

CANALICCHIO DI SOPRA®

BRUNELLO DI MONTALCINO
2019

CLUB
ENOLOGIQUE

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Canalicchio di Sopra's Brunello epitomises the northern side of Montalcino, combining Canalicchio itself (a historical area with a high plane of calcareous, clay-rich soils) and the famed hill of Montosoli, with more free-draining galestro, both at middling altitudes of around 300m (985ft). The nose opens with malt biscuit and Earl Grey tea over strawberry fruit of a cedary refinement. The landing is more reserved, its glassy translucency reveals smoky notes of tea leaf and incense resins, with subtle allusions to cranberry fruit and quite an unyielding, taut structure. With its ferrous finish, polished plaster tannins and linear acidity, it feels a little cerebral and withholding at present. This reflects proprietor and winemaker Francesco Ripaccioli's preference for wines that are reductive-leaning (though not pungent) in youth, opening relatively slowly after their 36 months in untoasted oak botti. Drink 2026 – 2039.

- Sarah Heller MW -