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WINE AND LIQUOR, INC.



## 96pt & My Newest Find From the Road...

By now you have heard that I am “on the road” beating the bushes and tasting throughout Italy, specifically spending a big chunk of time in Montalcino tasting the pending releases of **2006 Brunello**.

One day, we had a group of growers organize a **blind tasting of over 30 different 2006 Brunellos**. The organizer of the tasting who works first hand with many of the greatest estates in Montalcino also has a “knack” for finding the next star. (This is the guy who first introduced me to Casanova di Neri & Valdicava, long before all the press hit). So of course in the line-up he included some estates that I have never, ever tasted or heard of. In reviewing my notes there were several that I stared at wines to follow up on that turned out to be “new finds” but one wine really caught my attention.

It was the **Il Paradiso di Frassina**. In fact, in my original notes I put down “very Casanova di Neri Tenuta Nuova...maybe even the Tenuta Nuova.” This is truly a stunning wine that jumps from the glass and hits you immediately with its fruit, power and decadence. However it is balanced with plenty of structure to hold it all together.

So I emailed back to my team to dig up a little information on the wine and their response; *do you mean the wine that James Suckling just rated 96 points and called “phenomenal!”?*

Turns out that once again James has beat me to the punch and uncovered yet another great Gem from Montalcino (I guess I can’t beat myself up too much as James now lives in Montalcino and clearly has the pulse of the region).

All my best,  
Andrew