



## Best Italian Wines Of The Year

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*I write about wine (and sometimes food) from around the world.*

Ca' La Bionda Amarone della Valpolicella Classico "Ravizzol" 2013 (Veneto) – Ca' La Bionda, run by Alessandro Castellani gets my vote as the finest producer of Amarone; his estate is certainly one of the least known great producers in all of Italy. While this wine is 16% alcohol, blame that on the growing season, as 2013 was extremely hot. The wine still manages to display elegance and charm, thanks in part to Castellani's use of large casks for aging. Peak in 15-20 years, perhaps longer.