

2021 Cerbaiona Brunello di Montalcino

REVIEWS

JEB DUNNUCK

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2021 Cerbaiona Brunello Di Montalcino

The 2021 Brunello Di Montalcino pours a jeweled ruby hue and is strikingly pure and transparent from the start. The aromatics are lifted and detailed, with raspberry liqueur, crushed wildflowers, orange oil, bergamot, and a cool, stony mineral edge. Medium-bodied, it has a weightless feel yet tremendous depth, with polished, velvety tannins, mouthwatering acidity, and a long, seamless finish that carries with quiet power. It should evolve beautifully with time and offer exceptional drinking over the next two to three decades. Drink 2028-2055.

This was my first visit to the estate of Cerbaiona, where I met with Matthew Fioretti. Along with investor Gary Rieschel, they purchased this historic estate in 2015 from Diego Molinari and began a four-year process of uprooting, replanting, and extending the vineyards, which are now cultivated using the alberello method. They have also overseen the construction of a new underground cellar. The wines have a renewed focus on precision, clarity, freshness, and sense of place. It is immediately apparent that Mr. Fioretti brings a fastidious attention to detail from the vineyard to the glass, and I, for one, find this a welcome change that seems to be leading Cerbaiona to a potential place among the best of the region.

- Audrey Frick (2/18/2026)


WINE ADVOCATE

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2021 Cerbaiona Brunello di Montalcino

Cerbaiona's 2021 Brunello di Montalcino marks a psychological and physical rebirth for the estate, as the first vintage produced in the new technological winery using fruit from refurbished vineyards and a parcel-by-parcel harvest approach. This release represents the first Brunello made entirely under Matthew Fioretti's vision, defining Cerbaiona as an atelier estate rooted in winemaking precision. The wine is beautifully complete on the aromatic front, distinguished by an elegant mineral signature that is especially pronounced in this vintage, lending clarity and lift. It opens on a timid note before growing steadily in intensity, revealing fine and delicate layers of spice and floral notes alongside evident complexity. Production totals 9,484 bottles, 300 magnums and 20 Jeroboams.

- Monica Lerner (January, 2026)

WEINWISSER

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The 2021 Brunello was the first to be produced from the newly planted vines at Cerbaiona and establishes a completely new Brunello style: vinification and aging are more Burgundian. It boasts a bright, fresh color. Fragrant and flamboyantly dance-like, it possesses the finest, silkiest sweetness and highly delicate fruit. A magnificent, expansive structure, it is extremely complex and energetic, with saline, mineral tannins. Firm and taut. Incredibly fresh and profound.

Der 2021er Brunello wurde erstmals von den neu gepflanzten Reben auf Cerbaiona produziert und begründet eine ganz neue Brunello-Stilistik: Vinifikation und Ausbau sind eher burgundisch. Leuchtend frische Farbe. Ganz duftig und tänzerisch flamboyant mit feinsten, seidiger Süße und hochdelikater Frucht. Grossartige, weit gefasste Struktur, extrem komplex und energiegeladen mit salzig-mineralisch strukturierten Gerbstoffen. Land un straff, unglaublich frisch und tiefgründig.

- Thomas Boxberger (2/27/2026)

VINOUS

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The 2021 Brunello di Montalcino captivates with a burst of crushed black cherries and strawberries accompanied by incense, cedar shavings and crushed stone. It is refined, precise and cool-toned with stony minerality. Vibrant acidity enlivens its core of tart wild berry fruits. The 2021 finishes off crunchy and long with edgy tannins, an invigorating twang of sour citrus and a tinge of licorice. This is the first vintage that takes full advantage of the new plantings at Cerbaiona. Very impressive.

- Eric Guido (11/27/2025)

Monica Larner

Robert Parker Wine Advocate - January 2026 -

“Matthew Fioretti is the guiding force behind Cerbaiona, a historic Montalcino estate acquired in 2015 from the legendary Diego Molinari, a larger-than-life figure in Montalcino in the 1980s and 1990s, and now owned by a group of venture capitalists.

Since the acquisition, Fioretti has worked methodically to restore and reimagine the estate, replanting old vineyards and converting select parcels to alberello, with tailored spacing to improve airflow and light penetration, while also overseeing a major expansion of the winery that includes a state-of-the-art fermentation room with conical stainless steel tanks arranged in a circular layout, cement vats for resting the wines and a new cellar defined by traditional red-brick arches and architectural details.

Beyond the vineyards and cellar, the restoration extends to the villa itself and the creation of formal Tuscan gardens, changes that Fioretti acknowledges unfold over decades rather than years, reflecting a long-term vision.

Guided by the belief that winemaking is a craft rather than an art and describing his approach as an "atelier" rather than an artisanal exercise, Fioretti emphasizes technical precision at every level, from microbiological control to the broader demands of running an estate-driven business in an increasingly complex and challenging global wine market".

Eric Guido

Vinous - 11/27/2025 -

“Even before the 2021 vintage, when Fioretti used a combination of estate fruit and purchased fruit from the northeast, the wines’ clarity and precision matched the best in the region. Also **look out for the sub-brand, Le Colline - M. L. Fioretti**, a blend of 60% estate fruit and 40% purchased fruit that functions as Cerbaiona’s second wine”.