

Events Spotlight

Sicilia en Primeur 2018: at Palermo, Wine meets Culture

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From May 3rd to 7th, Palermo, the Italian Capital of Culture opens its doors to the *en primeur* presentation of the new Sicilian wines

Sicilia en Primeur – the annual celebration of the new vintages of Sicilian wines – returns to the scene in its fifteenth version and will have as the setting the **Regional Museum of Contemporary Art** in the splendid city of Palermo. The appointment, whose guiding spirit will be culture, research, and cosmopolitanism, will offer yet another opportunity to celebrate the island's capital, Italy's Capital of Culture for the year 2018.

In addition to presenting for tasting the wines of the preceding vintage, the event will show the Italian and international wine press the multifarious facets and faces of the production of Sicily's vineyards, offering for sampling and evaluating over 500 wines from the cellars of Assovini Sicilia's associated members. Through three days of touring, the participants will have, in addition, the possibility of discovering the places and the culture of an authentic viticultural continent in every sense of the world. After last year's success, Sicilia en Primeur confirms the participation of five international Masters of Wine, who will offer to the journalists who are present a deeper probing into important themes of the sector in five Master Classes on specific topics.

Among the new features of the event is a session of scientific divulgation called "Sicily Wine Science Show" in which groups of researchers selected by a commission will present the projects on Sicilian viticulture they are working on, interacting directly with the journalists.

"The selection of Palermo as European capital of Culture in 2018 could not help but convince our association, which has always dedicated itself to promoting the culture of the region, to organize our en primeur tasting there – commented Alessio Planeta, President of Assovini Sicilia. This edition of Sicilia en Primeur fits perfectly into our project of given the maximum visibility to and emphasis on the excellences of the city and allows us to contribute concretely, and on an international level, to the cultural development both of Palermo and the entire island, which inevitably finds abundant nourishment from its rich culinary and viticultural patrimony".

To conclude, on Monday May 7th, at 5 P.M., at the Regional Museum of Contemporary Art, Sicilia en Primeur will welcome the public, offering all *true wine lovers* the possibility to sample the same wines presented to the press for tasting. With the city of Palermo and its cultural, historic, culinary, and viticultural patrimony to guide the event, Sicilia en Primeur 2018 is preparing to put on display, this year as well, the very best of the island's production of wine.

Assovini Sicilia is an association which groups together 86 Sicilian viticultural houses of small, medium, and large dimensions who share three common features: the total control of the entire production process from the vineyard to the bottle; the production of bottled quality wine; an international vision of the market.

Sicilia en Primeur is the annual event of Assovini Sicilia organized for the press and for professionals in the field. It is an opportunity for getting to know the producers of the Assovini Sicilia association and the major artistic, archaeological, and landscape attractions of the island.

Sopexa – Press Office Italia

mailto:ufficiostampa@sopexa.com

ph. +39 02.8637444