



G.D.VAJRA



PRESS
REPORT

22

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Highlights



#5 THE ENTHUSIAST 100: THE BEST WINES OF 2021

G.D. VAJRA 2017 Barolo Ravera



WINE & SPIRITS TOP 100 WINERIES OF

2021 & 2020

G.D. VAJRA



#48 TOP 100 WINES OF 2019

G.D. VAJRA 2015 Barolo Albe

#36 TOP 100 WINES OF 2016

G.D. VAJRA 2011 Barolo Bricco delle Viole

#16 TOP 100 WINES OF 2013

G.D. VAJRA 2008 Barolo Barolo Albe

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Lettie Teague in her "Rosé's Marvelous, Multi Tasking Italian Cousin" on Rosabella Rosato

2018 on May. 24th 2019 [link](#)

2017 Langhe Nebbiolo Claré J.C. in the 25 Essential Wines of 2018 List of Punch Drink Magazine, Dec 18th 2018, [link](#)

Bloomberg

- **Elin McCoy** in her selection of **The 20 Best Wines for Under \$20** on **2017 Dolcetto d'Alba** on January 25th 2019 [link](#)

The New York Times

Crystal Meers in the Sunday Styles - Arena Section on **Rosabella Rosato** and **Dolcetto d'Alba** on Aug. 22nd 2018 [link](#)

drinks business

Aldo Vaira in the **Top 5 Italian Master Wine Makers**

Steven Spurrier

"[...] the single vineyard Bricco delle Viole is, for me, the Lafite of Barolo."

also featured on....

The Guardian



The Telegraph

LA STAMPA
THE SUNDAY TIMES Forbes

2021

Wine & Spirits
TOP 100



#5 G.D. Vajra 2017 Barolo Ravera

The Enthusiast 100: The Best Wines of 2021

Highlights



2018 Piemonte DOC Barbera Freisa. Monica Larner, Wine Advocate, Jun 2021

Here's an exciting discovery from G.D. Vajra. The 2018 Piemonte Barbera Freisa is an excellent wine and a worthy value proposition. Both the grapes used in the blend, Barbera (55%) and Freisa (45%), are celebrated locally for their versatility and their ease when paired with the local foods. From tagliarin with a light meat sauce to Bra pork sausage that is put on the grill in one giant coil, this wine has you covered. The wine's 15.5% alcohol content and its generous fruit keep the palate food-ready. The back label explains that estate patriarch Carlo (Carlin) Vajra produced a mysterious blend of the two grapes in 1970. That legacy lives on in this inaugural release of 3,000 bottles. This wine delivers black fruit with a hint of extra ripeness or blackberry preserves on the finish.

2019 Langhe Nebbiolo Claré J.C. Monica Larner, Top 100 Wine Discoveries 2020

Although this wine has been produced since 2014, it is a new discovery to me—and a terrific one at that. I'll start off with the beautiful graphics on the label that were inspired by the winemaking protocols penned in 1606 by Gian Battista Croce, a jeweler for the House of Savoia who dabbled in wine. The G.D. Vajra 2019 Langhe Nebbiolo Claré J.C. is a pure expression of Nebbiolo, with about one-fifth whole-cluster fermentation. Following suggestions to serve the wine slightly chilled, I tasted my sample at 55 degrees Fahrenheit, and I would recommend the same to you. This wine offers an innovative and playful look at the normally austere, long-term Nebbiolo grape. In fact, this Langhe Nebbiolo borrows from Beaujolais. You'll love the vibrant, tonic and lively fruit that pops from the glass with focused intensity. The palate is lean and crisp. I am absolutely smitten.



ON THE WINERY

“Vajra is one of Piedmont’s best kept secrets. Here readers will enter a world of sublime hand-crafted, artisan wines of the very highest level.”

The Wine Advocate, A. Galloni, #185, Oct. 2009



SEPTEMBER 2021

Slow Wine

"Chiocciola" award 2022

"Top Wine" award 2022

SEPTEMBER 2020

Slow Wine

"Bottiglia" award 2021

JULY 2020

The Wine Advocate

Barolo, Barbaresco & More – Lockdown Wines by Monica Lerner

"This is a terrific offering from G.D. Vajra, with innovative and clever wines ranging from the classic Barolo Bricco delle Viole to the informal Langhe Nebbiolo Claré J.C. With a catchy rap song singing its praises (google "Il Primo - Nebbiolo ft. LFT and Toro"), G.D. Vajra is one of the most exciting estates to watch today. Congratulations on these gorgeous wines."

NOVEMBER 2019

The New York Times

36 Hours in Barolo, Italy, by Ingrid K. Williams

"Whatever your depth of knowledge, one of the warmest welcomes in the area awaits at G.D. Vajra, a family-run winery in the hills above Barolo town. Tours of the cantina are led by Milena, the engaging matriarch, and her amiable daughter, Francesca, who intersperse explanations of terroir and winemaking techniques with family lore. Visits conclude with a tasting of Vajra's celebrated wines, from a silky nebbiolo and balanced Barbera d'Alba to an elegant single-vineyard Barolo with hints of violet."

SEPTEMBER 2019

Slow Wine

"Chiocciola" award 2020

SEPTEMBER 2019

Gambero Rosso

"Tre Bicchieri" award 2020

JUNE/JULY 2015

The Somm Journal

Steven Spurrier – The Great Wines of Piedmont,

"The morning visit was to G.D. Vajra just outside Barolo, one of my very favourite producers, established in 1972 by Aldo Vajra. [...] Luigi Baudana vineyards combine robustness and elegance, while the single vineyard Bricco delle Viole is, for me, the Lafite of Barolo."

Vinous

Antonio Galloni

FEBRUARY 2022

The Enigma of 2018 Barolo

"I tasted a large number of wines on my most recent visit to Vajra. **Once again, I was blown away** by the consistency of the range, starting from the simplest offerings in the lineup."

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FEBRUARY 2021

2017 Barolo: Here We Go Again...

"The Vajra family produced a **bevy of stellar wines** from both their estates, G.D. Vajra in Barolo and Baudana in Serralunga. **The 2017s are deep, fleshy and impeccably balanced.** All of the 2017s were fermented in steel, where they spent 50-60 days on the skins, including submerged cap maceration at the end."

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FEBRUARY 2020

2016 Barolo: Right Place, Right Time

"The Vaira family has turned out a **magnificent set of Barolos** at both their own winery and at Baudana. Harvest wrapped up on October 22, very late by present day standards, and ideal for wines that emphasize purity of fruit. **As always, the Barolos are all about finesse and nuance, very much like an artists' pencil etchings, where all the lines are totally delineated.** At Baudana, the wines are naturally more muscular, but that is Serralunga, after all. Most importantly, **the Vairas have developed a personal style that melds classicism with a level of approachability that makes these wines so alluring, even upon release.**"

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FEBRUARY 2018

2014 Barolo: Surprise, Surprise...

"It's hard to believe, but **the Vajra family keeps raising the bar.** The 2014 Barolos are strong across the board, especially within the context of the vintage, but the flagship Bricco delle Viole is a truly special, moving wine."

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FEBRUARY 2017

2013 Barolo: Sublime Finesse & Elegance

"By now I have run out of superlatives for Vajra. Suffice it to say **these are some of the finest, artisan wines being made in Piedmont today.** At a time when prices for so many wines are skyrocketing out of control, Vajra's prices are a breath of fresh air. The Barolos are made in contemporary traditional style, with longish fermentations and aging in cask. Vajra fans will note the appearance of a new Barolo, a selection within Bricco delle Viole. My only regret is not having bought these wines more heavily in the past."

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JANUARY 2014

2010 Barolo: Flying High Again

"The Vajra family has done a magnificent job with their 2010 Barolos. [...] Actually, all of the 2012s and 2013s are impressive here, and easily confirm **Vajra's position in the top echelon of Barolo producers today. I can't say enough about the Vajra family and all they have accomplished, especially over the last decade. [...] In a world that is increasingly about noise and hype, the Vajras work out of a very functional, simple winery just outside Barolo, driven by the values of family, faith and the strong work ethic that is at the heart of the Piedmontese culture.**"

ON THE WINES

“ This is a terrific offering from G.D Vajra, with innovative and clever wines ranging from the classic Barolo Bricco delle Viole to the informal Langhe Nebbiolo Claré J.C. ”

The Wine Advocate, Barolo, Barbaresco and more - Lockdown Wines, Jul. 2020



BAROLO

BRICCO DELLE VIOLE



17.5 2018 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2018, Nov 2021

First day: Just mid ruby with the beginning of orange tinges. Concentrated and subtle at the same time with brooding concentration and beautiful depth. Bags of chewy tannins that make their mark on the still-embryonic fruit on the palate. Long, elegant, fresh and still to open up further. *Second day:* At first a little subdued but then opens up with aeration. Sweetly concentrated red fruit with a cool-climate edge. Fine and concentrated at the same time. Much more backward on the palate with a thick layer of firm yet polished tannins. Elegant filigree fruit on the finish. Definitely needs more time. - WS

93 2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, The Enigma of 2018 Barolo, Feb 202

The 2018 Barolo Bracco delle Viole is finely cut and chiseled, as it so often is. Dried flowers, mint, crushed rocks, pine and red berry fruit all grace this taut, sculpted Barolo. The 2018 has all of the energy of this site.

95 2017 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jun 2021

A fair old amount of perfume here. Raspberry, rose oil, menthol and five spice. Just over medium-bodied, raspberry and red cherry, again the sweet spices, and a bit of tobacco savoury stuff, fresh too, with pumice stone tannin, and a long firm finish. Maybe not quite as fine as some of the better years, but gee it's still keeping itself pretty tidy.

95 2017 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Jun 2021

The G.D. Vajra 2017 Barolo Bracco delle Viole is packed with medium dark cherry fruit and plum. The wine also shows a savory side, with spice, hazelnut cream, licorice and lightly fragrant potting soil. This vintage sits solid on the palate, wrapping thickly over the senses, thanks to its creamy, fruit-driven consistency and well-managed tannins. These vines are high in elevation, ranging from 400 to 480 meters in altitude. Those higher elevations are key to interpreting a vintage that saw heat such as this.

96 2017 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Jun 2021

95 2017 - James Suckling, Apr 2021

94 2017 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

95 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2017 Barolo: Here We Go Again..., Feb 2021

17.5 2017 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2017, Mar 2021

98 2016 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Lockdown Wines, Jul 2020

97+ 2016 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Sep 2020

97 2016 - James Suckling, Jul 2020

96 2016 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

BAROLO RAVERA



17++ 2018 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2018, Nov 2021

Lustrous mid ruby. Subtle, fragrant and concentrated and with fantastic depth and earthy mineral notes. Cherry and raspberry fruit with a hint of damson. Richly tannic adding chew to the juicy elegant fruit. On the finish, quite a bit of tannins that still need to integrate into the very long fruit finish. Compact and pithy. - WS

95 2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, The Enigma of 2018 Barolo, Feb 202

The 2018 Barolo Ravera is a powerful, tightly wound wine. Gravel, smoke, cured meats, spice, leather, tobacco and menthol emerge, but only with quite a bit of reticence. This deceptively mid-weight Barolo has a good bit of brawn. It will be interesting to see if the fruit emerges from behind the tannins.

93 2017 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

Notable for its purity of fruit, this Barolo features black cherry, black currant, violet, mineral and tar aromas and flavors. Harmonious and lithe, with an underpinning of mineral that lingers through the dynamic finish.

94+ 2017 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Jun 2021

The G.D. Vajra 2017 Barolo Ravera shows solid build and consistency, with more rich and saturated fruit compared to the other Barolo releases from this historic estate. The Ravera cru offers broad shoulders with a tight textural fabric. That powerful approach makes a good sounding board for the wine's dark cherry, plum, dark mineral and spice flavors. This is more of a red meat wine.

97 2017 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Jun 2021

From the township of Novello and from what is now widely recognized as one of the denomination's top vineyard sites, this is just stunning, offering intense aromas of wild berries, new leather, floral notes, camphor and grilled herb. The delicious, structured palate shows finesse and power, featuring ripe red cherry, blood orange, cedar, licorice and mineral notes suggesting tangy iron. Noble tannins provide support. Reflecting the vintage, this won't need years to come around but will also age well for at least another decade.

96 2017 - James Suckling, Apr 2021

95 2017 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jun 2021

95 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2017 Barolo: Here We Go Again..., Feb 2021

17.5 2017 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2017, Mar 2021

97 2016 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

96+ 2016 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Sep 2020

96 2016 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Sep 2020

BAROLO

COSTE DI ROSE



16.5 2018 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2018, Nov 2021

First day: Lustrous mid ruby with the beginning of orange tinges. A firmer nose than the Albe of the same vintage and still closed with notes only of spice emerging from the glass. Hints of rich cherry. Gentle and concentrated palate with plenty of firm, sandy tannins and with plenty of concentrated fruit that is still a little reluctant to come out. Needs more time. *Second day:* A little bit backward, but with a peppery tingle. Raspberries with hints of malt. Brooding concentration. Linear red fruit on the palate but not austere and with bags of powdery tannins. Long but closes up. Certainly refreshing and tactile. - WS

92 2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, The Enigma of 2018 Barolo, Feb 2021

The 2018 Barolo Coste di Rose is a delicate, understated Barolo that will need a bit of time to fully emerge. There's lovely purity to the fruit here, but also some angular contours that need to resolve. The 2018 is a mid-weight wine in the style of the vintage, and yet there is fine balance.

94 2017 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jun 2021

Ripe red fruit, blood orange, mint and nutmeg. Juicy dark red fruits with a bit of orange tang, spicy too, with firm chalky tannin, plenty of chew and energy, and a bit of liquorice on a long firm finish. A little more chunky and open-knit than usual, but still very good.

94 2017 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Jun 2021

With fruit from higher-elevation vineyards in the village of Barolo, the 2017 Barolo Coste di Rose is quite elegantly downplayed and fragile. The wine reveals wild berry, cassis and lots of blue flower or lilac. A pretty mineral note recalls crushed limestone and is present through the long and polished mouthfeel. This wine overperforms, considering the challenges of this vintage that saw extreme weather, from spring frost to scorching summer temperatures. These vineyard sites performed better than most.

96 2017 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Jun 2021

93 2017 - James Suckling, Apr 2021

93 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2017 Barolo: Here We Go Again..., Feb 2021

17 2017 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2017, Mar 2021

95+ 2016 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Sep 2020

95 2016 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

95 2016 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Sep 2020

94 2016 - James Suckling, Jul 2020

BAROLO ALBE



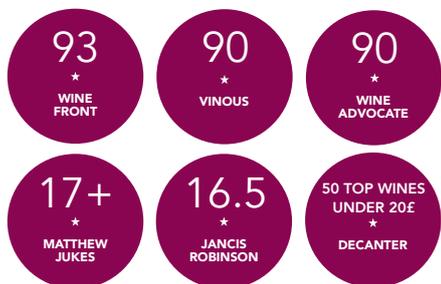
- 17 2018 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2018, Nov 2021**
First day: Just mid ruby and healthy looking. Spicy and stony raspberry and cherry fruit that is lively and with notes of red fruit. Supple and gentle fruit palate with crunchy tannins. Long and with a certain leggerezza. Filigree and at the same time intense. *Second day:* A little more closed than the previous day but with alluring fresh red fruit and a hint of orange peel. The fruit becomes more concentrated the longer it sits in the glass. Sappy and fresh and almost a little racy with long powdery tannins. Has lost a little of its complexity but not its freshness. A bit more bones, a little less flesh. - WS
- 93+ 2017 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jun 2021**
 A lovely fruit forward and charming Barolo here. Raspberry, cherry, menthol and sweet spices. Medium-bodied, spicy red fruits, perfume and juicy flavours. Tea leaf fragrance, a bit of liquorice and bergamot, gentle brick dust tannin, affable and succulent, with a long and cool mentholated finish. Drinking well now, but a few years will see it rise and shine. Excellent.
- 93 2017 - Monica Lerner, Wine Enthusiast, Jun 2021**
 This is one of the most accessible and trustworthy wines you can buy from Piedmont. Keeping in line with past vintages, the G.D. Vajra 2017 Barolo Albe opens to medium concentration and a very expressive or fruit-forward bouquet. This hot-climate 2017 edition shows a little more ripeness and roundness as is to be expected, but these results are a safe bet nonetheless. Cherry and raspberry aromas are followed by blue flower and pressed violets. Set this bottle aside for medium or long-term drinking.
- 93 2017 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Jun 2021**
 Red berry, rose and camphor aromas waft out of the glass. Tangy and delicious, the smooth, full-bodied palate doles out ripe Marasca cherry, fleshy raspberry and hints of ground baking spice framed in taut, polished tannins. It's already accessible but also has good midterm aging potential.
- 92 2017 - James Suckling, Apr 2021**
- 91 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2017 Barolo: Here We Go Again..., Feb 2021**
- 16.5+ 2017 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2017, Mar 2021**
- 94+ 2016 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Sep 2020**
- 94 2016 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator**
- 94 2016 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Sep 2020**
- 94 2016 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Lockdown Wines, Jul 2020**
- 93 2016 - James Suckling, Jul 2020**

DOLCETTO D'ALBA COSTE&FOSSATI



- 92 **2020 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Everyday Piedmont, Jan 2022**
The 2020 Dolcetto d'Alba Coste & Fossati offers a bit more depth than the straight Dolcetto but with the energy that runs through all the 2020s here. Dark cherry fruit, leather, spice, tobacco and dried herbs lend notable complexity. This is beautifully done.
- 92 **2019 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Everyday Piedmont, Part 1, Sep 2021**
The 2019 Dolcetto d'Alba Coste & Fossati is laced with wild dark cherry, plum, spice, leather, tobacco, incense and scorched earth. In this vintage, the Coste & Fossati is a bit more aromatic and less weighty than it can be, but it is nevertheless delicious, not to mention one of the most distinctive Dolcettos readers will come across.
- 90 **2019 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Jun 2021**
The organic 2019 Dolcetto d'Alba Coste & Fossati is plump and bright with raw cherry and sweet blueberry. This 8,000-bottle production is streamlined and fresh with all sorts of fun fruit flavors to keep your attention. To the palate, the wine is quite simple, but you still have the textural fiber to pair with fried chicken or breaded veal. There is a dusting of black pepper on the close. This is the second time in as many years that the Vajra family has resisted submerging the cap during winemaking for this wine, a tradition they had originally started in 1989.
- 94+ **2018 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, May 2020**
- 92 **2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont: Beyond the usual suspects, Mar 2020**
- 91+ **2018 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Lockdown Wines, Jul 2020**
- 95 **2017 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, May 2019**
- 93 **2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, New Releases from the Langhe, Roero, Asti & More, May 2019**
- 91 **2017 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator**
- (91-93) **2017 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, #237, Jun 2018**
- 91 **2016 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, #237, Jun 2018**
- 16.5 **2016 - Richard Hemming MW, Jancis Robinson, Another piece of Piemonte, Jul 2018**
- 92 **2015 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Top Values and Everyday Gems from Piemonte, Feb. 2017**
- 17 **2015 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2017**
- 17 **2015 - Jancis Robinson, Liberty Wines' 20th anniversary Italians, June 2017**
- 90 **2014 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Affordable Piedmont – Dolcetto, Barbera & Langhe Nebbiolo, Dec. 2015**

DOLCETTO D'ALBA



- 90 2020 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Everyday Piedmont, Jan 2022**
The 2020 Dolcetto d'Alba is absolutely gorgeous. Bright red berry fruit, spice and floral accents all grace this energetic, vibrant, mid-weight Dolcetto. The Vajra Dolcetto is done entirely in steel. It is as classic as it gets. There's lovely freshness here.
- 93 2018 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, May 2020**
Blue and purple fruit, spice and flowers, some liquorice. It's medium-bodied, stony feel and distinctly 'mineral' acidity, tannin is slightly raw and sticky, but it's still pretty much a baby, and it finishes firm and long, shining with some red fruit as it goes. Such crunch and energy here. It's a very appealing wine.
- 90 2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont: Beyond the usual suspects, Mar 2020**
The 2018 Dolcetto d'Alba is a super-classic wine loaded with varietal flavors to match its mid-weight structure. Soaring aromatics and plush red and purplish berry fruit come through loud and clear in this refreshing, supremely delicious Dolcetto from the Vajra family. This is such a gorgeous wine.
- 16.5 2017 - Richard Hemming MW, Jancis Robinson, Another piece of Piemonte, Jul 2018**
Leathery and tart on the nose with lots of tannic fuzz on the palate. Very punchy for Dolcetto, even considering its youth. Lots of chew on the finish. Substantial and aromatic.
- 90 2017 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, #237, Jun 2018**
Dolcetto is sometimes considered the ugly duckling of the Langhe. But in a hot vintage such as this, the grape flaunts its inner beauty and charm. The 2017 Dolcetto d'Alba delivers earthy and raw aromas of black fruit, plum and black olive. There are dusty sensations of crushed mineral or granite on the close. The finish offers vibrancy, depth and freshness.
- 17+ 2015 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2016**
- 17 2013 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2015/2016**
- 92 2013 - Christelle Guibert, Decanter 50 top wines under 20£**
- 17 2013 - Ian D'Agata, Decanter, 35 amazing Piedmont reds under 20£**
- 89 2012 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont Beyond Barolo and Barbaresco**
- 90 2011 - Antonio Galloni, R. Parker's The Wine Advocate, #203, Oct. 2012**
- 88 2010 - Antonio Galloni, R. Parker's The Wine Advocate, #197, Oct. 2011**

BARBERA D'ALBA SUPERIORE



93+ 2020 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Everyday Piedmont, Jan 2022

The 2020 Barbera d'Alba Superiore emerges from Bricco Bertone in Sinio, just outside the Barolo zone. Black cherry, gravel, spice, menthol and leather confer gravitas to this very young Barbera. The Superiore has a track record of aging exquisitely. I wouldn't dream of touching a bottle anytime soon. This is one of the most under the radar wines in all of Piedmont.

93+ 2017 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Lockdown Wines, Jul 2020

This wine carries the fantasy name "Viola delle Viole," when in fact, its fruit comes from the Bricco delle Viole vineyard and the Bricco Bertone, two sites with different soil types, one adding structure and one adding aromatic purity. The G.D. Vajra 2017 Barbera d'Alba Superiore Viola delle Viole opens to an inky almost impenetrable appearance. The bouquet opens to robust aromas of blackberry jam and cherry preserves. You feel the heat and richness of the vintage, and there's no way around it. The 2017 growing season produced very concentrated fruit with smaller berry size due to heat and drought. In effect, you get a super-sized Barbera that ups the ante in terms of extraction and intensity. There is a point of almost-sweetness on the close followed by good acidity. A pairing with marinated or spicy barbecued meat might work best. Honestly, I'm not a fan of overripe wines, but I make an exception with Barbera because this grape handles the warmest growing seasons with grace and always offers enough acidity to balance things out.

93 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont: Beyond the usual suspects, Mar 2020

The 2017 Barbera d'Alba Superiore is plush, racy and flat-out delicious. Raspberry jam, cinnamon, dried flowers, sweet tobacco and cedar all flesh out in a forward, plush Barbera that will drink well right out the gate. The Superiore always needs a few years to fully emerge. I imagine that will be the case here as well. Even so, the 2017 is an especially open-knit version of this wine.

93 2016 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont: Beyond the usual suspects, Mar 2020

93 2016 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

94 2015 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, New Releases from the Langhe, Roero, Asti & More, May 2019

92 2015 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

92 2015 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast

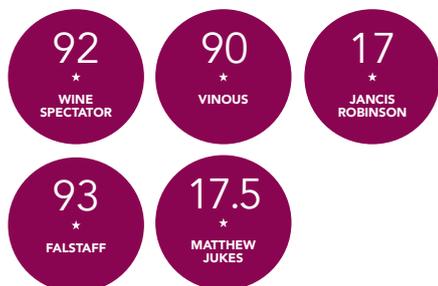
17+ 2015 - Richard Hemming MW, Jancis Robinson, Another piece of Piemonte, Jul 2018

93 2015 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, #237, Jun 2018

92+ 2014 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Top Values and Everyday Gems from Piemonte, Feb. 2017

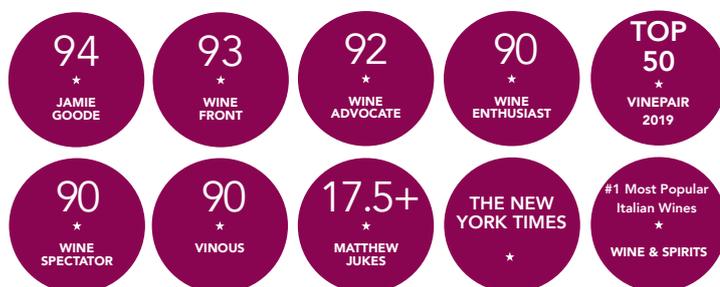
17.5+ 2014 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2016

BARBERA D'ALBA



- 90 2020 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Everyday Piedmont, Jan 2022**
Vajra's 2020 Barbera d'Alba is juicy, vibrant and absolutely delicious. Racy red/purplish berry fruit, spice, rose petal and mint are all kicked up in a tasty, impeccable Barbera that delivers the goods, big time.
- 90 2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Everyday Piedmont, Part 1, Sep 2021**
The 2018 Barbera d'Alba is soft, juicy and uncomplicated, in other words, everything a value-priced Barbera should be. Sweet red cherry, plum, mocha, spice and licorice are front and center in this gorgeous, alluring Barbera from the Vajra family.
- 90 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont: Beyond the usual suspects, Mar 2020**
The 2017 Barbera d'Alba is a joyous wine that is sure to put a smile on readers' faces. Pliant, supple and full of character, the 2017 offers superb density and tons of pure deliciousness. Sweet dark cherry, plum, mocha and sweet spice are pushed forward in this engaging, arrestingly beautiful Barbera. Best of all, the 2017 is a superb value.
- 92 2016 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator**
This is round and juicy, its cherry and blackberry fruit melding seamlessly with the bracing acidity. Flashes of iron and hot stone add depth as this stretches out, ending on a peppery accent.
- 91 2016 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, New Releases from the Langhe, Roero, Asti & More, May 2019**
The 2016 Barbera d'Alba is another stellar wine from Vajra. Plump and explosive on the palate, with superb overall depth, the 2016 captures all the personality of the year with its tremendous richness and resonance. A rush of dark plum, leather, smoke, licorice and incense builds as this flamboyant Barbera shows off its curvy personality.
- 17 2016 - Richard Hemming MW, Jancis Robinson, Another piece of Piemonte, Jul 2018**
Bonfire smoke, black cherry, tight tannins and mouth-watering acidity. Very serious in style, with an almost severe edge to the savoury notes. Plenty of alcohol on the finish. Captures the origin authentically, and would be a great – indeed necessary – partner to hearty food.
- 17 2014 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2017**
- 17.5 2013 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2016**
- 16 2013 - Walter Speller, Jancis Robinson, Walter's mixed Italians - the North, May 2016**
- 17 2012 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2015/2016**
- 90 2011 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator**
- 90 2011 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont Beyond Barolo and Barbaresco**

LANGHE NEBBIOLO



94 2019 - Jamie Goode, Wine Anorak, Ago 2021

I really loved this wine: it may be a lowly Langhe Nebbiolo, but there are many examples of Barolo that can't come close to it. Astonishingly floral and expressive with floral red cherries, wild strawberries and some fine spicy notes. Nebbiolo at its most alluring. The palate is expressive with a bit of tannic crunch keeping the sweet raspberry and cherry fruit fresh. This is such a delight. It offers massive drink ability but also some seriousness. A beautiful expression of this grape and the perfumed nose is so gorgeous.

92 2019 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Jun 2021

Opening to a medium ruby color, the G.D. Vajra 2019 Langhe Nebbiolo is beautifully balanced to deliver an informal drinking style, but it also hints at the enormous complexity that is inherent to this mighty grape of Piedmont. The bouquet reveals cassis and wild berry, crushed rose and lavender. However, the mouthfeel is precise and linear, thanks to those drying mineral notes.

93 2019 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, May 2020

Red fruits, almond paste, aniseed, sweet spice and floral notes. It's medium-bodied, pure and fine, cherry and red fruits, fennel and almond, crisp feel here, brightness and perfume, light brick dust tannin, a quiet succulence, and a long cool finish. A taste of Vajra finesse at an entry level price, is the message.

93 2018 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, May 2020

90 2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont: Beyond the usual suspects, Mar 2020

#5 2017 - Vinepair, The 50 Best Wines of 2019, Dec 2019

90 2017 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Oct 2019

93 2016 - Simon Wolf, Decanter Anything But Oak, May 2018

92 2016 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, New Releases from the Langhe, Roero, Asti & More, May 2019

92 2016 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, #237, Jun 2018



2016 - Silver Medal, Sommelier Wine Awards, May 2018

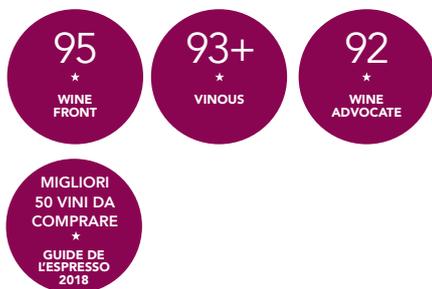
17.5 2015 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2017

90 2014 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Top Values and Everyday Gems from Piemonte, Feb. 2017

17.5+ 2014 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2017

90 2014 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator – Apr. 06, 2016 Daily Wine Picks

LANGHE FREISA KYÈ



- 93+ 2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Everyday Piedmont, Jan 2022**
 The 2018 Langhe Freisa Kyè is quite refined in this vintage and yet it also shows all of the aromatic nuance and complexity that are such signatures of this variety and wine. Dried herbs, rose petal, lavender, mint and spice lend exotic nuance to this deep, beautifully layered Freisa. The Kyè is one of the sleepers of Piedmont's 2018 vintage. It is, quite frankly, as good or better than some Barolos in this tricky vintage.
- 94 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Everyday Piedmont, Part 1, Sep 2021**
 The 2017 Langhe Freisa Kyé is polished, understated and supremely beautiful. Over the last few years, the Vajras have tamed some of the rusticity of Freisa, but there is still plenty of varietal character here. All the elements are very well balanced. Wild cherry, plum, spice, licorice, tobacco, grilled herbs and coffee abound. I would give the 2017 a year or two in bottle, as there is still a bit of edginess to the tannin. Then again, that is Freisa, when it is made with this level of ambition.
- 94+ 2016 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont: Beyond the usual suspects, Mar 2020**
 The 2016 Langhe Freisa Kyé is a gorgeous wine, but it is going to need at least a few years in bottle to be at its very best. Scorched earth, smoke, tobacco, grilled herbs and black pepper give the Kyé its distinctive brooding personality. As always, the Kyé is a powerful, deep wine, but, as in recent years, the style is a bit more restrained than the more explosive wines in the past. The Kyé emerges from a parcel in the Vajra family's Bricco delle Viole home vineyard.
- 92 2016 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Lockdown Wines, Jul 2020**
- 92+ 2016 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, New Releases from the Langhe, Roero, Asti & More, May 2019**
- 95 2015 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, May 2019**
- 90 2015 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, #237, Jun 2018**
- 95 2013 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Top Values and Everyday Gems from Piemonte, Feb. 2017**
- 92 2012 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Affordable Piedmont – Dolcetto, Barbera & Langhe Nebbiolo, Dec. 2015**
- 92 2011 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2011 Barolo – A First Look, Sep. 2014**
- 94+ 2010 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont Beyond Barolo and Barbaresco, Oct. 2013**

LANGHE NEBBIOLO CLARÉ J.C.



93 2020 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Jul 2021

This was one of my favorite discovery wines from last year, and it sure is a pleasure to circle back to this G.D. Vajra 2020 Langhe Nebbiolo Claré J.C. today. Showing a luminous and bright ruby color, the bouquet shyly reveals wild cherry fruit and cassis. In a second moment, you taste bitter almond, candied lilac and hints of fresh garden herb or rosemary blossom. It's hard to image such a young wine tasting so good at this unbelievable price.

92+ 2019 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Lockdown Wines, Jul 2020

Although this wine has been produced since 2014, it is a new discovery to me—and a terrific one at that. I'll start off with the beautiful graphics on the label that were inspired by the winemaking protocols penned in 1606 by Gian Battista Croce, a jeweler for the House of Savoia who dabbled in wine. The G.D. Vajra 2019 Langhe Nebbiolo Claré J.C. is a pure expression of Nebbiolo, with about one-fifth whole-cluster fermentation. Following suggestions to serve the wine slightly chilled, I tasted my sample at 55 degrees Fahrenheit, and I would recommend the same to you. This wine offers an innovative and playful look at the normally austere, long-term Nebbiolo grape. In fact, this Langhe Nebbiolo borrows from Beaujolais. You'll love the vibrant, tonic and lively fruit that pops from the glass with focused intensity. The palate is lean and crisp.

92 2019 - Eric Guido, Vinous, 'Tis the Season for Rosato, May 2020

Wow, the 2019 Vajra Clare JC explodes from the glass with masses of crushed raspberry and strawberry fruits, complicated by sweet and savory herbs, along with crushed stone minerality. On the palate, fleshy textures are quickly firmed up by a mix of tart red berries, with zesty acids, a slight frizzante spritz, and a coating of liquid violet florals. The finish is long and lightly structured, displaying a lasting and unmistakable note of red licorice with hints of spiced orange. This is wonderfully expressive and bridges the gap between Red and Rosé; please pour me another. Of note, the 2019 Claré JC was gently fermented with about 20% whole cluster fruit with malolactic completed in stainless steel, hence the perceivable effervescence.

92 2019 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, May 2020

It's juicy, popping with sweet cherry and red fruits, tickled with spritz, some new leather, spice and dried herb in the mix. Tannin plays a firm but fair game, and the finish, while slightly sweet, closes with a cranberry/pomegranate crunch, which cleans the whole affair up very nicely indeed. It's such a delightful wine to quaff, and while it's not exactly cheap, it does deliver. A different thing. A good thing.

92 2018 - Ian D'Agata, Vinous, Think Pink: Italy's Lively 2018 Rosatos, May 2019

PUNCH 2017 - Jon Bonné, Punch Drink Wine, The 25 Essential Wines of 2018

LANGHE RIESLING PÈTRACINE



- 92 2020 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Everyday Piedmont, Jan 2022**
The 2020 Riesling Pétracine is fresh, vibrant and full of energy. Orchard fruit, mint, lime, crushed rocks and white flowers are all very nicely delineated. Weightless and bright, the Riesling feels especially taut in 2020. It's a style that is hugely appealing.
- 90 2020 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Jun 2021**
Crystalline and luminous, both in appearance and personality, the G.D. Vajra 2020 Langhe Riesling Pétracine opens to light tones of honey, orchard fruit and soft tropical tones. At this young stage, the wine expresses its primary fruit best, although we can expect the bouquet to take all those fascinating aromatic twists and turns that only this grape can deliver. Riesling cultivated in Piedmont is a niche market for sure, but there are ample signs of its growing popularity.
- 91 2019 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Everyday Piedmont, Part 1, Sep 2021**
The 2019 Riesling Piètracine is a very beautiful wine. Soaring in its aromatics, the 2019 presents an intriguing array of varietal aromas and flavors, with bright acids, but also hints of tropicality that add nuance. The 2019 is eccentric and quite engaging. Green apple, jasmine, lemon confit and dried herbs linger.
- 90 2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont: Beyond the usual suspects, Mar 2020**
The 2018 Riesling Piètracine is a rare Piedmont white endowed with real distinction. Lime, white flowers, slate and chalk infuse the 2018 with tons of character as well as nuance. I love the energy here; this is very, very nicely done.
- 91 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, New Releases from the Langhe, Roero, Asti & More, May 2019**
Vajra's Riesling Piètracine is once again one of the most distinctive whites in Piedmont. Green apple, mint, white flowers and light tropical notes. I would prefer to drink the 2017 sooner rather than later.
- 90 2016 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, #237, Jun 2018**
- 17 2015 - Jancis Robinson, Gens de Métier – express route to pleasure, Aug 2017**
- 90 2015 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Top Values and Everyday Gems from Piemonte, Feb. 2017**
- 17 2014 - Jancis Robinson, Walter's mixed Italians - the North, May 2016**
- 92 2014 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Affordable Piedmont – Dolcetto, Barbera & Langhe Nebbiolo, Dec. 2015**
- 91 2012 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont Beyond Barolo and Barbaresco, Oct. 2013**
- 91 2011 - Antonio Galloni, R. Parker's The Wine Advocate, #203, Oct. 2012**
- 91 2010 - Antonio Galloni, R. Parker's The Wine Advocate, #203, Oct. 2012**

MOSCATO D'ASTI



16 2020 - Richard Hemming MW, Jancis Robinson, May 2021

What makes it so good? There are three unique qualities that we should cherish. Firstly, it really does smell and taste of grapes, unlike almost all other wines, and grapes taste delicious. Secondly, it has only 5.5% alcohol, which makes it drinkable with abandon. (Indeed, those first two points are closely related, since the interrupted fermentation process that keeps the alcohol low also retains those pure, unconverted grape flavours.) Thirdly, it is frizzante, which is not only an excellent word, but indicates a lightly sparkling style that I can't think of in any other wine.

The result is a foaming glass of sheer, unadulterated joy that I challenge anyone to drink without a smile.

90+ 2019 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Lockdown Wines, Jul 2020

This pretty semi-sparkling Moscato d'Asti produces a thick foam of bubbles as it pours into the glass and boasts a luminous pale gold color. The G.D. Vajra 2019 Moscato d'Asti sees fruit sourced from the Vigneti di Moncucco in Santo Stefano Belbo and the Riforno vineyard in the nearby area of Mango. Both sites are at the historic heart of the Moscato d'Asti production zone. This pretty wine delivers a wide range of floral and tropical fruit aromas with fragrant peach and star jasmine. There are delicate background notes of crushed stone or oyster shell.

93 2017 - Ian D'Agata, Vinous, Asti & Moscato d'Asti: The Delightful Lightness of Being, Dec. 2018

16.5 2016 - Jancis Robinson, Gens de Métier – express route to pleasure, Aug 2017

90 2015 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Top Values and Everyday Gems from Piemonte, Feb. 2017

92 2015 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast – Editor's Choice - The Enthusiast 100 of 2016

2014 - Bronze Medal, Sommelier Wine Awards, May 2015

92 2013 - Tim Atkin, MW

90 2012 - Jamie Goode's wine blog

89 2011 - Antonio Galloni, R. Parker's The Wine Advocate, #203, Oct. 2012

N.S. DELLA NEVE VINO SPUMANTE DI QUALITA'



91 NV - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Dec 2020

Vibrant and linear, this tangy sparkler offers aromas of rose, red berry and a hint of pastry dough. On the racy palate, small, continuous bubbles and lively acidity accompany juicy red cherry, pomegranate, citrus and bread crust before a dry, crisp finish.

90 NV - Eric Guido, Vinous, 'Tis the Season for Rosato, May 2020

The NV Vajra N.S. Della Neve is remarkably pretty, lifting from the glass with a display of dusty roses and crushed raspberry, offset by hints of lime and subtle sweet spices. It coasts across the senses, intensely mineral and almost salty yet vibrant, with a soothing bead of bubbles and brisk acids adding to its incredibly fresh character. The finish is long and floral, with hints of ripe orchard fruits, as the mouth waters for another sip. This blend of Nebbiolo and Pinot Noir comes across as highly energetic, refined, perfectly dry and just begging to be paired with all sorts of summertime cuisine.

16 NV - Jancis Robinson, Walter's mixed Italians - the North, May 2016

Pale fuchsia. Fresh and with a little yeast impact. Lively and lasting CO2. Very fresh and almost a little mouth-watering. Lovely aperitif style. (WS)

89 NV - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Sep 2017



ROSA BELLA VINO ROSATO



90 2019 - Eric Guido, Vinous, 'Tis the Season for Rosato, May 2020

The 2019 Vajra Rosabella, this year is a blend of 90% Nebbiolo and 10% Barbera, lifts from the glass with a remarkably pretty yet understated display of ripe pear offset by white smoke minerality, a hint of lime, and spring florals. On the palate, it coasts across the senses, delivering a more tart fruit sensation, further accentuated by saline-minerals and brisk acids. The finish is medium in length, yet buzzing with energy and neatly framed by hints of lemon and green apple.

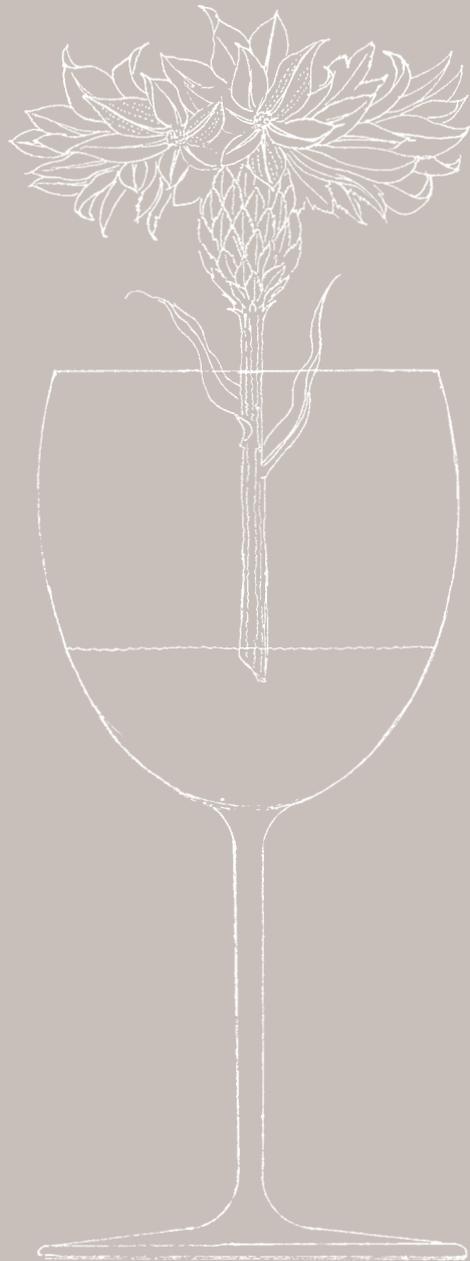
90 2018 - Ian D'Agata, Vinous, Think Pink: Italy's Lively 2018 Rosatos, May 2019

Bright pink. Intense, mineral-accented aromas of red berries and fresh flowers, with a herbal undertone. Classically dry and vibrant rose that closes long and crisp, with nicely persistent notes of herbs and red fruit.

90 2017 - Ian D'Agata, Vinous, Exploring Italy's 2017 Rosatos, Jun 2018

Light pink. Heady aromas of dried pear, peach and orange peel, with a herbal touch. Juicy and penetrating, offering tangy and saline citrus peel and orchard fruit flavors. A grown-up Rosato that eschews candied or sugary shortcuts and that finishes long crisp and bright.





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