

[Decanter Great Italian Fine Wine Encounter: notes on Barolo and Tuscany, plus video!](#)

May 17, 2010

I attended two wonderful master classes at yet another [Decanter fine wine encounter](#) – this time a full day concentrated on Italian wine on Saturday 15 May 2010. Almost 90 exhibitors, some rather famous, others often constituting hidden treasures. I did not taste as much as I wanted because I was slightly under the weather, but the two superb master classes gave me greater insight into Italian wines.

The fine wine encounters are highly recommended because the winemakers are present in five very clean and spacious halls. Well-known wine authors usually sign their books. Oz Clark, for example, was busy signing his latest tome. All in the lovely setting of the Landmark Hotel across from the Marylebone tube station (just next to the more convenient Baker Street tube station).

Before we get to the notes, here a video tour of the encounter:



Notes from two master classes (wines in **red** I like; in **red and bold**, I like even more)

(...)

Barolo master class with Ian d'Agata – 2001 vintage Barolo, one of the best vintages ever

(...)

Elvio Cogno Barolo Ravero 2001 (Novello): The St Estephe of Barolo, Ian explained. More tar like tobacco but also good cherry fruit, strawberry jam. Palate shows licorice, with firmer tannins. Edgy, but good.