



THE TOP 100

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**CLETO CHIARLI  
E FIGLI**

Lambrusco di Sorbara  
del Fondatore 2016

90 | \$17 | Italy

The memory of sweet, mass-produced Lambruscos from the 1970s and 1980s may still dog the category's reputation, but today, producers such as the historic Chiarli house are redefining the typically lightly sparkling red wine from the Emilia-Romagna region around Modena. The dry, vintage-dated Fondatore bottling is 100 percent Lambrusco di Sorbara, considered the highest quality Lambrusco clone. Sorbaras are lighter in color than other Lambruscos, a deep rosé hue. Heightened floral aromatics and higher acidity are hallmarks of the grape. The Fondatore undergoes secondary fermentation in bottle rather than tank to achieve effervescence, a traditional, more labor-intensive process that enhances the wine's fine texture. 5,000 cases made.