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The Wines of Central Italy

Cristina Mercuri

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Binding	Paperback / softback
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- A comprehensive guide to some of Italy's lesser known wine regions as well as some of the greats
- Details each region in turn where the wines are now, and assesses what's important, interesting or controversial, and what the future could hold
- Explores in depth the important native grapes of central Italy, including Sagrantino and Verdicchio
- Discusses the challenges of achieving market recognition and competing with internationally well-known regions in Piemonte and Tuscany
- Supported by colour photos, and maps of the region
- Cristina Mercuri, a native Italian, became the first female Italian Master of Wine in 2026
- Perfect for all wine students, professionals and the wine-curious

At first glance, central Italy's wines form a fragmented mosaic: Montepulciano's plush generosity, Verdicchio's tensile grace, Sagrantino's tannic gravity, Pecorino's briny cut, Albana's golden flesh, Lambrusco's playful fizz. But beyond this stylistic variety lies a common thread: these wines are shaped by deep historical continuity, complex geography, and a cultural autonomy that both Italian institutions and international markets have largely overlooked. In ***The wines of Central Italy***, Cristina Mercuri MW sets out to discover the most exciting wines of Umbria, Emilia-Romagna, Abruzzo, Montepulciano and Lazio. In each region she explores the cultural background to the wines, profiles the most significant native grape varieties and explains traditional winemaking techniques. She meets the producers working to elevate their region's wines on the world stage and assesses the viticultural future for central Italy. Complete with colour maps and photos, this book is a voyage of discovery for lovers of wines rooted in tradition.

Cristina Mercuri MW is an acclaimed wine educator and presenter. In 2026 she became Italy's first female Master of Wine. She is the Founder and CEO of Mercuri Wine Club, with which she delivers wine education and consultancy in wine communication, and brand building and marketing for the most prestigious wine brands in Italy. She is a presenter for masterclasses and speaks at the most important wine events in Italy and abroad. Cristina judges wines internationally, is a wine consultant for private and promotional events, and contributes regularly to Forbes. She posts regularly in Instagram, where she has more than 30,000 followers (@cristinamercuri_wine).

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