



WINE  
CURMUDGEON

## Wine of the week: Rocca di Montemassi Le Focaie 2016



by Wine Curmudgeon Posted On 21 Mar 2018



The Rocca di Montemassi Le Focaie is \$10 Italian red wine you can buy and enjoy without a touch of worry

Why is it that I can pick a bottle of an Italian Tuscan red blend off the shelf blind and know there is a good chance it will be worth drinking? Because it has happened time and time again, as it happened again with the Montemassi Le Focaie.

There are probably a couple of reasons. First, wines like the [Montemassi Le Focaie](#) (\$10, purchased, 13%) aren't made to get scores. They're part of Italy's wine drinking culture, where people expect to find quality cheap wine to have with dinner. So someone makes it. Sadly, we're still not at that point in the U.S. - from either the consumer or producer's point of view.

Second, I buy many of these wines at an independent retailer, where the idea is to carry something that's not going to be on the grocery store Great

Wall of Wine. Hence, more of an emphasis on quality, like the Montemassi Le Focaie.

This wine, made with sangiovese, is a little rounder than many cheap Chiantis - it's not quite as tart, and the cherry fruit, both aroma and flavor) is softer and more ripe. But it still tastes like sangiovese, and it tastes like it comes from Italy. It is, truly, the kind of wine to open for dinner without a touch of worry.

*Imported by Zonin USA*