

A vista a volo d'uccello
of Ragusa Ibla.



SICILY

Sitting in the heart of the Mediterranean Sea, the island of Sicily is a prime location for sunbathing, swimming, fishing and, of course, viniculture.

TORNATORE ETNA BIANCO 2022
DOC

Clean, limey stony, appealingly herbal-resinous, this is a "mountain style" white with a gentle floral twist, shifting towards lavender and gentian root. The palate is balanced, mid-weight, with moderate alcohol, and indeed moderate acids, a little softer than the mean for Etna but following this warm vintage. A more gentle and friendly style all in all, even if the fruit is still a secondary proposition. Tasted May 2024. Score: **92** (John Szabo, MS, winealign.com)

Aromatic & Flavourful

577676 (XD) 750 mL \$27.95

Many of the island's vineyards are located on the geological marvel of Mount Etna. Vines situated along the volcano's eastern slopes are exposed to salty sea winds, high elevation, and heat, which alleviate disease pressure while the moderate rainfall and nutrient-rich volcanic soils ensure a reliable growing season and healthy vines. The standout Nerello Mascalese is popular among Burgundian aficionados, with some dubbing it "the Sicilian Pinot Noir." Medium-bodied with soft tannins, nutty flavours and earthy tones, this ruby red is great paired with *vota vota* (Sicilian-style calzones). On the other side of the spectrum, Carricante is adored for its ability to pair perfectly with local favourites like swordfish pasta or tuna steak thanks to its refreshing qualities and seashell-like minerality.

