

The magic of **Barbaresco**



AN ELEGANT RED FROM PIEDMONT

A few hundred hectares west of Alba planted to nebbiolo yield a great Langhe wine that still enables passionate producers to win markets

If you look at the Barbaresco production area on a map, it looks rather like a bunch of nebbiolo grapes: elongated with a “wing” on one side. The area, marked off by the Tanaro river running from the Maritime Alps to the river Po, extends over the municipal territories of Barbaresco, Neive and Treiso, plus part of San Rocco Seno d’Elvio, a district of the nearby town of Alba. The entire zone lies “al di qua” – on this side, or west, – of

Alba while territory “al di là di Alba” to the east is given over to Barolo, the other great nebbiolo-based Piedmont wine, which uses the same winemaking techniques. In broad terms, Barbaresco is more elegant than Barolo and has a shorter minimum aging period: two years with nine months in wood against three years with two in wood for Barolo; the Riservas age respectively for four and five years. Barbaresco was long looked upon

OUR SELECTIONS

\$25



BENI DI BATASIOLO

Barbaresco DOCG 2007

Beni di Batasiolo is one of the Piedmont wineries that have best managed to combine innovation and tradition.

APPEARANCE

Orange-flecked mid garnet

NOSE

Spiciness, leather, red fruits

PALATE

Tannins, mint and chocolate-themed finale

CONTACT:

info@batasiolo.com
www.batasiolo.com

\$30



PIAZZO

Barbaresco DOCG 2007

The Armando Piazza wine estate is located in Langhe, the home of Barbaresco, at San Rocco in the province of Cuneo.

APPEARANCE

Mid orangey garnet

NOSE

Penetrating cocoa powder and clove-led aromatics

PALATE

Very appealing mouthfeel and flavour

CONTACT:

apiazzo@piazza.it
www.piazza.it

as Barolo's little brother simply because Barolo has a longer history but the two could have started out together. What prevented this was the refusal of early Barolo makers to use grapes grown on the other side of Alba.

The reaction of Barbaresco producers, →

\$30



CÀ DEL BAIÒ

Barbaresco DOCG "Valgrande" 2007

Cà del Baio has made excellent wines for four generations. The estate is located at Treiso in the province of Cuneo.

APPEARANCE

Pale ruby with hints of orange

NOSE

Cherries, nutmeg spice, toastiness

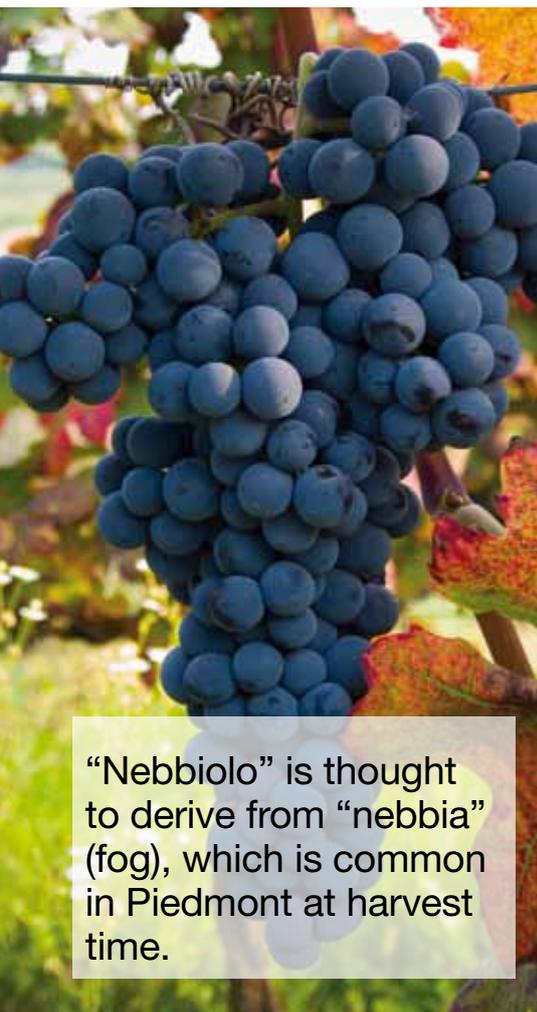
PALATE

Excellent structure, long-lingering finale

CONTACT:

cadelbaio@cadelbaio.com
www.cadelbaio.com

The magic of Barbaresco



“Nebbiolo” is thought to derive from “nebbia” (fog), which is common in Piedmont at harvest time.

and in particular wealthy Modena-born wine man and founder of the Alba wine school, Domenico Cavazza, was to go it alone. Cavazza purchased holdings at Barbaresco and quickly discovered the potential of nebbiolo in a zone where growers were perennially in crisis and at the mercy of traders and buyers for Barolo-based wineries. In Septem-

OUR SELECTIONS



\$35

VIGNETI LUIGI ODDERO

Barbaresco DOCG 2007

Wines have been sold under the Oddero label since as long ago as 1878. Luigi Oddero set up his own wine operation, in La Morra, in 2006.

APPEARANCE

Ruby with orange highlights

NOSE

Liqueur fruit, leather and spice fragrances

PALATE

Well-gauged extract, satisfying finish

CONTACT:

odderoluigi@alice.it
www.vignetiluiigioddero.it



NOT YET
IMPORTED
estimated
shelf price
if imported
\$36

BERSANO

Barbaresco DOCG 2006

The Bersano estate sprawls over 230 hectares of vineyards and farms, currently owned by the Massimelli and Soave families.

APPEARANCE

Orange-tinged garnet

NOSE

Assertive wafts of spice, plums, licorice

PALATE

Attractive body and persistence

CONTACT:

wine@bersano.it
www.bersano.it



\$40

RESSIA

Barbaresco DOCG “Canova” 2007

The Ressia family has tended the land for generations, growing grapes and making wine alongside other farming activities.

APPEARANCE

Orange-veined garnet red

NOSE

Black pepper, saddle leather, fruit

PALATE

Attractive poise and body, long finish

CONTACT:

info@ressia.com
www.ressia.com

The magic of Barbaresco

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\$41

ADRIANO MARCO E VITTORIO Barbaresco DOCG "Basarin" 2007

Adriano Marco e Vittorio is a family-run farming estate founded in the early 20th century in Alba, the heart of Langhe.

APPEARANCE

Pale garnet red hue

NOSE

Spiciness mingling with blueberry-led forest fruits

PALATE

Appealing and well-structured in the mouth

CONTACT:
info@adrianovini.it
www.adrianovini.it



**NOT YET
IMPORTED**
estimated
shelf price
if imported
\$45

CASCINA BARICCHI Barbaresco DOCG 2006

Cascina Baricchi is situated at Neviglie in the province of Cuneo. The farm has belonged to the Simonetta family since 1979.

APPEARANCE

Orange-flecked garnet red

NOSE

Violets, spices and ripe red fruits

PALATE

Soft-textured, distinct extract, spicy finish

CONTACT:
cascinabaricchi@libero.it
www.cascinabaricchi.com



\$50

CASCINA MORASSINO Barbaresco DOCG "Ovello" 2007

This pocket-sized estate has only four hectares under vine, all near the winery at Barbaresco in the province of Cuneo.

APPEARANCE

Ruby red with orangey hints

NOSE

Red fruits in alcohol, spice, torrefaction

PALATE

Appealing tannin, good spice-led finale

CONTACT:
morassino@gmail.com

ber 1893, he founded the Cantina Sociale di Barbaresco, a co-operative winery that would help local producers to sell their products and above all conduct experiments to enable them to innovate.

Pietro Ratti, the recently appointed chair of the protection consortium, which now embraces almost 10,000 hectares at Barbaresco, Barolo, Alba, Langhe and Roero, is relaxed about the current situation, in which his members release around 65 million bottles of mainly red wine a year. Ratti is based at La Morra, one of Barolo's strongholds, but he is also an enthusiastic Barbaresco fan. He explains that the Barbaresco production area, formed by a long range of west-facing hills in the Tanaro valley, has a very different configuration than Barolo's DOCG zone, which is encircled by higher, closer-packed hills. Despite the few kilo- →

The magic of Barbaresco

Nebbiolo vineyards on gentle hillslopes near the Tanaro river.



meters separating the two zones, site climates are very diverse and in 2007, the Barbaresco production protocol allowed labels to include “additional geographical indications,” in practical terms the names of cru vineyards, following careful mapping of the entire territory. Each municipality has its own indications –

OUR SELECTIONS



\$50

CORTESE GIUSEPPE

Barbaresco DOCG “Rabaja” 2007

The Cortese family has been making superior wines for three generations on eight hectares of vineyards at Rabajà in Langhe.

APPEARANCE

Ruby with orange-tinged highlights

NOSE

Distinct cloves, toastiness, saddle leather

PALATE

Assertive tannins

CONTACT:

info@cortesejiuseppe.it
www.cortesejiuseppe.it



\$60

BUSSO PIERO

Barbaresco DOCG “Borgese” 2006

This small family-run estate was created in 1953. The Busso family looks after everything from vineyard to winemaking.

APPEARANCE

Pale orange-tinged ruby red

NOSE

Black pepper, saddle leather, sour cherries

PALATE

Soft tannins enhanced by fruitiness

CONTACT:

bussopiero@bussopiero.com
www.bussopiero.com



\$63

CASTELLO DI NEIVE

Barbaresco DOCG “Santo Stefano – Albesani” 2007

The Stupino family has owned the castle, the 60 hectares under vine and the farm estate, all at Neive, in the province of Cuneo, for generations.

APPEARANCE

Pale orange-veined ruby

NOSE

Currants, blueberries, faint leather

PALATE

Nice acidity and extract, lingering spicy finish

CONTACT:

info@castellodineive.it
www.castellodineive.it



The town of Neive and its beautiful buildings are set in many hectares of neatly ordered vineyards.

Asili, Rabajà and Secondine at Barbaresco, Casot and Ferrere at Treiso-Alba and Gallina at Neive – and a detailed map is available from the Enoteca Regionale, the regional wine collection, at Barbaresco, for those who want to visit the wineries. Thanks to these additional geographical indications, consumers know precisely where the wine they are drinking comes from. Yet even though Barbaresco terroirs and site climates vary enormously, Ratti is convinced that the key factor is the grower. Nebbiolo is a challenging variety and can change from slope to slope, particularly as the weather becomes increasingly extreme. Luckily, there is a long-standing tradition in Barbaresco of far-sighted grape growers who have become wine produc-

ers. Our tastings confirmed this for many of the wines come from small, family-run concerns. For example, it was at Secondine, south of Barbaresco, that Giovanni Gaja bought grapes for the wine he sold to discriminating clients in Turin and Milan. He bought the vineyards in 1964 and his son Angelo has continued along the path of quality, taking local other producers with him. Today, the Barbaresco DOCG has about 685 hectares planted to nebbiolo, about a third of the area under vine in Barolo and up from 480 hectares in 1998. Barbaresco production runs to 4.35 million bottles a year and sales in 2010 were 15% up on 2009, crisis or no crisis. Fortunately for us, prices are tempered by competition from new small producers.

