

BETWEEN THE VINES

with Kathleen Rake



Wine under \$10: The toe points to Sicily



Italy isn't known in the B.C. market place for its low-price wines, but this 2012 Nero D'Avola-Cabernet Sauvignon from Sicily fits the bill.

Nero D'Avola is a red grape variety indigenous to Italy. It's one of the most important wine-making grapes in Sicily and is named after Avola, located on the south part of the island.

RED WINE: Nero D'Avola-Cabernet Sauvignon 2012

PRODUCER: Barone Montalto

COUNTRY: Italy

GRAPE/BLEND: 70% Nero D'Avola, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon

PRICE/ABV: \$9.99/14% ABV

THROUGH THE EYES: Moderate intensity, purple.

ON THE NOSE: Classic cassis, black fruit, tobacco, herbal, mineral notes.

ON THE PALATE: Black cherries, dark chocolate, black olive at the finish.

OVERALL: Dark fruit and berries, juicy and some tannic bones. Ted calls it "inoffensive" and I agree.

SERVE IT: This wine is juicy and will pair well with tomato-based, earthy food.

I recommend using a decanter with this wine so you can incorporate a little air and help open it up. I served it with a slow-cooker beef stew and sourdough bread. The tang of the sourdough pulled it all together — really.

BUY IT: Find this Nero D'Avola-Cabernet Sauvignon at B.C. Liquor Stores and drink it now or within the next couple of years.

QPR (QUALITY-PRICE RATIO): Good.

If you'd like to read about a particular wine that rings in at less than \$10 (red, white or rosé) please let me know and I'll find it, taste it and tell you all about it. Send your suggestions to kathleen@betweenthevines.ca. Many thanks to Ted and Joanne Parker of Abbotsford for suggesting this one.

Visit BetweenTheVines.ca for more wine-soaked musings

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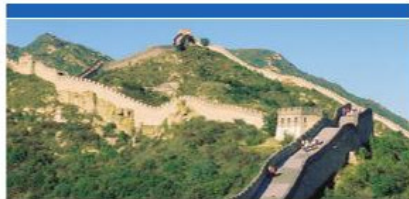


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