli Ultimi, Biancariva, Rive di Collalto for an excellent expression.

