

Vertical of 28 Vintages of San Leonardo



San Leonardo is a hidden gem for wine lovers who enjoy Bordeaux but are looking outside of France. The wine estate was founded more than 300 years ago by the Guerrieri Gonzaga family and the estate is also referred to as San Leonardo (same as the name of its iconic wine). The estate's 25-hectare vineyard produces some wonderful wines but it is their iconic wine that most wine lovers seek. San Leonardo is made from about two-thirds Cabernet Sauvignon and one-third Carmenere and a bit of Merlot and aged in two years in French barriques.

I was fortunate enough to taste a 28-vintage vertical going back to 1982 and was incredibly impressed with how gracefully these wines age & evolve. The decade of the 1980s produced very good wines that were balanced, reserved and were either still enjoyable or declining. The 1982, 1983 and 1985 are starting to fade with delicate flavors of dried fruit and leather notes; the 1982 was the sweetest and had the most to offer in this flight. The other wines from the 1980s – 1986, 1987 and 1988 were also holding up pretty well though they were probably more enjoyable a decade prior; in this set, the 1988 was the most intense and impressive.

The 1990s offer greater consistency and the wines are all closer to their optimal peak, including the gorgeous 1990, 1993 and 1995. The other vintages in the 1990s are excellent too and its classic,

structured, earthy style with layers of aged tobacco and roasted herbs are prominent throughout this decade. Starting from the 2000s, quality jumped up and there is more concentration and intensity while still retaining its gracefulness. I loved the 2005 in this decade the most, but the 2003 is not far behind. The wines from this decade, like the 1990s, are also at their peak.

From 2010 until 2016, there are no bad vintages. I was especially impressed with the 2015 and 2014 vintages. These are still very young wines and not yet ready to enjoy, but their intensity and quiet power is obvious in their depth and lingering finish. San Leonardo is really an under-rated gem – it is hard to find wines with this combination of grace, elegance, power and age-worthiness!

(ratings)

1982 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

92 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

The color is already starting to fade into a light brick red with fading rim. The nose is attractive and beautifully mature - dried tea leaves mingle with dried blackberries, savory spices and roasted herbs. There is a delightful sweetness to this wine even though it is starting to fade - beautiful to enjoy now; perfect for those who love mature wines. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot. Only 12% alcohol but plenty of flavor.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:

Average: USD Min: USD Max: USD

< BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS



1983 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

90 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

Fully evolved beautiful red made with 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot. Lots of dried herbs and fading fruit with a fairly short finish. Compared to their 1982, this vintage is drier and a bit shorter on the palate. Still enjoyable and alive with only 12% alcohol.

1985 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

91 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

Lovely delicate flavors that are at their full maturity with bottled aged notes of leather, dried berries and roasted herbs. Tannins are soft and supple with a lightness in the mid palate - only 12% alcohol.

1986 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

89 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

Light, savory and quite herbal rather than sweet, this vintage of San Leonardo shows the earthy side of this terroir with firmer tannins than the 1985 vintage. As always, elegant and layered, ready to enjoy now. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot.

1987 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

90 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

Lovely sweetness in this wine with delicate layers of dried herbs and flowers. Not that intense but perfect to enjoy now - fully mature, light bodied (12.5% alcohol) and delicious. The finish is not that long and the flavors are starting to dry out so enjoy now.

1988 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

93 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

A gorgeous vintage for San Leonardo with elegant flavors that shows off how well this wine can age - sweet cedar, roasted herbs, dried blackberries with a lingering finish.

1990 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

93 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

Compared to the vintages in the 1980s, this 1990 is much more youthful and shows both bottled aged and more youthful fruit characters. A delicious, layered, elegant Cabernet blend (60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot) with 13% alcohol. Long finish.

1991 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

90 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

A pretty vintage for San Leonardo with firm tannins, roasted herbs and blackberries. More savory than fruity with a grippy, firm finish. As usual, the blend is 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot.

1993 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

93 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

An intense, concentrated vintage for San Leonardo with wonderful dark berry fruit, mingling with roasted herbs and savory spices. Tannins are firm and supple, carrying the flavors through to the finish.

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

90 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

A subtle, earthy vintage that suffered from a lot of rainfall. However, the fruit has nice ripeness and pretty savory spices. Enjoyable now, it should keep and drink well over the coming 3-5 years. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot.

1995 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

93 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

A beautiful vintage for San Leonardo with layers of dark berry flavors accented by savory spices, minerals and dried flowers. Firm, ripe tannins provide nice structure and balance with a fairly long finish.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:

Average: USD114.04 Min: USD93.43 Max: USD285.78

1996 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

92 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

A pretty vintage for San Leonardo with firm tannins, roasted herbs and ripe blackberries. Good concentration with firmer tannins than in 1995 or 1990 with a structure that suggests it will keep for a very long time. As usual, the blend is 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot.

1997 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

92 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

A savory, herbal vintage with roasted thyme and leather with dried blackberries. Good concentration and firmer than usual tannin levels with a tightly wound palate that is only now starting to unwind. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot and 13% alcohol.

1999 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

91 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

The fruit in this vintage leans more towards prunes and figs, revealing another dry growing season where the berries were very small and concentrated. Tightly wound, showing good potential to evolve and develop more tertiary characters. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot and 13% alcohol.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:
Average: USD119.53 Min: USD94.80 Max: USD156.63

2000 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

92 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

A pretty vintage for San Leonardo with firm tannins, roasted herbs and mixed blackberries. Balanced, elegant with supple, velvety tannins. The blend is 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:
Average: USD90.68 Min: USD71.44 Max: USD125.03



2003 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red Style: Still Grape Variety: Bordeaux Blend

93 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

A beautiful vintage for San Leonardo with layers of ripe blackberry fruit, savory spices and black plums. Delicious now with primary flavors on the mid palate but it should age well over the coming decade. Impressive, fairly long finish. The grapes obviously weathered the hot summer very well. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot and 13% alcohol.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:
Average: USD109.91 Min: USD81.06 Max: USD149.76

2004 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red Style: Still Grape Variety: Bordeaux Blend

92 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

This vintage of San Leonardo is bigger and more intense than in previous vintages, especially compared with the vintages in the 1990s. Plenty of dense blackberry fruit and tobacco leaves. Concentrated and dense with slightly higher alcohol than usual, 13.5%, and a firm tannic mid palate and finish.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:
Average: USD123.65 Min: USD87.93 Max: USD160.75
Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red Style: Still Grape Variety: Bordeaux Blend

94 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

A lovely vintage that is classic San Leonardo - layered, refined, supple and restrained. The wine shows wonderful balance and freshness combined with ripe mixed berry fruit and savory herbs. Long finish.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:
Average: USD114.04 Min: USD85.18 Max: USD171.74

2006 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red Style: Still Grape Variety: Bordeaux Blend

92 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

Another concentrated vintage for San Leonardo - the 2005 that came before was intense and focused. This vintage shows more of the savory, earthy side of this terroir with firmer, elevated tannins. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot and 13.5% alcohol.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:
Average: USD107.17 Min: USD79.69 Max: USD142.89



2008 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

91 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

Balanced, layered and supple, this vintage of San Leonardo is ready to enjoy now. Savory and herbal with blackcurrants and plums in the background with velvety tannins. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot and 13% alcohol.

2010 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

94 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

A gorgeous vintage for San Leonardo with plenty of dark berry fruit, savory herbs and spices. Firm, ripe tannins support the lovely fruit. Long, lingering finish. One of their best vintages! 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot and 13.5% alcohol.

2011 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

92 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

Plenty of dark berry fruit, savory herbs and tobacco. This vintage tastes herbal and earthy with good intensity and moderate level, supple tannins. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot and 13.5% alcohol.

2013 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

92 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

Restrained and savory with medium body and dark, earthy flavors. There is good potential for this wine to evolve and open up but for now the wine is tightly wound and still not fully expressive. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot and 13% alcohol.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:

Average: USD85.18 Min: USD61.83 Max: USD153.88

2014 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

94 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

Gorgeous vintage with layers of exotic spices, mixed herbs and blackberries. A lovely, balanced, well crafted wine with a lingering finish. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot and only 13% alcohol.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:

Average: USD74.19 Min: USD59.08 Max: USD167.62

2015 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

95 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Young

Peak: 2023

Subtle, layered yet intense and powerful. This is a lovely vintage for San Leonardo - filled with savory spices, dark berries and tobacco. Beautifully crafted with a long finish. 60% Cabernet, 30% Carmenere and 10% Merlot and 13% alcohol.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:

Average: USD74.19 Min: USD61.83 Max: USD151.13

2016 Tenuta San Leonardo San Leonardo Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Bordeaux Blend

93 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Young

Peak: 2023

Savory and herbal with intense dark berries and cedar. Lovely flavors that will take time to open up - at the moment it is tightly wound and still closed. Good potential and fairly long finish.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:

Average: USD74.19 Min: USD64.57 Max: USD92.05

2015 Tenuta San Leonardo Carmenere IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Trentino, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red Style: Still Grape Variety: Carmenere

88 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

Savory and herbal with dark tobacco and earthy flavors. Full bodied and intense with grippy tannins and spicy finish. Moderate finish.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:
Average: USD72.82 Min: USD53.58 Max: USD159.37

< BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS



2016 Tenuta San Leonardo Carmenere IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Trentino, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red Style: Still Grape Variety: Carmenere

91 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

A lovely ripe Carmenere with dark plums, black tea leaves and savory herbs. Tannins are well managed with a fairly long length. An excellent Carmenere with the balance of old world restraint and new world ripeness.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:
Average: USD67.32 Min: USD60.45 Max: USD93.43

2020 Tenuta San Leonardo Terre di San Leonardo IGT

RATING GUIDE

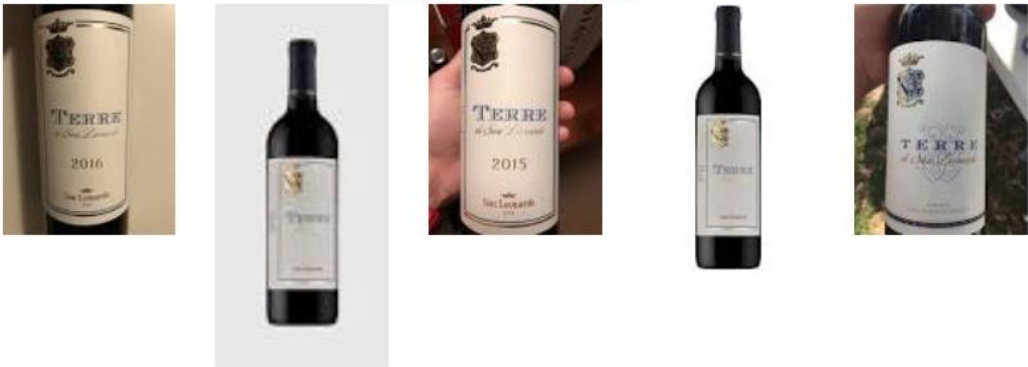
Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red Style: Still Grape Variety: Bordeaux Blend

88 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

Fruity and vibrant with gooseberries and grapefruit on the palate supported by crisp acidity. Well crafted and delicious young.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:
Average: USD Min: USD Max: USD

< BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS



2017 Tenuta San Leonardo Terre di San Leonardo IGT

RATING GUIDE

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy
Colour: Red Style: Still Grape Variety: Bordeaux Blend

88 points
Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA
Maturity: Drink

A delicious savory red with medium body and earthy mid palate with dark plums and blackberries. The tannins are firm yet rounded and ripe. A restrained, balanced Bordeaux blend red with 13% alcohol.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:
Average: USD13.74 Min: USD10.99 Max: USD21.98

2016 Tenuta San Leonardo Villa Gresti Vigneti delle Dolomiti IGT

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Vigneti delle Dolomiti, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Merlot/Carmenere Blend

90 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

Elegant, savory red with pretty dark berries and savory herbs. Light mid palate with tobacco and dark plum flavors.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:

Average: USD24.73 Min: USD24.73 Max: USD24.73

[< BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS](#)



2018 Tenuta San Leonardo Riesling

[RATING GUIDE](#)

Origin: Trentino, Trentino-Alto Adige, Italy

Colour: Red **Style:** Still **Grape Variety:** Riesling

87 points

Tasted: August 2021, New York, USA

Maturity: Drink

Pretty, vibrant, lime-filled Riesling with refreshing acidity and lifted mid palate. Light bodied, dry with good concentration.

Price brought to you by wine searcher:

Average: USD41.22 Min: USD32.97 Max: USD48.09

[< BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS](#)

