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2021

BAROLO

INDENT OFFER

We are very excited to present our indent offer for the first releases of the highly anticipated 2021 Barolo's. Universally acclaimed as one of the finest modern vintages produced in Piedmont, 2021 is one of only 8 years that have been rated 5 stars by Decanter since 1990.

This year's offer includes wines from some of the greatest estates in Italy, all still owned by the original families.

Azelia, Conterno Fantino, Elvio Cogno, and Massolino

Stylistically, most say the 2021 vintage sits somewhere between 2016 and 2019, two outstanding years. They are richer and less austere than the seriously structured 19s, but have the refined tannins and elegance of the 16s. Many producers have also said it reminds them of the thrilling 2015s, but with greater freshness, energy, and finesse. These are wines that will be hugely enjoyable with just a few years of age, but also have long term cellaring capacity.

We also have the stunning 2022 wines from **Bruno Rocca**, family-owned farmers in Barbaresco since 1834. They are one of the hottest, most sought-after estates in the entire region right now.

The entire region is on an incredible run of high-quality vintages right now. Gone are the days of wines meant solely for cellaring that you couldn't enjoy immediately. No surprise there is massive demand for these wines internationally. We only have very small quantities of some of these bottlings available. Place your order as soon as possible, as we may need to allocate some of the rarest wines

These are expected to land Winter 2025. Payment not due until arrival.

- John Caro & Regan McCaffery



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2021 BAROLO OFFER

TO ORDER, COMPLETE THE FORM ON THIS PAGE & RETURN TO WINE@CAROS.CO.NZ,
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CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____ EXPIRY _____ CSC _____
/

WINE ORDER FORM	QUANTITY	PRICE* (In mixed 6+)
2021 Azelia Barolo		\$79.99
2021 Azelia Barolo San Rocco		\$170
2021 Azelia Barolo Margheria		\$170
2021 Azelia Barolo Bricco Fiasco		\$170
2021 Azelia Barolo Cerretta		\$195
2023 Bruno Rocca Fralù Langhe Nebbiolo		\$52.99
2022 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco		\$95
2022 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco Currà		\$190
2022 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco Marcorino		\$190
2022 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco Rabajà		\$190
2020 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco Currà Riserva		\$395
2020 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco Rabajà Riserva		\$395
2023 Conterno Fantino Ginestrino Langhe Nebbiolo		\$54.99
2022 Conterno Fantino Monpra Langhe Rosso		\$76.99
2021 Conterno Fantino Barolo Castelletto Vigna Pressenda		\$145
2021 Conterno Fantino Barolo Ginestra Vigna Del Gris		\$145
2021 Conterno Fantino Barolo Ginestra Sori Ginestra		\$170
2021 Conterno Fantino Barolo Mosconi Vigna Ped		\$170
2021 Elvio Cogno Barolo Cascina Nuova		\$100
2021 Elvio Cogno Barolo Ravera		\$170
2020 Elvio Cogno Barolo Ravera 'Bricco Pernice'		\$210
2019 Elvio Cogno Barolo Ravera 'Vigna Elena' Riserva		\$250
2022 Massolino Langhe Nebbiolo		\$49.99
2022 Massolino Barbaresco		\$82.99
2021 Massolino Barolo		\$82.99
2021 Massolino Barolo Margheria		\$165
2021 Massolino Barolo Parafada		\$165
2021 Massolino Barolo Parussi		\$165
2019 Massolino Barolo Riserva Vigna Rionda		\$340

2021 BAROLO VINTAGE REPORTS

"2021 is a fantastic vintage for Barolo. Quality is high across the board, and the wines boast great fruit, wonderful aromas, elegant restraint and radiance. The vintage produced stunning, age-worthy wines that Barolo lovers will want in their cellars. In terms of character, the vintage sits between the more austere, structured and seriously age-worthy 2019s and the ultra-refined 2016s, both outstanding vintages. The best 2021 Barolos show youthful austerity, the main characteristic of the 2019s, but are tempered by succulent fruit and they will be accessible earlier than the more austere 2019s. The 2021s also possess polished elegance with refined tannins similar to the smooth finesse that defined 2016 Barolos. Unlike the forward 2020s that were released last year and are already drinking well, the 2021s will need a few more years to fully develop and the best show very good to excellent aging potential."

As I've stressed before, gone are the days when you had to wait decades before opening Barolo due to fierce tannins and/or brisk acidity that needed years to tame. This is in great part due to the hotter, drier climate that has become the norm since the early 2000s. The adoption of less intrusive but scrupulous cellar techniques have also played an equally important role in producing more accessible wines that while structured, have more refined tannins and are accessible earlier when compared to the more heroically structured and reticent Barolos of yore. In line with most Modern-Day vintages, the 2021s will be hitting the start of their ideal drinking window at around the 10-year mark from the vintage, but at the same time, they still boast very good aging potential. With proper cellaring conditions, many will be still be offering fine sipping at 2041, others longer while the entry-level offerings will easily sail through 2035 or longer. The 2021 Barolos should be on every Barolo lover's and collector's wish list."

- Kerin O'Keefe



"Two thousand twenty-one is a superb vintage for Barolo. Many of the entry-level Barolos (often referred to as normale or classico) are terrific, always a sign of a good year. Readers will find a bevy of outstanding wines in this report. The 2021s are marked by good color, open aromatics, pliant fruit and finessed, ripe tannins. At the very pinnacle of excellence, the finest 2021s are compelling and profoundly expressive of place. They are richer than the generally austere 2019s but more vibrant than the open-knit 2020s, making 2021 the most harmonious and consistent of the group. In the final analysis, 2021 is a vintage marked by high average quality. The only thing missing is perhaps the stratospheric peaks of the most exceptional years. It is a vintage that readers will want to explore with great attention."

So far, Piedmont has been a net beneficiary of climate change. Good to exceptional vintages are more common than they once were. Winemaking is far gentler than it once was. Cooperage choices today often favor large-format wood over small French oak barrels. As a result, today's wines often drink well on release. That, in turn, has contributed to a massive surge in popularity. When I think of the 2021s in this report, many of them are hugely enjoyable now, others will drink well in a few years, and only a few require extended cellaring. That's quite a change. The 2021 Barolos are finessed, elegant wines that will delight Piedmont fans."

- Vinous, Antonio Galloni

"The 2021 Barolo vintage is looking like a landmark year. The 2021 Barolos are strikingly expressive, with noses that lean more toward openness than austerity. These wines showcase the power and aging potential of great reds but without the heavy-handed extractions of years past. Compared with the more vertical 2019 vintage, 2021 is equally structured but wrapped in a lush fruit profile. While not necessarily ready to drink now, most of the 2021 offerings will shine after just a year or two in the bottle, while retaining their remarkable aging potential."

2021 is not a patchy vintage with highs and lows between Barolo's various communes, but one of consistent excellence. The offerings from the year are a testament to the expressiveness and depth of what a contemporary Barolo wine means. Poetically reminiscent of the legendary 1985 vintage, thanks to its snowy winter and warm summer, 2021 has secured its place as a modern classic."

- James Suckling



"A late harvest yielded charismatic yet well-structured wines with great ageing potential. I had the pleasure of tasting over 300 Barolo 2021s, and was impressed by the striking charisma of the vintage. Many wines are already expressive, exuberant even. The fruit character is mature but not tertiary or overripe, and the wines are not developing too rapidly. While aromas are animated, the structure says 'wait'. Rather than the nervous energy or austerity of 2019, the 2021s are imposing and impactful. It is a vintage of substance and volume with ample, ripe tannins. Alcohol is well absorbed and acidity admirably preserved."

One of the markers of an outstanding vintage is high quality throughout the region. Another factor in assessing Barolo is ageability. In general, the 2021s are well endowed with stuffing and structure for cellaring, without the hard tannins of the past. One of the beauties of this vintage is that the wines should satisfy throughout, allowing drinkers to open them according to personal preference. Overall, 2021 is absolutely an excellent vintage. While it may not reach the exquisite level of refinement as 2016, it is undeniably worth buying. I would not dream of describing 2021 as a 'classic vintage', however, it does have the potential to be considered a modern benchmark."

5/5 Stars - Decanter, Michaela Morris



AZELIA

LUIGI SCAVINO

"The transformation at Azelia over the last handful of years has been nothing short of extraordinary. That's not to say the wines weren't compelling before. They were, and they also aged well. But recent vintages have really gone to another level. Since 2014, Luigi Scavino and his son, Lorenzo, have taken these wines into a direction of extreme finesse. These wines are spectacular. This is an intriguing set of wines from the Scavino family. I find the 2020s on the lighter side, both in their colors and slightly evolved profiles. The 2021s are darker, with more layers and greater expression of place. The two vintages track along general trends for the years. Azelia remains one of the most under-the-radar estates in all of Piedmont. The artisan, family-driven values that make Piedmont such a unique region are very much alive. The best Barolos here are compelling."

- Vinous, Antonio Galloni

2021 Azelia Barolo - \$79.99

"Always assembled from seven sites within the villages of Castiglione Falletto and Serralunga d'Alba, Azelia's Barolo takes Cerretta and the 100-year-old vines of Bricco Voghera as its base. Average age of the vines 55 years. Freshness on the nose presents as rosehip, cranberry bush, violet and pomegranate. The palate follows with might and exuberance: rich dark raspberry melds into layers of ripe, soft tannins. Underlying brightness and tangy acidity keep this vivacious, while tea leaf and nutmeg prolong the finish. A classy and immediately satisfying Barolo. Drink 2025-2035"

93/100 Decanter, Michaela Morris

"Restrained, if not low-key on the nose, with spicy and peppery character to the red-fruit, pomegranate and fresh floral aromas. Medium-bodied, it shows firm, youthful tannins with crisp acidity and an austere, grainy finish. Try from 2027."

92/100 James Suckling

"The 2021 Barolo is deep, succulent and layered. Dark-toned fruit, leather, spice, cedar and dried herbs build effortlessly in the glass. Floral and savory overtones play off a core of black cherry/plum fruit. All the elements are very nicely balanced. This is a fine showing from the Scavino family and a terrific wine in its peer group. Drink 2025-2033"

90/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni

2021 Azelia Barolo San Rocco - \$170

"San Rocco typically produces Barolo with a darker character compared to the other MGAs of Serralunga. 75-year-old vines. A spicy wine with aromas of smoke, woodland, strawberries, strawberry leaves, red currants, violets and a touch of pepper. Firm tannins on the palate, with supple and concentrated fruit, a medium to full body and a refreshing finish. Try from 2027."

95/100 James Suckling

"The 2021 Barolo San Rocco marries finesse and power. Firm tannins drive through a core of red-toned fruit, iron, white pepper, dried rose petal and chalk. The 2021 is deep and resonant on the palate, but it also offers notable saline-infused vibrancy. It's a dynamic Barolo in the glass that reveals myriad shades of nuance over time. Drink 2026-2033."

94/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni



2021 Azelia Barolo Margheria - \$170

"The Scavino family owns almost two of Margheria's 8ha and boasts vines that are upwards of 65 years old. Here, calcareous white clay with a substantial component of silt yields sturdily structured wines, yet Azelia's example serves this up with an equal measure of refinement. The 2021 wafts with warm earth and currant blossom. Full and darkly fruited, it makes a strong and immediate tannic impact. But as commanding as the tannins are, they remain smooth in texture and are padded by a fleshy layer. The salty twist is salivating. This will certainly benefit from a few years in the cellar. Drink 2028-2041"

96/100 Decanter, Michaela Morris

"This shows hibiscus, sandalwood and touches of cedar and dark cherries on the nose. The palate is bright and incisive, with persistent, fine-grained tannins and a bright, chewy finish. Better from 2030."

95/100 James Suckling, Jacobo Garcia-Andrade Llamas

2021 Azelia Barolo Bricco Fiasco - \$170

"A lovely nose of roses, wild strawberries, lavender and a subtle touch of cedar. The palate is medium-bodied and persistent, with delicate red fruit flavors. It's concentrated, with lovely balance and elegance. Try from 2026."

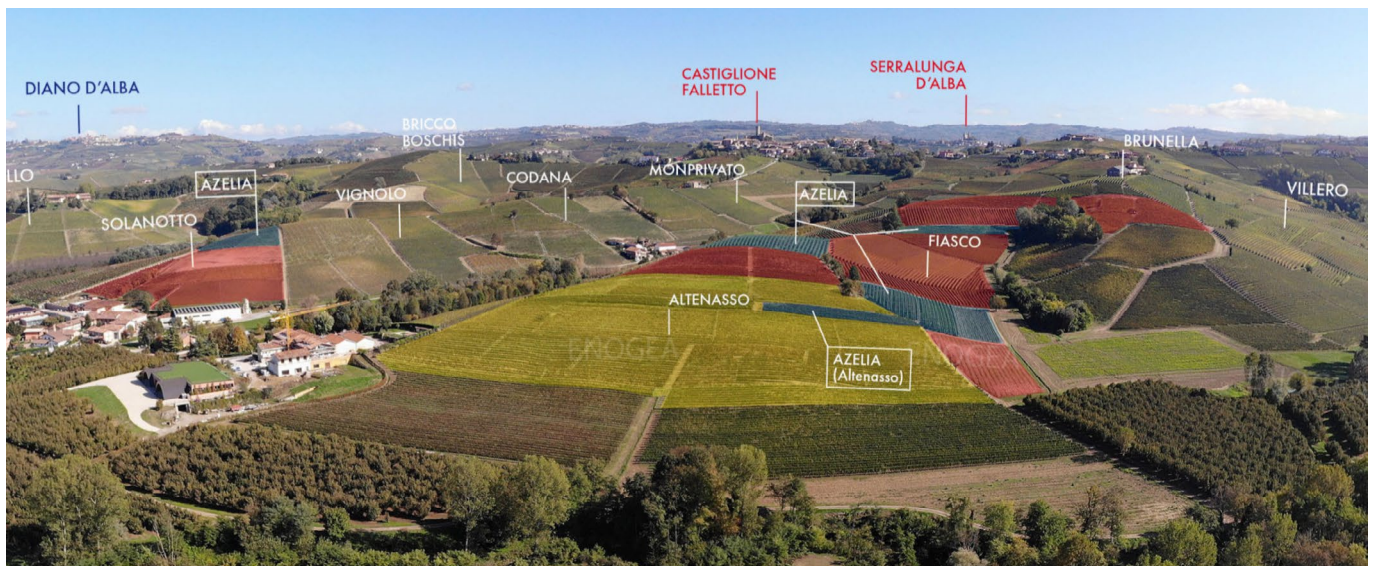
96/100 James Suckling, Jacobo Garcia-Andrade Llamas

"The 2021 Barolo Bricco Fiasco is a super-classic wine from this Castiglione Falletto site. Bright acids and veins of tannin drive through a core of red-toned fruit. White pepper, mint, slate and orange peel all race across the palate. The 2021 Bricco Fiasco is an archetype of excellence. It is one of the finest wines I have tasted here in some time. Drink 2026-2033".

95/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni

"From vines planted in the 1930s, this Bricco Fiasco bottling was first produced in 1978, and in 2021, the family started experimenting with fermentation in wood. Fifth-generation Lorenzo Scavino explains that this has given greater colour stability as well as richer, more complex aromas. A spicy, balsamic introduction of mint and pepper makes way for lifted fragrances of rose and citrus. Lip smacking red summer berries are swathed in sandy tannins. This is spunky and well-structured. A mineral tanginess adds dimension, as does the blood orange finale. Drink 2027-2039"

95/100 Decanter, Michaela Morris



2021 Azelia Barolo Cerretta - \$195

"As vinification for Azelia's four single-MGA bottlings is similar, they provide an instructive glimpse of terroir differences. Cerretta, for example, is just 200m from San Rocco but contains pockets of red clay not typical of Barolo. Redolent of warm brick, dark floral, bay leaf and soy, the nose is a striking, and the wine fills mouth with juicy black cherry and savoury iron. It has tremendous substance but is not heavy, and that energetic acidity properly cleanses. Linear tannins command the palate for now but there is plenty of depth and detail for the long-haul. Drink 2028-2043"

96/100 Decanter, Michaela Morris

"A powerful wine that deserves patience. It shows violets, roses, black cherries and earth on the nose. The attack is powerful and extracted, with muscular tannins, refreshing acidity and a medium to full body. Austere at the moment. Try after 2027, but best from 2030."

96/100 James Suckling

"The 2021 Barolo Cerretta is another of the more potent wines in this range. Ample and resonant, with terrific depth, the 2021 is substantial. It is also a very young Barolo that needs time to unwind. Dark-toned fruit, incense, leather, spice and tobacco add to an impression of gravitas. Drink 2026-2033"

94/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni



BRUNO ROCCA

Azienda Agricola Rabajà



"This is a stellar set of wines from the Rocca family. Francesco Rocca is one of the most thoughtful young growers in Barbaresco. That shows in wines that are increasingly nuanced. The 2022s are very good wines for a year marked by severe heat and drought. Francesco Rocca gave his 2022s around 28 days on the skins, about a week less than the 2021s, with submerged cap maceration. The wines spent 16 months in cask, on the shorter side in relative terms. As good as the 2022s are, I would prefer to drink them on the earlier side. Bruno Rocca is without question one of the hottest estates in Barbaresco right now. And my feeling is that Francesco is just getting started."

- Vinous, Antoni Galloni

2023 Bruno Rocca Fralù Langhe Nebbiolo - \$52.99

"The 2022 Langhe Nebbiolo Fralù is an absolute delight. Lifted floral overtones and bright, red-toned fruit grace this translucent Langhe Nebbiolo. The 2022 spent 22 days on the skins, unheard of for a wine at this level, followed by nine months in neutral oak. Silky, polished tannins round things out in style. Drink 2024-2028"

90/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni (2022 Vintage)

2022 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco - \$95

"The 2022 Barbaresco is a very fine wine at this level. Sensual and inviting, the 2022 is wonderfully alluring. Dark red cherry, pomegranate, spice, leather and blood orange abound. Pretty floral overtones extend the finish effortlessly. Vineyard sites are Currà, Fausoni, Marcorino and a fourth site near the winery on the opposite side of Rabajà. I imagine the vineyard designates will surpass this in time, but today, for the sheer pleasure of it, the straight Barbaresco is superb. The blending of sites can't be underestimated, especially in challenging years. Drink 2024-2032"

91/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni

2022 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco Currà - \$190

“A single vineyard Nebbiolo from the Currà Cru in Barbaresco, bought by the Rocca family in 2001. The soil is limestone-clay with a mix of silicates, carbonates and volcanic ash deposited by the currents. The average age of the vines is 50-60 years. The 2022 Barbaresco Currà could turn out to be one of the surprises of the vintage. It shows all the nerviness that is such a signature of this site but also possesses terrific depth. Chalk, white flowers, mint, crushed rocks and slate play off a core of vibrant red-toned fruit. The aromatics here are especially beguiling, but the 2022 is still coming together. There will be no Riserva in 2022, so all the fruit went into this bottling. Drink 2025-2036”

93/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni



2022 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco Marcorino - \$190

“This magnificent Barbaresco vineyard is located right underneath the medieval town of Neive. The wines that come from these vines recall the austerity of the best Barbarescos with strong character and no compromises. The 2022 Barbaresco Marcorino is the most complete wine in the range this year. It offers a beguiling mix of aromatics, fruit depth and structure. Dried herbs, sage, tobacco, incense, licorice and dried rose petals all soar out of the glass. A dynamic, layered Barbaresco, the Marcorino is superb. Drink 2025-2036”

94/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni

2022 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco Rabajà - \$190

“The Rabajà vineyard is one of the most historic, famous, and sought-out crus of Barbaresco. Their grandparents Rocca Francesco and Bo Maria Adelaide purchased it in 1958, with its farmhouse of the same name. The winery sits above it today. It was planted in 1964. The vineyard is steep and is situated at an altitude of 260-315 metres. The 2022 Barbaresco Rabajà is dark, exotic and beguiling. Black cherry, plum, graphite, lavender, spice and menthol infuse the 2022 with gorgeous classicism. Dynamic and expressive, the 2022 is exceptionally beautiful. All the breadth and virile intensity of Rabajà emerge with time. It will be interesting to see where this goes. Drink 2025 – 2036”

94/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni



2020 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco Currà Riserva - \$395

"I was quite impressed with these new releases from Bruno Rocca and his son, Francesco. Bruno likes to say he is not in charge, but he is ever present and engaged. I was especially taken with the 2020s. The wines show another step in Francesco Rocca's development as one of the most thoughtful young growers in Barbaresco. The 2020 Barbaresco Riserva Currà is elegant, delicate and lifted. Crushed red berry fruit, blood orange, spice, mint, kirsch and sweet spice all grace this very pretty, lifted Barbaresco. The Riserva Currà is all elegance, but there is plenty of substance that emerges with air. The Riserva Currà is such a harmonious wine that there is barely any perception of tannin. Drink 2026-2042"

96/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni

2020 Bruno Rocca Barbaresco Rabajà Riserva - \$395

"The 2020 and 2021 vintages are both strong here. I find the 2020s a bit more open, while the 2021s show quite a bit of reserve. The wines see 35-40 days on the skins, very much on the long side. Aging is about 16 months in cask, a bit less than in some recent years. The Riservas see one more week on the skins, with submerged cap maceration, and three additional months in cask. The 2020 Barbaresco Riserva Rabajà is seriously impressive. It emerges from Rocca's oldest vines here, plots where the soils are rich in limestone. Dark and potent in the glass, the 2020 offers up an exotic mix of blue/blackish fruit, cloves, new leather, lavender, menthol and incense. Readers will find a Barbaresco with a ton of site character. The 2020 is wonderfully vivid and full of class. All it needs is time. Drink 2026-2042"

96/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni



CONTERNO FANTINO

A Z I E N D A A G R I C O L A

"This is a gorgeous set of wines from Conterno-Fantino, starting with the Dolcetto all the way up to the Barolos. I have always admired this estate for their consistency across the entire range. The 2021 Barolos saw 15-18 days on the skins. Malolactic fermentation was done in barrel. The wines were raised in French oak barriques to start, and then a combination of cask and barrique for the second year of aging. Conterno-Fantino has very smartly updated their style in recent years, but without completely changing the wines. That's a winning approach, in my view. Fabio Fantino has done a superb job in shepherding his family's estate into its second generation. In my view, the wines have never been better. Today's Barolos show greater precision and energy than the wines of the past, and I say that as someone who bought these wines heavily in the early 2000s."

—Vinous, Antonio Galloni

2023 Conterno Fantino Ginestrino Langhe Nebbiolo - \$54.99

"The 2023 Langhe Nebbiolo Ginestrino will give many Barolos and Barbarescos a run for their money. It emerges from a collection of sites in Monforte and spent a brief nine months in small-format wood. Kirsch, cinnamon, mint and rose petal are beautifully lifted. A kiss of French oak adds just a touch of raciness without overpowering the wine at all. Drink 2024-2029"

91/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni

2022 Conterno Fantino Monpra Langhe Rosso - \$76.99

"The 2022 Langhe Rosso Monprà is a powerful, deep wine that will need a few years to come into its own. A blast of dark cherry, plum, mocha, sweet spice and a kiss of French oak all race across the palate. It offers terrific freshness to match the natural intensity of the fruit. Monprà remains a traditional blend of equal parts Nebbiolo and Barbera that impresses for its balance and total harmony more than for the particulars of the blend. This is a fine effort in a brutally challenging year. Drink 2026-2034"

93/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni



2021 Conterno Fantino Barolo Castelletto Vigna Pressenda - \$145

A dark and slightly old-fashioned wine with aromas of bergamot, tar, earth, minerals, flowers and restrained blood oranges. It's full-bodied and fierce on the palate, with firm, dusty yet ripe tannins, crisp acidity, mint and orange notes and a tight yet polished finish. Try after 2027.

95/100 James Suckling

"The 2021 Barolo Castelletto Vigna Pressenda is an elegant, polished wine. Strong spice, mineral and citrus notes convey the essence of Castelletto, impressions that also come through in the wine's pointed, focused tannins. It offers terrific energy and tons of class. The style is very much one of tension, at least in the early going. Hints of rose petal, chalk and slate linger. All this needs is time in bottle. Drink 2025-2036"

94/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni

2021 Conterno Fantino Barolo Ginestra Vigna Del Gris - \$145

"A perfumed Barolo with mint, licorice, graphite, earth, strawberries and fresh red cherries on the nose. Full-bodied and full of fruit concentration that coats the tannins. Velvety on the mid-palate, with integrated, lifted acidity. Try from 2027."

97/100 James Suckling

"The 2021 Barolo Ginestra Vigna del Gris captures a more delicate, sensual side of Ginestra. Deep and pliant in the glass, it offers gorgeous mid-palate pliancy and fine overall depth. The 2021 is a seriously impressive Barolo of substance and presence. The balance of fruit, acid and textural resonance makes it incredibly appealing in the early going. Drink 2025-2036"

95/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni

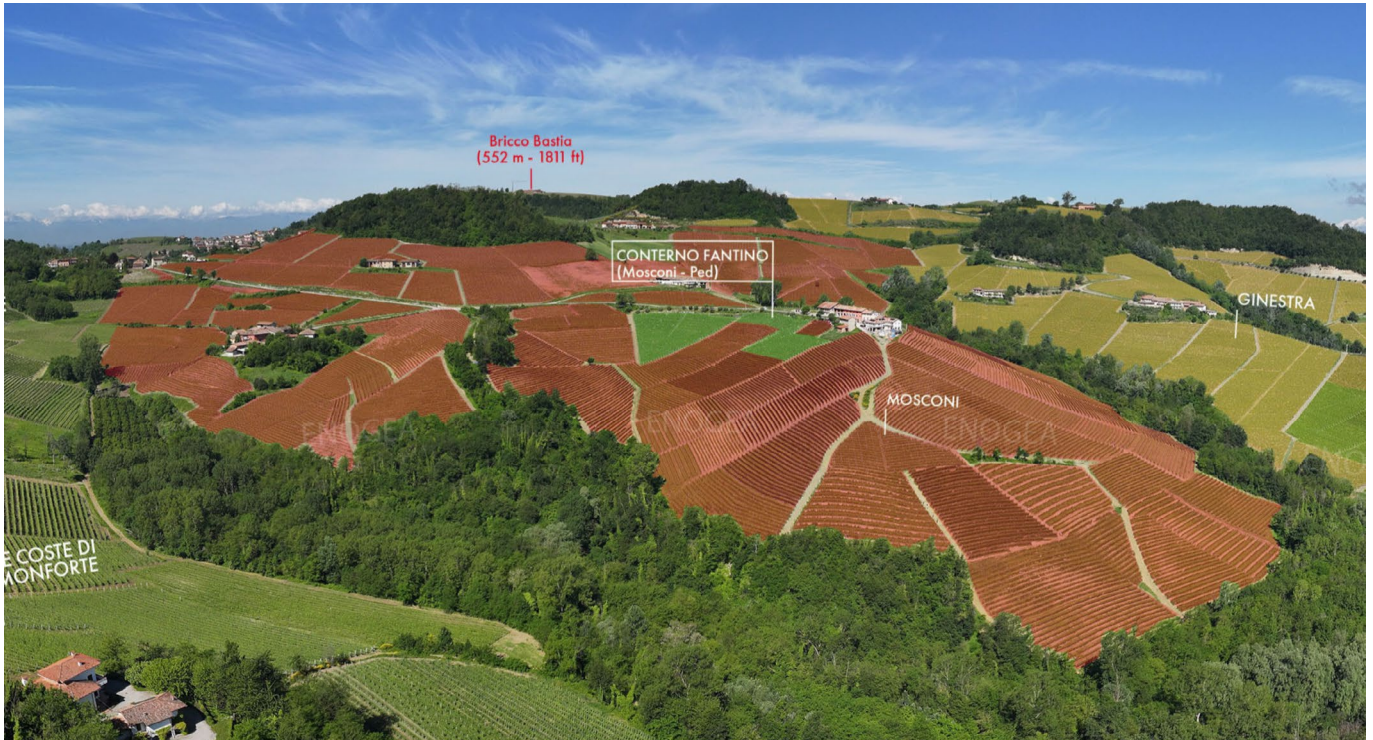
2021 Conterno Fantino Barolo Ginestra Sori Ginestra - \$170

"The 2021 Barolo Ginestra Vigna Sori Ginestra is a super-classic wine from Conterno-Fantino. Soaring, high-toned aromatics make a strong first impression. Spice, blood orange, new leather and cedar top notes open first. Bright and focused, with terrific persistence, Sori Ginestra shows the energy of this site in spades. Time in the glass brings out shades of exotic spice and citrus peel that are so beguiling. Drink 2025-2036"

96/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni

"An intoxicating wine with aromas of mint, dried flowers, red cherries and graphite. Full-bodied, it shows firm and extracted tannins of good ripeness, with crisp acidity and a muscular yet balanced finish. A powerful wine that will age well. Try from 2027."

96/100 James Suckling



2021 Conterno Fantino Barolo Mosconi Vigna Ped - \$170

"A classic, powerful example of Barolo. Very minty and balsamic on the nose, dark and intense, with complex and layered notes of macerated flowers, black cherries and prunes. On the palate it shows concentration, a full body, chewy acidity, firm, dusty yet ripe tannins and a flexible finish despite its extraction. Try from 2027."

97/100 James Suckling

"The 2021 Barolo Mosconi Vigna Ped is the biggest and most powerful of these wines Barolos from Conterno-Fantino. Then again, this is Mosconi. Dark-toned fruit, leather, gravel, incense, licorice and graphite are all beautifully amplified in a broad, potent young Barolo imbued with the essence of place. All this needs is time. Drink 2025-2036"

96/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni



A Z I E N D A A G R I C O L A

C O G N O[®]

The Cogno family has been making wine for four generations in Piedmont. In 1990, Elvio Cogno left a long and fruitful partnership with the venerable Barolo producer Marcarini at La Morra and bought a splendid, historic 18th-century farmhouse on the top of Bricco Ravera, a hill near Novello in the Langhe area. (One of the 11 communes in which Barolo is produced.) The farm was surrounded by 11 hectares of steeply sloped vineyards. Elvio restored the manor, converted the old granaries to wine cellars and founded his eponymous winery. For the next 20 years he devoted himself to the winemaking traditions handed down to him by his father and grandfather. Elvio, in turn, has now passed the torch to his daughter, Nadia, and her husband, Valter Fissore, who has worked beside Elvio for 25 years. It is mostly due to Elvio Cogno that the Ravera Cru has now gained such international fame, and their Ravera bottling has become one of the most important wines in Novello.

2021 Elvio Cogno Barolo Cascina Nuova - \$100

"Showing impressive depth for what is the estate's entry level Barolo, the 2021 Cascina Nuova is a fantastic wine. It opens with alluring aromas of wild rose, forest berry, sun-warmed hay and dark spice that on the full-bodied, enveloping palate transform into succulent Marasca cherry, raspberry and star anise. Taut, refined tannins and fresh acidity provide balance. Drink 2028–2036."

96/100 Kerin O'Keefe

"Just mid ruby. Beautiful nose that oscillates between savoury minerality and fragrant, sweet raspberry. Fluid raspberry fruit and completely dry. Long, firm tannins remain perfectly underneath the fruit. Could do with another year in bottle. Possibly one of the best buys of the vintage. Drink 2026-2035"

17.5/20 Jancis Robinson, Walter Speller

"Twenty-year-old vines are a mix of Lampia and Michet biotypes with 10% Picotener. Valter Fissore says the latter was an experiment, but he finds it gives greener tannins. There is however, no under-ripeness here. In fact, the 2021 Cascina Nuova is perfectly à point. Vivacious fragrances of red currant and pepper introduce a fresh, frisky mouthful of grenadine and rosehip. The tannins are long and seductive with an appetising crispness. Firm and dry on the finish, with a suggestive trace of hazelnut. Drink 2027-2038"

94/100 Decanter, Michaela Morris

"This wine sources its fruit from across three hectares on clay limestone soils. The Elvio Cogno 2021 Barolo Cascina Nuova is the most accessible wine in the family's portfolio, and indeed, the intensity threshold is a little lower in this case (especially compared to the Ravera), although you do get plenty of delicate Nebbiolo nuances. The bouquet offers dark fruit, blue flower and spice. This wine ages in large Slavonian oak casks for 24 months, so the primary fruit remains front and center. I suggest another year of bottle age to give the wine time to find better focus. Production is 21,000 bottles. Drink 2026-2042"

94/100 Parker's Wine Advocate, Monica Larner



2021 Elvio Cagno Barolo Ravera - \$170

"Barolo Ravera is the firm's calling card. Made with 60–80 years old of Lampia and Michet, two sub-varieties of Nebbiolo. Perfumed and structured, the compelling 2021 Ravera from Cagno entices with aromas of ripe dark-skinned berry, dark Asian spice, pressed rose and a balsamic whiff of camphor. Boasting succulent fruit, the chiseled palate features ripe black cherry, black raspberry, ground clove, cinnamon and licorice before a salty finish. It has great tension, with firm, fine-grained tannins and bright acidity. Drink 2029–2041."

98/100 Kerin O'Keefe

"This wine opens a window on one of the best cru sites in the appellation—the Ravera Vineyard on the Novello side, where steep hills descend down from a castle perched atop a beautiful panorama. From this vantage point, you look up at Novello and the Elvio Cagno winery built midway up the incline. Ravera's vineyards are south facing but the vicinity of the Maritime Alps makes it one of the coolest areas in the denomination. The Elvio Cagno 2021 Barolo Ravera is made with the Lampia and Michet clones of Nebbiolo. The wine offers a distinct character with iron ore and crushed stone behind dark fruit and pressed rose. I also get a hint of exotic spice in this gorgeous wine. This is a 14,000-bottle release. Drink 2026-2045"

96/100 Parker's Wine Advocate, Monica Larner

"Crafted from 60- to 80-year-old vines, the Ravera bottling amps up the refinement and depth. Still youthfully alluring, floral scents of violet and rose give way to succulent black raspberry on the beautifully contoured palate. There are inner-mouth perfumes of juniper and lavender along with a mineral accent of crushed stone. Finely ground, powdery tannins are tightly laced, providing authoritative structure. To preserve freshness and fruit character, Valter Fissore avoids racking throughout the entire 24 months of ageing in Slavonian oak cask, and indeed purity and focus are tangible signatures of this Barolo. Drink 2028-2041"

96/100 Decanter, Michaela Morris



2020 Elvio Cogno Barolo Ravera 'Bricco Pernice' - \$210

"Made with the Lampia subvariety of Nebbiolo grown in a 2ha section in the most historic part of the Ravera Cru, the fragrant 2020 Bricco Pernice has lovely aromas of violet, red fruit and baking spice. Rich, round and structured, it stays one year longer in the estate cellars than Cascina Nuova and Ravera to tame the significant but refined tannins that wrap around layers of flavors including succulent red cherry, juicy pomegranate, baking spice and orange peel. Drink 2028–2035."

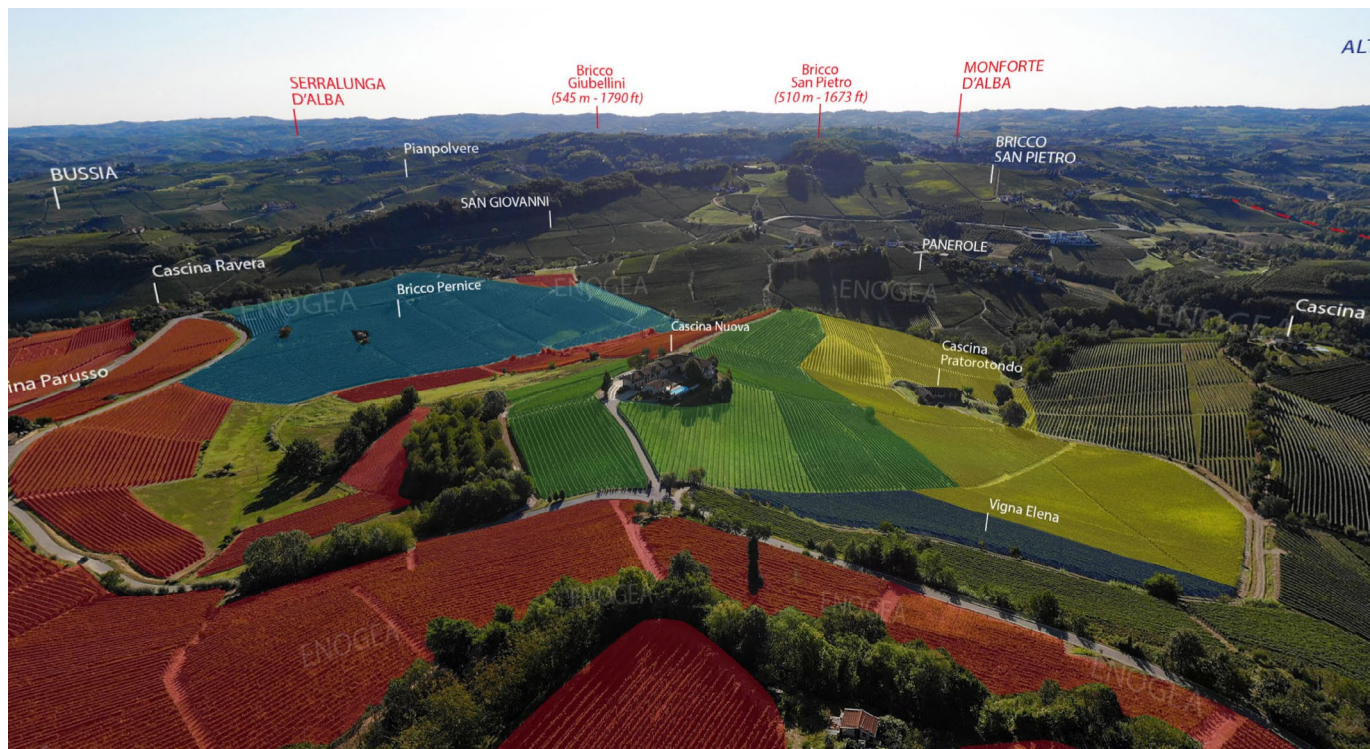
96/100 Kerin O'Keefe

"Mid ruby with the beginning of orange tinges. Loads of minerally stony notes and cherry and raspberry notes with a touch of oatmeal and rosemary. Lush and fresh at the same time. Wired cool-climate raspberry fruit with the perfect dose of gravelly tannins adding loads of structure to the finish. Long and fine, while the tannins need time to settle. Drink 2027-2040"

17.5/20 Jancis Robinson, Walter Speller

"This wine comes from a two-hectare site within the greater Ravera MGA and sees one more year of aging, for a total of 36 months in large Slavonian casks. The Elvio Cogno 2020 Barolo Ravera Bricco Pernice (with only 6,000 bottles made) is very determined and focused. You get blue and purple fruits, hard plum and spicy shadings of nutmeg and sweet earth. This vintage remains softly textured but intense overall. Drink 2026-2043"

95/100 Parker's Wine Advocate, Monica Larne



2019 Elvio Cagno Barolo Ravera 'Vigna Elena' Riserva - \$250

"This Barolo Riserva is produced only in great vintages from a special 1 ha plot in Ravera of 100% Nebbiolo Rosé clone. Elena is the daughter of co-owners, Valter Fissore and Nadia Cagno. The vineyard for this wine was planted when Elena was born, and is dedicated to her, as is the wine. The label is a drawing of a chick that Elena made for her mother and father when she was just three years old. (She is now the professional designer of all the winery's labels.) This label has been the symbol of the wine ever since its creation many years ago. All about perfume, elegance and structure, the exquisite 2019 Vigna Elena Riserva is another stunner. Made entirely with the rare Rosé, long considered a subvariety of Nebbiolo, it's has intense sensations of rose, red berry, dark spice and blood orange. It seamlessly combines the elegance of Vigna Elena and the youthful austerity of the 2019 vintage. What a beauty. Drink 2029–2044."

99/100 Kerin O'Keefe

"Planted in 1991 with the rare Nebbiolo Rosé, the 1 ha Vigna Elena has been bottled separately as a Riserva since 1997. Winemaker Valter Fissore explains that it gives a leaner body with greater tannins, requiring longer maturation. The 2019 emerges furtively yet hauntingly with rose, freesia and strawberry blossom. There are hints of brushwood and liquorice too. But really, it is the floral bouquet that takes hold, overflowing discreetly onto the pristine, raspberry saturated palate where long, smooth and silky tannins are intricately knit, giving well delineated borders. The definition of finesse. Drink 2027-2043"

98/100 Decanter, Michaela Morris

"Lustrous mid ruby. A deep, concentrated nose that needs lots of air. Still very tight on the palate but with real finesse and depth. Super-fine, long tannins. Doesn't show it all right now, but really grows on you. Changes radically in the glass with aeration. Lush and fresh, and enormous focus on raspberry fruit. Elegant and sleek. Drink 2027-2038"

18/20 Jancis Robinson, Walter Speller

"This wine represents the most important selection of fruit executed at this estate within a small one-hectare parcel. The top-shelf Elvio Cagno 2019 Barolo Riserva Ravera Vigna Elena is super precise and sharp with high density. The wine has a hard note that is transmitted across dark fruit, purple berries and exotic spice. That sharpness continues to the palate where you taste mineral nuances and crushed stone. It ages in oak for 36 months. I would give the Riserva more time to flesh out. Production is 5,500 bottles. Drink 2026-2048

96+/100 Parker's Wine Advocate, Monica Lerner



"Massolino is among the estates I place at the top of Piedmont's hierarchy because of the consistency of the wines across their entire range. The entry-level offerings are an absolute delight. I was pleasantly surprised with the 2022 Barbarescos, given the extreme heat and drought of the growing season. The 2021 Barolos are illustrative of the lighter style that has become the norm here. Today, the Barolos are all vinified in wood and see more whole-berry fermentations, with lighter extractions and far fewer pumpovers and punchdowns than in the past. Aging was done entirely in cask. Massolino's straight Barolo, often one of the best wines in its peer group, is terrific. The wines climb from there."

– Vinous, Antonio Galloni

2022 Massolino Langhe Nebbiolo - \$49.99

"The 2022 Massolino Langhe Nebbiolo is smooth and delicious, doling out flavors of raspberry compote, ripe strawberry, cake spice and crushed mint. It's full-bodied but lithe, accessible and elegant, with polished tannins. Drink through 2027."

92/100 Kerin O'Keefe

"The 2022 Langhe Nebbiolo is a fine bridge to the Barbarescos and Barolos. Shorter time on the skins exalts bright red fruit tones and overall freshness. Medium in body, with pretty floral top notes, the Langhe Nebbiolo is terrific. I especially admire its vibrancy considering the vintage. Drink 2024-2030"

90/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni

2022 Massolino Barbaresco - \$82.99

"A blend from parcels in Albesani, Serraboella and Staderi. Lustrous, youthful ruby. At first, a little peppery and subdued, with subtle yet concentrated raspberry underneath. Great focus and purity. Firm structure, but perfectly balanced. Drink 2025-2032"

17+/20 Jancis Robinson, Walter Speller

"A pristine and precise nose gives an exuberant demonstration of violet, liquorice and wild bramble berries. This fills the mouth with poised concentration and measured vigour. There are no hard edges as suede-textured tannins gracefully enfold the supple fruit. Given Massolino's relatively new foray into Barbaresco, the family has called on consultant Dante Scaglione to help out. Plots in Staderi, Albesani and Serraboella are assembled before fermentation in order to amalgamate better. Drink 2025-2031"

93/100 Decanter, Michaela Morris



2021 Massolino Barolo - \$82.99

"The 2021 Barolo from Massolino is a lovely wine. It opens with heady aromas of dog rose, wild red berry and whiffs of botanical herb and new leather. On the elegant, savory palate, taut, fine-grained tannins accompany ripe Morello cherry, star anise and orange peel that give it a tangy finish. Drink 2029-2036."

93/100 Kerin O'Keefe

"Engaging from the get-go, the nose offers scents of wild strawberry, violets, tarragon and liquorice. Lovely depth of plush red fruit intertwines with tangy minerals. The tannins are polished and long, drawing from the front of the mouth with graceful ease through to the finish. So elegantly composed. Massolino has put out a beautiful set of 2021s, starting with the estate's not-to-be missed 'classic' Barolo. It is built around the Collaretto MGA with various other holdings in Serralunga. In some vintages, a small part of Parussi makes it in which is why this isn't declared as a village Barolo. Drink 2025-2034"

93/100 Decanter, Michaela Morris

"The 2021 Barolo is a fabulous wine that shows both the quality of the year and the very high standards at Massolino. Pliant and expressive, with notable depth, the Barolo is super-impressive. Macerated dark cherry, spice, lavender, menthol and blood orange all build in the glass. What a gorgeous and complete wine this is. The straight Barolo is, without question, the hidden gem in this range. Drink 2025-2034"

92/100 Vinous, Antonio Galloni

2021 Massolino Barolo Margheria - \$165

"Always the most elegant of the Massolino Barolos, the fragrant 2021 Margheria stuns with enticing scents of wild roses, perfumed berries, botanical herbs and whiffs of freshly tilled soil. Classy and utterly delicious, the radiant palate is loaded with weightless finesse that wraps around raspberry compote, crushed strawberries, star anise and crushed mint while a hint of blood orange lingers on the close. Refined tannins and fresh acidity keep it beautifully balanced. Drink 2030–2036.

96/100 Kerin O'Keefe

"This has lovely aromas of blueberries, pine resin, orange rind and a touch of lavender. The palate is medium- to full-bodied with supple tannins in the context of the vintage. It has a seductive, tender, well-integrated fruit profile that makes it very attractive. Drink or hold."

96/100 James Suckling, Jacobo Garcia-Andrade Llamas

"Serralunga d'Alba. Just mid ruby. Lifted but still a little closed. Hints of earth. Almost-ethereal red fruit. Transparent and with fine grip. Long, wired red-fruit finish. Drink 2025-2032"

17+/20 Jancis Robinson, Walter Speller



2021 Massolino Barolo Parafada - \$165

"The 2021 Parafada from Massolino captures the essence of the cru and the vintage thanks to its intensity, structure and radiance.

It opens with heady scents of crushed rose petal, camphor, new leather and dark spice while the full-bodied palate delivers succulent raspberry, ripe cherry, licorice and tobacco before a long, savory finish. Firm, fine-grained tannins provide the framework while fresh acidity keeps it vibrant. The best Parafada I've had in years from this estate, this is a wine I'd love to have in my own cellar. Drink 2023–2046.

98/100 Kerin O'Keefe

"This is really perfumed, with violets, bark, attractive blue fruit and a touch of cedar. The palate is medium- to full-bodied with some juicy, pleasant fruit that is dominated by youthful, austere tannins that should resolve with time. This should come together in four to five years."

97/100 James Suckling, Jacobo Garcia-Andrade Llamas

"Massolino's 1.2ha in Parafada boast the estate's oldest vines, now upwards of 60 years old. The precipitous, south-facing slope sits on compact, limestone-rich marls. It convenes at the intersection of finesse and power with the former ultimately favoured here. Flecks of rust, rosemary and bay laurel add dimension to the red currant and raspberry canvas. Precisely chiselled tannins are seamlessly woven in. Racy acidity propels minerals to the fore, reaching an intense crescendo with the energetic chalky finish. Drink 2027-2039"

95/100 Decanter, Michaela Morris



2021 Massolino Barolo Parussi - \$165

"Castiglione Falletto. Bought in 2007; the vineyard now is 55 years old. Just mid ruby. Gorgeous, slow-to-open nose of minerally, stony raspberry fruit. Crushed raspberry and sour-cherry fruit on the palate. Lush, long, juicy and with long, fine, gravelly tannins. Getting close to perfection. Drink 2025-2036"

18/20 Jancis Robinson, Walter Speller

"Aromas of menthol, violet, pipe tobacco and dark-skinned berry form the enticing nose on the compelling 2021 Massolino Parussi. Hailing from the estate's Castiglione Falletto, the bold, youthfully austere palate shows the intensity of Parussi and the vintage, delivering succulent black cherry, raspberry, licorice and crushed mint framed in firm, close-grained tannins. Drink 2033–2043."

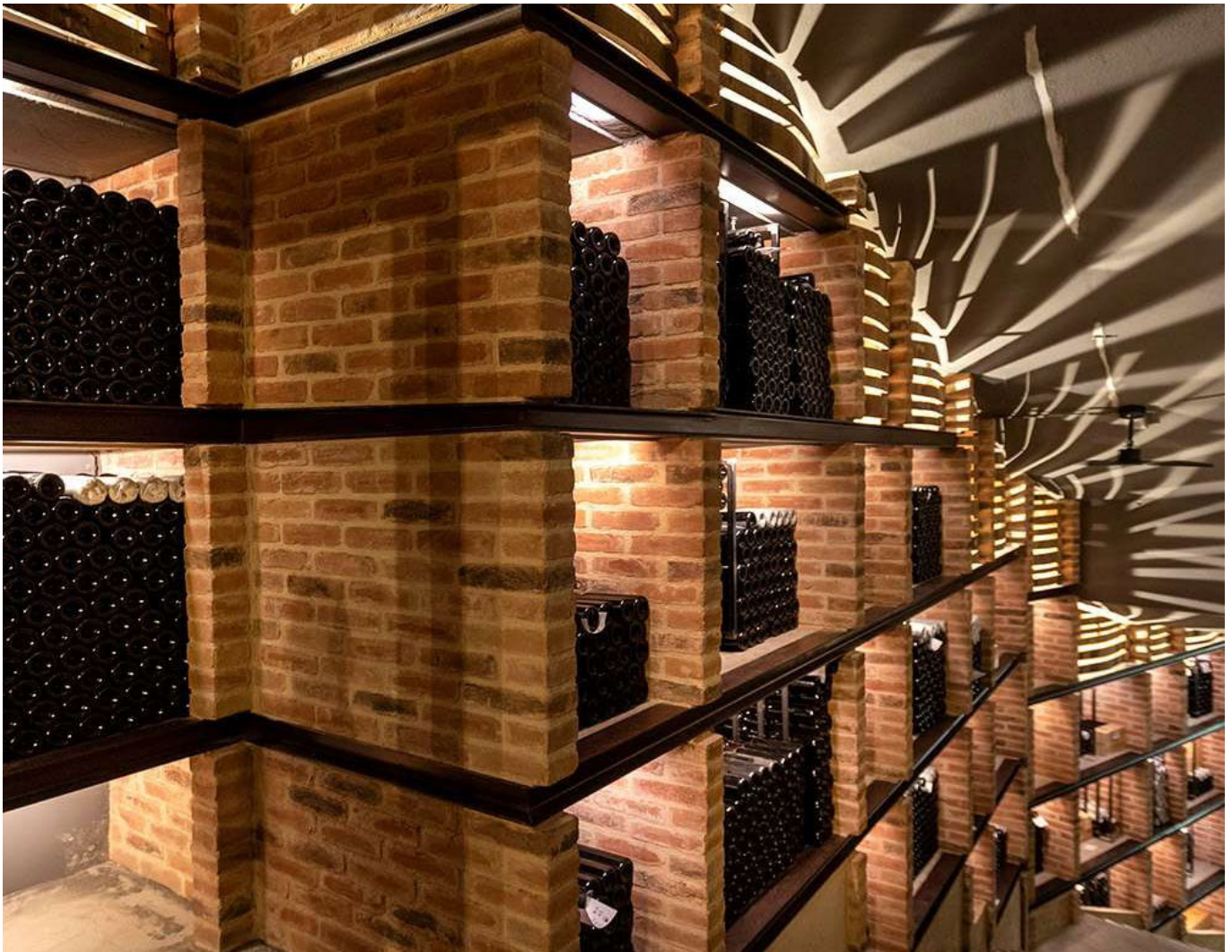
96/100 Kerin O'Keefe

"Luminous and expressive, with tar, dried rose petals and crushed cranberries. The palate is medium-bodied with delicate, delineated fruit. It's juicy and incisive, with precise, polished tannins and a delicate finish. Very detailed and nuanced, it's on the ethereal end of the spectrum. Drink or hold."

96/100 James Suckling, Jacobo Garcia-Andrade Llamas

"Despite inextricable ties to Serralunga d'Alba since 1896, the Massolino family ventured outside the village in 2006 with the purchase of almost 2ha in Castiglione Falletto's Parussi MGA. Younger soils with a higher percentage of clay yield more vigorous vines, and that surge of vigour is echoed in the 2021. Scents of wild strawberry and cherry are punctuated by tobacco and star anise. On the palate, a glossy core of pomegranate is swathed in chewy tannins – all with the estate's signature elegance. Pulverised stone and bitter herbs lend further nuance. Drink 2027-2040"

95/100 Decanter, Michaela Morris



2019 Massolino Barolo Riserva Vigna Rionda - \$340

"The Vigna Rionda Cru is the ultimate representation of Barolo from Serralunga. The impressive 2019 Vigna Rionda Riserva from Massolino captivates with its combination of structure, intensity and elegance. It opens with classic Barolo aromas of red berry, wild rose, dark spice, leather and a balsamic whiff of camphor that on the composed, full-bodied palate segue into more defined sensations of crushed raspberry, cranberry, licorice and tobacco. Showing the nuance of this extraordinary vintage, it's still youthfully austere, with a backbone of firm, fine-grained tannins and vibrant acidity that lends youthful tension. This is one I'd love to try again in ten years or so. Drink 2034–2049.

98/100 Kerin O'Keefe

"From the first parcel acquired in 1956 to subsequent purchases in 1967, 1986 and 1990, Massolino is now the largest landowner in Vignarionda, with approximately 3.5ha. It is bottled separately only as a Riserva – and not every vintage. The 2019 demonstrates the cool, elegant character of the vintage. It starts with subtle spicy snaps of pepper and sage against a rhubarb background. Eventually, flint and garden rose come to the fore. The palate is like biting into a perfectly ripe pomegranate with a crunch of the seeds, tartness of juice and cleansing tannins. Beautifully sculpted with toned muscles and proper thrilling grip, a sophisticated bottling packing nothing extraneous. Drink 2026–2041"

97/100 Decanter; Michaela Morris

"The fame of this vineyard dates back to at least 1340. When asked to name the top five crus of Barolo in terms of quality and prestige, roughly 50 percent of all the Barolo producers included 'Vignarionda'. To be crystal-clear, no other Barolo cru garnered as many votes. A slightly old-fashioned and aromatic wine with notes of coffee grounds, leather, prunes and licorice. The attack is lush, with a full body, velvety condensed tannins, refreshing acidity and intoxicating prunes and umami in the dusty finish. Poised and balanced despite its structure. Try from 2026"

97/100 James Suckling

"Serralunga d'Alba. During the 1960s and '70s, when the Barolo 'single-vineyard' craze had not yet spread, and Barolo was the result of a skilful blend of the best grapes from numerous vineyards, the Vignarionda grapes were always the most expensive and the most sought after. Lustrous mid ruby and still youthful. Youthful, layered raspberry fruit with iodine hints. Great focus and no sign of tertiary aromas. Embryonic, compact red fruit with bags of finely ground tannins. Elegant palate weight and great freshness. Drink 2026–2040"

18/20 Jancis Robinson, Walter Speller

