



**G.D.VAJRA**



PRESS  
REPORT

24

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## Highlights



WINE & SPIRITS TOP 100 WINERIES OF  
2023 & 2021 & 2020  
G.D. VAJRA



#5 THE ENTHUSIAST 100: THE BEST WINES OF 2021  
G.D. VAJRA 2017 Barolo Ravera



#29 TOP 100 WINES OF 2023  
G.D. VAJRA 2019 Barolo Bricco delle Viole

#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



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



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



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



Aldo Vaira in the Top 5 Italian Master Wine Makers



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

also featured on....

FOOD & WINE LA STAMPA



**2023**

**Wine & Spirits**  
**TOP 100**

**G.D. Vajra made the Wine & Spirits  
Top 100 Winery of 2023  
for the 3rd time in 4 years!**

**Wine Spectator**

**G.D. Vajra made the Wine Spectator  
Top 100 Wines from 2023  
#29 for Barolo Bricco delle Viole 2019**

**Kerin O'Keefe**

**#KOwine**

**#30 for Barolo Ravera 2019  
Top 100 Italian Wines 2023**



**CHIOCCIOLA**



**G.D. Vajra received the precious Chiocciola award by from  
Slow Wine Guide 2024.**

**Bricco delle Viole 2019 was also rated TOP WINE.**

**BIBENDA 2024**

**I MIGLIORI VINI D'ITALIA**



**CINQUE GRAPPOLI**

**G.D. Vajra received the 5 Grappoli from  
Bibenda 2024 Guide for Bricco delle Viole 2019.**

# ON THE WINERY

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**“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

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SEPTEMBER 2023

Slow Wine  
“Chiocciola” award 2024  
“Top Wine” award 2024

SEPTEMBER 2022

Slow Wine  
“Chiocciola” award 2023  
Gambero Rosso  
“Tre Bicchieri” award 2023

SEPTEMBER 2021

Slow Wine  
“Chiocciola” award 2022  
“Top Wine” award 2022

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.”

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

JANUARY 2023

2019 Barolo: Back on Track

"The 2019 Barolos at Vajra are seriously impressive. These wines need a ton of air to show all they have to offer, something readers who want to taste them at this stage should bear in mind. The classicism of these wines is quite appealing for the future."

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."

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."

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."

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."

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."

# 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. ”

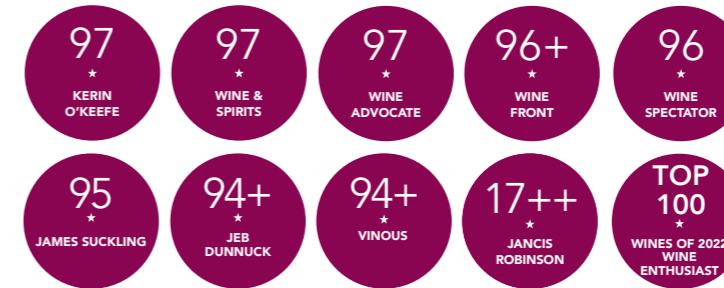
The Wine Advocate, Barolo, Barbaresco and more - Lockdown Wines, Jul. 2020



## BAROLO BRICCO DELLE VIOLE



## BAROLO RAVERA



### 96 2020 - James Suckling, Jan 2024

Rose petals, racy plums and cherries with subtle white pepper spices and mineral. The tight, full-bodied palate is grasped by fine, minerally textured tannins. Powerful, ample and vertical in the middle before a lengthy, mineral finish.

### 96 2020 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2020 Barolo: Selective Excellence, Jan 2024

The 2020 Barolo Bricco delle Viole, Vajra's flagship, is very fine. Dark cherry, kirsch, blood orange, spice and lavender are nicely amplified. The 2020 is gracious and elegant, but its youthful Nebbiolo tannins will require some time to soften. The 2020 is another wine that captures my keen interests with its sublime balance. I would be thrilled to own it.

### 17.5 2020 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2019, Nov 2023

A site at 380–490 m that faces south. Many different picks. Lots of clay but cooled from the west. In Alba museum there's an inscription about this site. To be released mid 2024. Gorgeous roundness after a light animal scent. A ballet dancer with muscles – including some delicacy.

### 97 2019 - Jeff Porter, WineEnthusiast, Jan 2024

Lifted aromas of crushed cherries and raspberries mixed with blue violets and savory spice on the nose. Super-fine tannins with crushed chalk; very floral with a bright and lifted palate. Mouth-watering acidity. Alluring, captivating, energetic and precise.

### 17.5+ 2019 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2019, Dec 2023

Smells earthy, like the damp winter depth of rich dark soil of an oak forest. Smells of violets. Mushrooms crushed underfoot. Tastes of tea leaves and tamarind and dried sour cherries and cranberries. Tastes of the bitter red-gold sere of autumn. Tannins that, even now, so young, feel like mist and salt ripping down the mountain. Tendrils of woodsmoke on the finish. Haunting, even if embryonic.

### 97+ 2019 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023

The last wine poured at my tasting at the winery is the G.D. Vajra 2019 Barolo Bricco delle Viole. With its high vantage point in the hills west of Barolo, Bricco delle Viole is a world apart in terms of soils (with Sant'Agata marl and fossils) and even harvest times. Slow and careful ripening like the kind that characterizes fruit in 2019 renders a very delicate and ethereal expression with floral tones, wild mint and licorice. This organic wine is solid in build and structure. Indeed, Isidoro Vaira remarks that Nebbiolo tannins have changed since the 1970s and 1980s. Because of climate change and stylistic preference, they are more polished and accessible today.

### 97+ 2019 - Jeb Dunnuck, Current and Upcoming Releases of Barolo and Barbaresco (2019 and 2020) May 2023

Jeweled in appearance, the 2019 Barolo Bricco Delle Viole may be the best wine I have tried yet from Vajra. Its gorgeous and alluring perfume of fresh roses is followed by a Burgundian, elegant red with incredible length and no harsh edges, fine and present tannins, and beautiful, graceful concentration. It is drinking well now, and I will be trying to get my hands on as much of this as possible.

### 95 2020 - James Suckling, Jan 2024

Blood orange, savory plum and clove characters with a touch of haw fruit and white pepper. Close-knit, chalky tannins on the palate with a structured full body and a zesty, tense finish. Long, complex, austere and expansive.

### 94+ 2020 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2020 Barolo: Selective Excellence, Jan 2024

The 2020 Barolo Ravera is a gorgeous, aromatically exotic wine that is going to need time to be at its best. Orange peel, spice, menthol and kirsch all lift from the glass, conveying a good deal of ethereal Nebbiolo beauty before the tannins kick in. There's gorgeous weight and substance here, in the mid-weight style of the year. More than anything else, I admire the balance.

### 17++ 2020 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2019, Nov 2023

Three different picks at different altitudes. A site towards Monforte that is relied upon to yield the power of Monforte and the elegance of Barolo. Clay and silt. To be released mid 2024. Powerful and muscular. Lots of tannin.

### 96 2019 - Jeff Porter, WineEnthusiast, Jan 2024

Aromas of fresh and macerated black cherries mixed with medicinal herbs and dried flowers lift from the glass. The well-structured palate yields a mix of tart raspberries, plums, herbs, mint and savory spices. Firm tannins give the wine a super structure that shows its depth, power and age ability.

### 17++ 2019 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2019, Dec 2023

A tightly coiled wine with bold, bittersweet mid-palate juiciness tucked deeply into wide, strong, mineral-dense tannins. It smells of an abandoned stone quarry in the first milk-and-iron light of a winter morning. Tannins which feel like super-fine-grade sandpaper. Darjeeling tea and chestnuts, tart cherry, crushed green caraway leaves. The finish is compact, dry and susurrant. After 48 hours of being open (literally, no cork in the bottle for 48 hours), the defensive astringent rasp of the tannins had settled deep into the wine, like the groove of sax and brass into the coffee-stained damsons of late-night blues. [...]

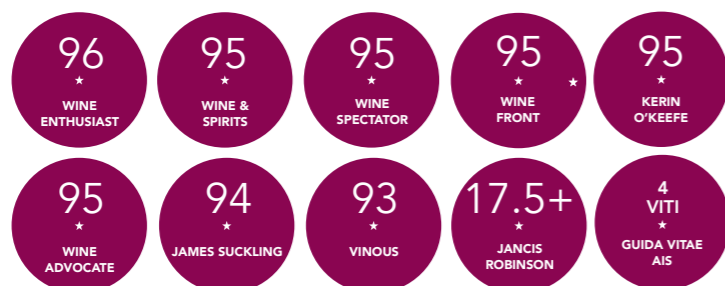
### 96 2019 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator, COLLECTIBLES, Sep 2023

There's plenty of latent fruit in this this graceful and complex red, in the form of cherry, raspberry and plum, along with notes of flowers, tar, mineral and underbrush. Rich, balanced and long, this has well-integrated tannins that mingle with the ripe fruit flavors.

### 97 2019 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023

The organic G.D. Vajra 2019 Barolo Ravera (with fruit from the most sought-after cru in the village of Novello) reveals gorgeous tonality and color. The wine shines bright with dark ruby and garnet gemstone. Healthy Nebbiolo colors like this can be admired across the 2019 vintage. Ravera represents a union of different geologies from Barolo and Castiglione Falletto. The site has shown extraordinary versatility, especially in the face of climate change, to make wines of both strength and elegance. It is softly textured but also strong in fiber, with silky sensations followed by dark fruit and concentration. Ravera has a character all its own, and the operative word here is power.

## BAROLO COSTE DI ROSE



## BAROLO ALBE



**94 2020 - James Suckling, Jan 2024**

White pepper, dried roses, berries and mineral on the nose. Really elegant and chalky on the palate [...] and a linear finish. Pure and driven.

**93 2020 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2020 Barolo: Selective Excellence, Jan 2024**

The 2020 Barolo Coste di Rose is an attractive, mid-weight wine. Black cherry, lavender, spice, menthol and licorice are nicely woven together. The Coste di Rose [...] offers tons of sheer appeal, in a sensual, open-knit style that can be enjoyed with minimal cellaring.

**17 2020 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2019, Nov 2023**

Sandy site between Cannubi and Bussia at 360–380 m. Vajra's lowest. It's a historic vineyard from Aldo's parents that is fenced to stop grape pilfering. To be released mid 2024. Truly floral aroma. Very fruity, expressive and flattering. [...] Lots of energy. Relatively light.

**96 2019 - Jeff Porter, WineEnthusiast, Jan 2024**

This wine lifts from the glass with poise and confidence from the get go. Macerated and dried raspberries capture the attention, as wildflowers, herbs and truffles draw you deep into the glass. The textured palate offers layers of mixed red berries that are framed by fine, yet firm tannins and crunchy acidity. The wine ends with tart red fruits, mint and dusty chalk.

**17.5+ 2019 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2019, Dec 2023**

So intensely, fragrantly spicy that the first breath and sip is like inhaling a newly-opened jar of Hungarian sweet paprika and Baharat. The fruit is also fragrant; fine, almost a little shy, like a violin solo in an enormous, empty concert hall. Hibiscus, raspberry, blood orange, red roses. A delicate, very fine-boned wine that, for the moment, is only peeping out from behind the brooding screen of fine-grained tannins, which, as Giuseppe Vajra points out, protrude like a pinch on the tip of the tongue rather than sitting at the back of the mouth. 24 hours later, the tannins feel more like cashmere, allowing the fruit to come forward and sing sweetly and softly.

**95 2019 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023**

Compared to Bricco delle Viole, Coste di Rose is distinguished by sandstone soils at lower elevations of 340 to 350 meters above sea level. There is a lot of variability in the soils, and as they change, Nebbiolo behaves differently, picking up new aromas and textural qualities along the way. The G.D. Vajra 2019 Barolo Coste di Rose shows a darker core of fruit with dusty earthy tones and campfire ash. The grape skins were quite thick in 2019, meaning that less work was done with submerged cap and other extractive methods. The beauty of this wine is the mouthfeel, which feels rich, tight and silky. Coste di Rose was first made in 2015.

**95 2019 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jun 2023**

Always a charmer, Coste di Rose is the sort of wine that might get more people involved in drinking Barolo. Maybe that's not such a good thing though! Cherry, mint and roses, a little spice and pepper, but such a seductive wine and so much perfume. It's juicy with strawberry and red cherry, fine grained and supple tannin, mint and sage, a little bit stony, it carries the signature of the vintage, though softly softly, with a red fruited and rosy finish of excellent length. Lovely.

**93 2020 - James Suckling, Jan 2024**

This is a bright and lively Barolo showing sliced oranges, raspberries, crushed stones and rose petals on the nose. [...] sharp acidity and tight tannins. Lots of energy.

**94 2019 - Jeff Porter, WineEnthusiast, Jan 2024**

Stunning in its purity, freshness and vibrancy, the Albe Barolo from the venerable Vajra family is a beauty. Aromas of fresh cherries, wild strawberries, rosebuds, wild herbs, underbrush and subtle chalky notes waft from the glass. The generous palate showcases the tart red fruits Nebbiolo is known for, but at a higher gear followed by more savory flavors finishing with well-integrated tannins and vibrant acidity.

**94 2019 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023**

This is certainly one of the most popular and versatile wines made in Italy, and deservedly so. The well-priced G.D. Vajra 2019 Barolo Albe shows some ripe fruit and softness with cherry, dried raspberry and crushed rose. This vintage is similar in character to the 2016 release in that both vintages offer a linear style with good structure at the back. The mouthfeel is polished and long, affording accessibility and complexity too.

**94 2019 - Wine Enthusiast**

Stunning in its purity, freshness and vibrancy, the Albe Barolo from the venerable Vajra family is a beauty. Aromas of fresh cherries, wild strawberries, rosebuds, wild herbs, underbrush and subtle chalky notes waft from the glass. The generous palate showcases the tart red fruits Nebbiolo is known for, but at a higher gear followed by more savory flavors finishing with well-integrated tannins and vibrant acidity. - J.P.

**94 2019 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jun 2023**

Juicy, red fruits and mint, exotic spice, dried roses. It's a classic Barolo in feel, red fruits and supple tannin, a little bit ferrous too, quiet perfume, and a long finish of offering gentle stony grip and rosehip and orange peel fragrance to close. Excellent.

**94 2019 - Kerin O'Keefe, kerinokeefe.com, Feb 2023**

Made from three separate vineyards, Fossati, La Volta and Coste di Vergne, this expressive Barolo opens with aromas of violet, dog rose and wild strawberry. Already drinking beautifully but showing good aging potential, the savory palate exhibits spiced cranberry, orange zest, red cherry and star anise alongside taut tannins and bright acidity.

**92 2019 - Jeb Dunnuck, Current and Upcoming Releases of Barolo and Barbaresco (2019 and 2020) May 2023**

The 2019 Barolo Albe offers aromas of pressed roses, apricot, and tea leaf that are followed by a wine with great tension and balance, medium body, driving notes of orange citrus and dusty earth, and a clean finish. It is long and fresh on the palate.

**91 2019 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2019 Barolo: Back on Track, Jan 2023**

## DOLCETTO D'ALBA COSTE&FOSSATI



- 90 2022 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2020 Barolo: Selective Excellence, Jan 2024**  
The 2022 Dolcetto d'Alba Coste & Fossati is a powerful, deep wine. Black cherry, plum, leather, grilled herbs, gravel, lavender and spice lend notable complexity. Imposing tannins and rich fruit give this a very serious feel. The 2022 is a wine for the dinner table.
- 17 2022 - Jancis Robinson, Dec 2023**  
Vivid fruit sheathed in firm, muscular, sandy tannins. Dust and rosehips. Sour cherry. Vibrant fruit with a delicate forest-floor savoury outline and a breathy whisper of florals. The finish draws down tight and then circles back into the brightness of its fruit. Great sapidity! Appetising and full of life, and even better after the bottle was left (deliberately) open for 24 hours.
- 92 2022 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023**  
This wine is all about fun and good cheer. "Every day that you drink Dolcetto is a good day," says Isidoro Vaira. The organic 2022 Dolcetto d'Alba Coste & Fossati reveals rich, dark fruit with a pronounced sweet side. There is soft cherry, blackberry and crème de cassis. The wine is quite plump and juicy in character, setting it up for pairing with wood-oven pizza.
- 92 2021 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023**  
The organic G.D. Vajra 2021 Dolcetto d'Alba Coste & Fossati offers raw, punchy flavors with big intensity and loads of soft dark fruit. There is a wild factor to this wine that you always get with the best expressions of this much-beloved grape. A warming climate has actually helped Dolcetto, as this variety does very well during the warm summer season. An older demographic appreciated Dolcetto made without oak, but styles changed and wood barrels were added to the winemaking regime. In recent years, the trend has favored a return to the original Dolcetto, and wood use is today considered too invasive. This is a full and generous wine with dark fruit and hints of natural spiciness on the close.
- 90 2021 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont Within Reach, Dec 2022**  
The 2021 Dolcetto d'Alba Coste & Fossati is laced with dark cherry, plum, spice, leather and tobacco. Long ferments, with submerged cap and aging in cask yields a Dolcetto of uncommon complexity and nuance. The Coste & Fossati is usually on the richer side, but the 2021 is decidedly restrained.
- 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**
- 90 2019 - Monica Lerner, The Wine Advocate, Jun 2021**

## DOLCETTO D'ALBA



- 91 2021 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Aug 2022**  
Made only in stainless steel, the 2021 Dolcetto d'Alba shows a purplish color with inky concentration. The bouquet is simple and direct with loads of sweet candied cherry, crème de cassis and bitter almond. This is another terrific take on one of Piedmont's most versatile grapes.
- 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**
- 90 2015 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2016**
- 17+ 2013 - Matthew Jukes, The Piemonte Report 2015/2016**
- 17 2013 - Christelle Guibert, Decanter 50 top wines under 20€**
- 92 2013 - Ian D'Agata, Decanter, 35 amazing Piedmont reds under 20€**
- 17 2012 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont Beyond Barolo and Barbaresco**
- 89 2011 - Antonio Galloni, R. Parker's The Wine Advocate, #203, Oct. 2012**
- 90 2010 - Antonio Galloni, R. Parker's The Wine Advocate, #197, Oct. 2011**



## BARBERA D'ALBA SUPERIORE



### 17 2021 - Jancis Robinson, Dec 2023

This is so alive and glorious that I wanted to throw my head back and laugh with the sheer pleasure of it. The fruit is pulsing with purity, dripping with dark, shining, deep indigo and gentian 'blues'. Wild blackberry, violet, balsamic notes, black pepper etched into every silky soft fold of fruit and tannin. Incredible tannins – long and long and long, the texture of cashmere and cork bark. The finish is succulent, like a long kiss. It carries its alcohol with graceful ease. Real beauty here.

### 93 2021 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023

I'm told that this is probably the last vintage in which the 2021 Barbera d'Alba Superiore Viola delle Viole will carry the name Viola delle Viole. In yet another unfortunate nod to climate change, Barbera vines suffer from the floral disease Flavescente dorée that causes the plants to shut down and the fruit to remain unripened. [...] As a result, Barbera vines in Bricco delle Viole (one of two sites present in this blend, the other being Bricco Bertone outside the Barolo area) were taken out. Barbera tends to produce wines with high alcohol, but the Vajra team prefers to reach optimal fruit maturity and is less concerned about alcohol. The grape always has high acidity, but that is "a problem that is going away on its own," says Isidoro Vaira. Bricco delle Viole gives the wine its floral aromas and Bricco Bertone adds a sweet almond-like flavor. There is a seven- to eight-day harvest difference between the two sites. This wine ages in large oak casks for 16 months.

### 93+ 2021 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont Within Reach, Dec 2022

Just bottled, the 2021 Barbera d'Alba Superiore is fabulous. Rich and inky, with tremendous depth, the 2021 is so vibrant in the glass. Red/purplish fruit, lavender, sweet spice and mocha are all dialed up, with a kiss of French oak that adds raciness.

### 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.

## BARBERA D'ALBA



### 90 2022 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023

The G.D. Vajra 2022 Barbera d'Alba is a nicely concentrated effort with dark cherry fruit, blackberry and cinnamon-like sensations from the grape skins. With that extra density comes extra fruit weight. The wine does carry muscle for sure, but the results are firm and tight.

### 91 2021 - Wine&Spirits, Top 100 Best Buys of 2022, Oct 2022

Scents of lavender and violet lead into flavors of fleshy plum and blackberry that are infused with lively acidity and layered with notes of soft spice. Its taut plum-skin tannins frame the flavors and make this an excellent partner for burgers or just about anything off the grill. - S.J.

### 91 2021 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Aug 2022

Here's another food-friendly wine from beautiful Piedmont. The 2021 Barbera d'Alba shows a dark purplish hue and saturated fruit flavors of dried blackberry and black cherry. There are hints of crushed mineral or oyster shell as well. The wine's medium thickness would work across a breaded veal steak. Fruit is sourced across various sites with different soil types.

### 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

### 17 2016 - Richard Hemming MW, Jancis Robinson, Another piece of Piemonte, Jul 2018

## LANGHE NEBBIOLO



- 90 2021 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont Within Reach, Dec 2022**  
The 2021 Langhe Nebbiolo is another terrific entry-level wine from Vajra. Delicate and gracious in the glass, the Langhe Nebbiolo captures the essence of the house style. Bright red-toned fruit, orange peel, mint, crushed rocks and white pepper lend brightness to this elegant, wonderfully translucent Langhe Nebbiolo.
- 94 2021 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jul 2022**  
2021 is a vintage to watch. Red fruit, almond, perfume, aniseed. Medium-bodied, fresh, all the red fruits and enough structure to keep it trim, but not so much to make it forbidding. Kind of succulent and really pretty and fresh, with a fine long finish. Beautiful.
- 93 2020 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jul 2022**  
It's fresh and lively, but carries the firm signature of Piedmont Nebbiolo. Cherry, aniseed, almond paste, dried roses. Medium-bodied, fresh, all strawberry and mouth-perfume, some stony tannin, and a sort of Turkish delight flavour in the aftertaste. Lovely wine.
- 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**
- 93 2019 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, May 2020**
- 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**
- 92 2016 - Silver Medal, Sommelier Wine Awards, May 2018**

## LANGHE FREISA KYÈ



- 93 2020 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023**  
The organic G.D. Vajra 2020 Langhe Freisa Kyè is like a postcard from Piedmont; it offers an authentic window onto the region and is a wine that most certainly could not be repeated in any other part of the world. Freisa is a tart, naturally spicy grape that displays dustings of powdery cinnamon and crushed white pepper. The grape is initially shy, and winemaking has it see two years in oak casks to help it integrate and flesh out. However, Freisa is another local variety that does well in an ever-warming climate. For example, this hot-vintage expression has an extra layer of complexity with dried herb or mint at the back.
- 92 2019 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023**  
The 2019 Langhe Freisa Kyè saw fruit harvested on the early side, and 5% whole clusters were used during fermentation to give the wine more depth and character. This vintage also saw a year of bottle age before its commercial release in order to give it more time to develop. "Freisa shares the character of the Piemontesi people," says Isidoro Vaira: "It needs time to come out." This wine offers a hint of dried herb or rosemary essence with dark fruit and spice. This vintage brought out the minty side of the variety.
- 93+ 2019 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont Within Reach, Dec 2022**  
The 2019 Langhe Freisa Kyè is a gorgeous, exquisite wine. Picking a bit earlier has resulted in a Freisa that emphasizes energy over the more dense style that was in place here prior to 2015. Orange zest, raspberry, mint, sage and dried herbs. The style is more Nebbiolo-like than the more deep, concentrated and at times rustic Freisas of the past.
- 94+ 2019 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jul 2022**  
Dark cherry, almond, new leather, crushed rock, pulls to some brighter raspberry and strawberry flavours, a little spice too. Long and stuffed with earth and black tea-like things. Super. Well, it is for me, because I love this grape variety.
- 92 2018 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Aug 2022**  
The wine name asks "who is it?" and refers to the difficulty in identifying the grape used to make this wine. A pure expression of Freisa, one of the most beloved local indigenous varieties, this wine opens to dark concentration with shiny garnet highlights. The 2018 Langhe Freisa Kyè shows baked cherry and barbecue smoke. It ages in large oak casks for 26 months.
- 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.

## LANGHE FREISA CLARÉ J.C.



**93 2022 - Monica Larner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023**

This is one of my favorite go-to wines for informal nights with family and friends. The G.D. Vajra 2022 Langhe Nebbiolo Claré J.C. opens to a lean appearance with bright ruby highlights. It remains true to the grape, in simple or almost transparent terms, with fresh berry fruit, cassis, blue flower and iris. I love the punchy, electric quality of this wine and its streamlined approach. You'll love it too (and love the low shelf price).

**93 2022 - Eric Guido, Vinous, A Kaleidoscope of Colors: New Rosé Releases, May 2023**

A profoundly complex blend of crushed blackberries, violets, spice orange peels and sage makes the 2022 Nebbiolo Claré J.C. a total knockout on the nose. Silky and enveloping with a pretty inner sweetness up front, this impresses further as a wave of wild berry fruit and exotic spice slowly saturates the palate. The 2022 finishes lightly structured yet full of mouth-watering tension. Licorice and purple-toned inner florals gradually fade. Its deep red color and tremendous depth make it hard to classify the Claré J.C. as a Rosé. That said, its drinkability factor is off the charts.

**93 2022 - Kerin O'Keefe, kerinokeefe.com, Feb 2023**

Made with the firm's youngest Nebbiolo vines and bottled right after fermentation, this youthful, fragrant red is an absolute charmer. Fermented with 20% whole clusters, it's loaded with aromas and flavors of succulent cherry, strawberry and savory spice notes including white pepper. It's crisp, with a light hint of fizz that lends even more energy. Slightly chilled, it will make for a great summer red or an aperitivo.

**91 2021 - Monica Larner, The Wine Advocate, Aug 2022**

This wine is a stroke of genius and is quickly becoming an icon of the entry-level category of Italian wines. The G.D. Vajra 2021 Langhe Nebbiolo Claré J.C. is all Nebbiolo sourced from various sites with different soil types that are all specific to the Langhe. The wine is luminous and bright with lots of bright cherry and raspberry. My sample showed some very mild trapped CO<sub>2</sub>, but it only served to create more lift and energy.

**93 2021 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jul 2022**

**92+ 2021 - Eric Guido, Vinous, 2022 Rosé – New Releases, May 2022**

**93 2020 - Monica Larner, The Wine Advocate, Jul 2021**

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

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

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

## PIEMONTE BARBERA FREISA



**92 2020 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2020 Barolo: Selective Excellence, Jan 2024**

The 2022 Piemonte Barbera Freisa is another new wine from Vajra. Rich, deep and super-expressive, the 2022 exudes tons of character. Dark-toned fruit, spice, leather, tobacco and lavender all open effortlessly in the glass. This hearty, potent red has a ton to offer.

**92 2021 - Monica Larner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023**

In the bottle with the light blue label, this is a blend of 70% Barbera and 30% Freisa. This is another terrific value wine from G.D. Vajra. The 2021 Piemonte Barbera Freisa reveals floral tones, crushed rose, wild fruit, spice and white pepper. This is the kind of super popular wine that sells out before I can write my review. The low sticker price makes this an irresistible deal.

**92 2020 - Monica Larner, The Wine Advocate, Aug 2022**

Packaged with a fun and contemporary blue label, the G.D. Vajra 2020 Piemonte Barbera Freisa is a co-fermented expression of these two very special indigenous grapes. This is the second vintage that this charming red wine was made. It brings tons of joy and conviviality, and although the Barbera feels like the bigger force in this hot vintage, the Freisa adds a spicy element with crushed white pepper and black pepper. This is a terrific



## LANGHE RIESLING PÈTRACINE



- 90 2022 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2020 Barolo: Selective Excellence, Jan 2024**  
The 2022 Riesling Pétracine is a beautiful white that marries varietal notes with the natural richness of the year. Sweet jasmine, tangerine peel, ginger, passionfruit and lemon confit lend exotic beauty to Vajra's Riesling in 2022. I imagine time in bottle will bring out more of the textural oiliness that is in the background at present.
- 91 2022 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More Aug 2023**  
The organic G.D. Vajra 2022 Langhe Riesling Pétracine (the name is hard to read against the grapevine design that surrounds the lettering on the front label) is very direct and bright with a sharp citrusy quality that pops out thanks to crushed stone and tropical fruits. This glossy, smooth-sailing wine is a lot of fun to drink (especially young).
- 90 2021 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont Within Reach, Dec 2022**  
The 2021 Riesling Pétracine is soft, open-knit and quite tasty, with pretty tropical accents that play off more varietal orchard fruit, mint and floral notes. Drink this refreshing, elegant white over the next handful of years.
- 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**
- 90 2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, Piedmont: Beyond the usual suspects, Mar 2020**
- 91 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, New Releases from the Langhe, Roero, Asti & More, May 2019**
- 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**

## 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'



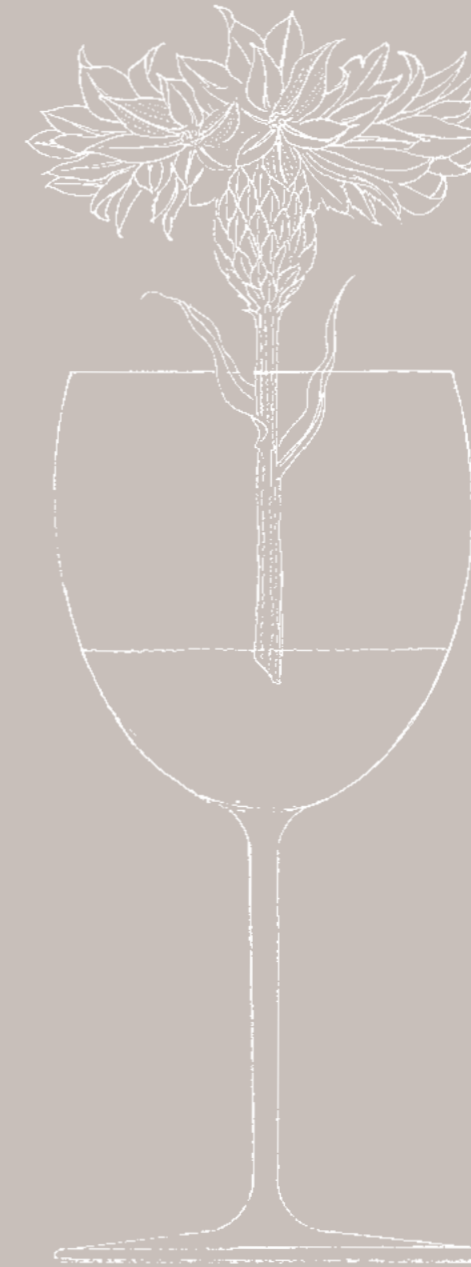
- 91 NV - Eric Guido, Vinous, 2022 Rosé – New Releases, May 2022**  
The NV, Extra Brut Rosé Metodo Classico N.S. delle Neve is captivating with a beguiling bouquet that leads with sweet tobacco, then transforms to show ripe peaches, chamomile and hints of raw almond. It's silky-smooth with a fine bead of bubbles, as tension quickly mounts through a wave of saline-tinged acids and minerals that cut through with laser-like intensity. A salty flourish defines the finale, while the palate is left watering for more. This is intense on its own, but it would be dreamy with any number of rich, fatty or fried foods.
- 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**
- 16 NV - Jancis Robinson, Walter's mixed Italians - the North, May 2016**
- 89 NV - Kerin O'Keefe, Wine Enthusiast, Sep 2017**



## ROSA BELLA VINO ROSATO



- 91 2022 - Eric Guido, Vinous, A Kaleidoscope of Colors: New Rosé Releases, May 2023**  
The 2022 Rosato Rosabella captivates with its purity and refinement, blending young peaches with sweet mint and lemon oil to form its enticing bouquet. Soft and giving, it balances exotic spice with crisp orchard fruits and citrus while cleaning up beautifully through the close. Traces of green apples and minerals linger and keep me looking back to the glass for more. The Rosabella is a blend Nebbiolo, Barbera and Dolcetto.
- 90 2021 - Eric Guido, Vinous, 2022 Rosé – New Releases, May 2022**  
The 2021 Rosato Rosabella is so understated yet pretty, capturing the eye with its pale pink color, and then the senses with nuances of rose, strawberries and a dusting of spice. It's soothingly soft, with a pleasant inner sweetness offset by vibrant acidity and citrus-tinged orchard fruits. This leaves the palate completely refreshed, as a salty flourish punctuates the experience quite nicely.
- 90 2019 - Eric Guido, Vinous, 'Tis the Season for Rosato, May 2020**
- 90 2018 - Ian D'Agata, Vinous, Think Pink: Italy's Lively 2018 Rosatos, May 2019**
- 90 2017 - Ian D'Agata, Vinous, Exploring Italy's 2017 Rosatos, Jun 2018**



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