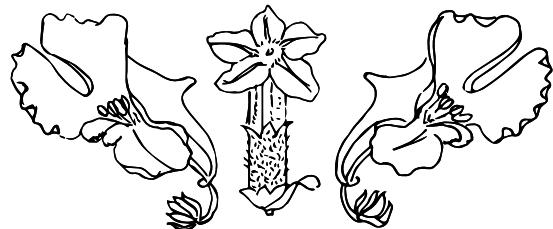


LUIGI BAUDANA



PRESS REPORT

2023



2023

Wine & Spirits TOP 100

Luigi Baudana made the Wine & Spirits
Top 100 Winery of 2023!

LUIGI BAUDANA



98 points on 2019 Barolo Cerretta

“Since the Vaira family became owners of this estate in 2009, Giuseppe Vaira has taken a lighter approach in the cellar, eliminating new French oak barriques in favor of large Slavonian casks and decreasing the practice of salasso (bleeding) to bring the concentration of Cerretta into a more natural balance. The 2019 Cerretta combines power, freshness and depth of fruit to create the most impressive wine we have yet tasted from this estate. Its ample flavors of fresh, thick-skinned red cherry are edged in cool, firm tannins that keep the flavors taut as the wine gains complex spice notes and richer fruit tones over the course of several days.”

Stephanie Johnson, Wine & Spirits

ON THE WINERY

Vinous
Antonio Galloni

January 2023

2019 Barolo: Back on Track

“These are some of the most impressive wines I have tasted from Luigi Baudana, the Serralunga estate the Vajra family has managed since 2009. [...] All three Barolos are exceptional, from the village wine to the two crus.”

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. (...) 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.”

February 2018

2014 Barolo: Surprise, Surprise...

“These are some of the finest wines I have tasted from the Vajra family’s Luigi Baudana estate in Serralunga. All three Barolos are endowed with a real sense of Serralunga structure that distinguishes them from the Barolos the Vairas make under their historic family label.”

September 2014

2010 Barolo: Flying High Again

“The Vajra family continues to do terrific work in their resurrection of the Baudana estate in Serralunga. These three 2010 Barolos are all fabulous and well worth seeking out.”

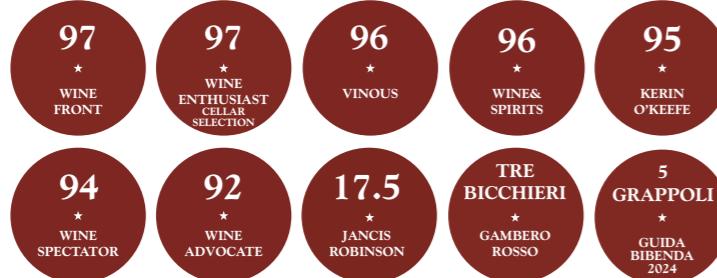
The Wine Spectator

Bruce Sanderson

June 2019

“The Luigi Baudana estate, owned by the Vajra family of G.D. Vajra in Barolo, is located in the small hamlet of Baudana. The winery makes two traditionally-styled crus, Cerretta and Baudana, from less than 6.5 acres of vineyards. It also makes a Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d’Alba from both vineyard’s younger Nebbiolo vines. The Cerretta is the most vertical of the two, coming from the cooler Cerretta Piani section of the cru, showing fine depth of fruit and aging potential. The Baudana, equally capable of longevity, typically reveals more density and muscle.”

BAROLO BAUDANA



97 2019 - Gary Walsh, **The Wine Front**, Jun 2023

All the soil, the tobacco, liquorice and mint, dark red fruit, spice, rock salt and perfume. It's tense, lavish stony tannin, so ferrous, but also fresh and lively, raspberry and cherry, crushed rock, poached strawberry too, and so long. My word. This is Serralunga in full voice.

17.5 2019 - Jancis Robinson, **Barolo 2019**, Jul 2023

Serralunga d'Alba. Mid ruby. Deep morello cherry, morocco leather and savoury spice on the nose of impressive depth. Elegant, ripe raspberry fruit, growing in depth on the finish. Long, coating, grainy tannins. Proper grand-cru level. (WS)

95 2019 - Kerin O'Keefe, www.kerinokeefe.com, Feb 2023

Pressed rose, small red berry, camphor and spice aromas mingle together on this lovely red. Made with 50-year old vines, it's firm but elegantly structured, delivering spiced cranberry, blood orange, star anise and clove alongside fresh acidity and tightly woven tannins.

96 2019 - Antonio Galloni, **Vinous, 2019 Barolo: Back on Track**, Jan 2023

The 2019 Barolo Baudana is absolutely captivating. Effusive and bright in the glass, with tons of freshness and remarkable fruit purity, the Baudana offers up generous dark red fruit, spice, leather, kirsch, hard candy, cedar, tobacco and underbrush. There's terrific depth here and exceptional balance, too. Rose petal, white pepper and chalk lift the high-toned, intensely saline finish.

94 2018 - Bruce Sanderson, **Wine Spectator**, Aug 2021

92 2018 - Monica Larner, **Wine Advocate**, Jun 2021

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

93 2018 - Antonio Galloni, **Vinous, The Enigma of 2018 Barolo**, Feb 2022

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

93 2017 - Monica Larner, **Wine Advocate**, Jun 2021

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

93 2017 - James Suckling, May 2021

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

17 2017 - Jancis Robinson, **Barolo 2017**, Mar 2021

96 2016 - Bruce Sanderson, **Wine Spectator**

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

BAROLO CERRETTA



98 2019 - Stephanie Johnson, **Wine&Spirits**, Sep 2023

Since the Vaira family became owners of this estate in 2009, Giuseppe Vaira has taken a lighter approach in the cellar, eliminating new French oak barriques in favor of large Slavonian casks and decreasing the practice of salasso (bleeding) to bring the concentration of Cerretta into a more natural balance. The 2019 Cerretta combines power, freshness and depth of fruit to create the most impressive wine we have yet tasted from this estate. Its ample flavors of fresh, thick-skinned red cherry are edged in cool, firm tannins that keep the flavors taut as the wine gains complex spice notes and richer fruit tones over the course of several days.

17.5 2019 - Jancis Robinson, **Barolo 2019**, Jul 2023

Serralunga d'Alba. Mid-to-deep ruby. At first, balsamic and peppery dark-cherry and leather nose that slowly increases in depth and complexity with aeration. Lots of juicy, compact cherry fruit on the palate, fantastically balanced by bags of chewy tannins. Very long, juicy and tannic and quite spectacular. (WS)

96 2019 - Gary Walsh, **The Wine Front**, Jun 2023

I love Cerretta, what a great cru it is. Cherry, liquorice, tobacco, earth, new leather. It's so elemental, all crushed rock and stones, ripe red fruit, orange peel, so chalky and firm, bright acidity, almost painful in intensity and rugged tannin, redcurrant and salty Parmesan rind savouriness, with a huge finish of tannin, stone and pepper. So intense. Great wine, but gee, wait a long while.

96 2019 - Kerin O'Keefe, www.kerinokeefe.com, Feb 2023

New leather, black tea, ripe berry and camphor aromas come to the forefront. On the chiseled, structured palate, firm tannins and bright acidity support red cherry, raspberry, star anise and hints of black tea before a tangy iron finish. Still youthfully austere and boasting great aging potential, give this time to fully develop.

97 2019 - Antonio Galloni, **Vinous, 2019 Barolo: Back on Track**, Jan 2023

The 2019 Barolo Cerretta is packed with dark cherry, smoke, gravel, blood orange incense, scorched earth, licorice and mocha. This ample, full-bodied Barolo offers tremendous depth and textural intensity. Powerful and brooding, with tons of muscle and tannin, the Cerretta is incredibly promising. It is the most potent wine in this portfolio, by a pretty substantial rang

94 2018 - Monica Larner, **Wine Advocate**, Jun 2021

17.5 2018 - Jancis Robinson, **Barolo 2018**, Nov 2021

96 2017 - Bruce Sanderson, **Wine Spectator**, Sep 2021

93 2018 - Antonio Galloni, **Vinous, The Enigma of 2018 Barolo**, Feb 2022

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



BAROLO SERRALUNGA



LANGHE BIANCO DRAGON



93 2019 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jun 2023

Lots of liquorice, and raspberry/strawberry, stony and earthy, mint and sage. Ripe, stony tannin, a whole lot of red fruit flavour, some tea and aniseed, juicy red fruit and a warm and come-hither feel, but Serralunga rides high, and the finish is ripe, juicy and tea-laced. Very good. Classic.

93 2019 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2019 Barolo: Back on Track, Jan 2023

The 2019 Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba shows all the breadth of Serralunga, but in the somewhat austere style that runs through all the wines this year. Dark red fruit, sage, mint, leather and spice fill out the layers effortlessly. Rich and ample, yet super-classic, the Serralunga Barolo hits all the right notes. It may very well be the hidden gem in the entire Vajra range.

91 2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, The Enigma of 2018 Barolo, Feb 2022

The 2018 Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba is redolent of savory and ferrous notes woven into a core of dried red cherry fruit. Spice, mint and tobacco develop later, adding pretty shades of nuance. Readers will find a super-classic Serralunga Barolo, but one that won't need more than a few years to be at its best.

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

Poached strawberry, cherry, liquorice, dried herbs, grilled meat and menthol. It's juicy and succulent, liquorice, strawberry and raspberry liqueur, stony feel to tannin, almonds and dried herbs, moderate acidity, a bit savoury and meaty, goes pretty long and closes with sweet fruit and earthy flavours. Like this. Serralunga ahoy!

92 2017 - Monica Larner, Wine Advocate, Jun 2021

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

93 2016 - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Sep 2020

93 2016 - Monica Larner, The Wine Advocate, Lockdown Wines, Jul 2020

93 2016 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2016 Barolo: Right Place, Right Time, Feb 2020

92 2015 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2015 Barolo...The Bigger Picture, Feb 2019

93 2014 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

92 2014 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2014 Barolo: Surprise, Surprise, Feb 2018

91 2014 - Monica Larner, Wine Advocate, #237, Jun 2018

17+ 2013 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2017

94 2013 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

91 2022 - Othmar Kiem & Simon Staffler, Falstaff, Oct 2023

Bright straw yellow with greenish reflections. Fresh, fragrant nose of white peach, star fruit, young banana, fine savouriness in the aftertaste. Very juicy and clear on the palate, prancing, fresh with pleasant acidity and fruit, balanced.

90 2021 - Monica Larner, Wine Advocate, Jun 2021

A blend of mostly Chardonnay, with Sauvignon Blanc, Nascetta and a touch of Riesling, the Luigi Baudana 2021 Langhe Bianco Dragon (in a screw-cap bottle) is super fresh and zesty with lovely citrus, white almond and fresh honeysuckle. The wine's lean and direct style would pair with sushi or a grilled fish with olive oil and lemon. The dragon on the front label represents Saint George and is a symbol of courage in the face of adversity (and difficult times like what we are going through now).

16 2020 - Julia Harding MW, Jancis Robinson, The Wine Society Press Tasting, Oct 2021

Mostly citrus aroma, but then more complex on the palate, a vibrant mix of citrus and apple flavours. Nutty, super-fresh and with chewy depths on the palate. Tight, crisp, an appetite-whetter.

90 2020 - Monica Larner, Wine Advocate, Jun 2021

The Luigi Baudana 2020 Langhe Bianco Dragon is mostly Chardonnay with Sauvignon Blanc, Nascetta and a touch of Riesling. These results are glossy and shiny in this vintage, showing enormous purity and lifted intensity. The bouquet is really very beautiful, with orchard fruit, preserved lemon and an elegant touch of natural rubber that works perfectly. In fact, you can smell the wine even when the glass is placed far away. To the palate, it is silky and smooth, and something you might want to bring on a special fly-fishing trip to pair with your evening dinner of lemon-pepper trout.

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

Lovely lovely version of this wine. Gooseberry, papaya, slight grass and spice. Juicy, a little chalky, just right acidity to shape it, but nothing harder. Finish has length and pink grapefruit zing, along with a pineapple and passionfruit exotica.

93 2017 - Mike Bennie, The Wine Front, Apr 2019

Fragrant wine of great interest, vivacity and fruitiness. Scents of frangipani, candied citrus, fresh apple juice, bath salts. Palate is sweet-ish, fruity as can be, a touch sweet but cut nicely with lemony acidity, indeed, almost Warhead Lolly tang here. It's a little wild and savoury underneath that, which keeps things interesting. I like this. Exotic.

90 2015 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator

This is delicate aromatically, boasting floral, peach, apple and lemon notes. There's more weight on the palate, where the peach and apple flavors reign, playing out with citrus and spice accents. Shows fine harmony and texture. Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Nascetta and Riesling. Drink now through 2020. 1,800 cases made. -BS

16.5 2015 - Will Lyons, The Times, Wine: A sample of la dolce vita, Jan 2017