

## Excerpt from article "WALTER's TOP TUSCANS"

### JANCIS ROBINSON – PURPLE PAGES

By Walter Speller for JANCIS ROBINSON

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*Monte Bernardi, run by brother-and-sister team Michael and Jennifer Schmelzer, goes from strength to strength since their family took over the estate in 2004.*

An embarrassment of riches – that is how it felt to be submerged for a whole week in the best of what Tuscany has to offer. The region is without a shadow of a doubt one of Italy's premium wine regions and is more than ever living up to that reputation, in spite of a string of challenging vintages (described in [Taking Chianti Classico seriously](#)). Although I do not want to reduce so many good wines to a simple list, I couldn't resist **singling out some of the best wines I tasted** during that week.

### CHIANTI CLASSICO

- San Giusto a Rentennano: 2011 Chianti Classico, 2010 Chianti Classico, Le Baròncole Riserva 2009 Chianti Classico;
- Poggerino: Bugialla Riserva 2008 Chianti Classico;
- Il Borghetto: Monte de Sassi 2009 Chianti Classico, Bilaccio 2009 IGT Toscana;
- Castagnoli: Riserva 2009 Chianti Classico;
- **Monte Bernardi: Monte Bernardi Riserva 2008 Chianti Classico;**
- Castell'in Villa: 2008 Chianti Classico;
- Castello di Monsanto: Riserva Il Poggio 2007 Chianti Classico
- Ormanni: 2009 Chianti Classico, Riserva Borro del Diavolo 2008 Chianti Classico