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Barolo Enrico VI 2012

Points

93

Drink 2020-2042

The 2012 Barolo Enrico VI, from the Villero vineyard in Castiglione Falletto, is a deep, beautifully layered wine. Dark cherry, plum, new leather, menthol and licorice all flesh out effortlessly. The 2012 is rich and expansive, with striking depth and terrific overall balance.

Barolo Enrico VI 2013

Points

95

Drink 2020-2032

The 2013 Barolo Enrico VI is fabulous. The deeply spiced bouquet, firm spine of tannin and dark fruit are all signatures of this renowned Castiglione Falletto site. Explosive and powerful yet very much medium-bodied in build, the 2013 exudes pedigree. Succulent black cherry, menthol, licorice, cedar and new leather add the final shades of nuance. This is one of the best young versions of the Enrico VI I can remember tasting.

Barolo Gattera 2013

Points

94

The 2013 Barolo Gattera is sensual, open-knit and quite expressive. Red cherry, plum, mint, chocolate, leather and deeply spiced notes shape this radiant, supple Barolo from the Gattera vineyard in La Morra. The 2013 naturally needs time to soften, but it's only a matter of time before the wine's inviting personality is on full display. Scents of rose petal, chocolate, sweet red cherry and a dash of French oak add sweetness through to the finish. Naturally, the 2013 needs time to soften, but it is quite expressive, even today.

Barolo Monfalletto 2013

Points

92+

Drink 2018-2028

Cordero di Montezemolo's 2013 Barolo Monfalletto is radiant, open-knit and quite pleasing, even at this early stage. The 2013 has more than enough fruit to play off its tannins and acidity. Sweet red cherry, plum, blood orange and pomegranate give the 2013 its racy, bold personality. The 2013 has a bit more depth and mid-palate pliancy than the 2012 tasted alongside it. I would prefer to drink this stylish, mid-weight Barolo over the near and medium term. All the elements fall into place effortlessly.



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Barolo Riserva Gorette 2009

Points

93

The 2009 Barolo Riserva Gorette emerges from a parcel within Gattera. Deep and unctuous on the palate, the Gorette is also the showiest of the estate's Barolos. Super-ripe dark cherry, smoke, mocha and sweet oak give the wine its plush personality. New oak plays a greater and more overt role than it does in the other Barolos, but the 2009 is nevertheless very nicely done.

Barbera d'Alba Funtanì 2015

Points

90-92

Tasted from cask, the 2015 Barbera d'Alba Funtanì is shaping up to be a jewel of a wine. The 2015 boasts fabulous fruit intensity and exceptional balance, not to mention tons of sheer appeal. The French oak appears to be well-integrated at this stage.

Barbera d'Alba 2015

Points

90

Drink 2016-2021

The 2015 Barbera d'Alba is gorgeous. Rich, radiant and expressive, the Barbera captures all the personality and radiance of the vintage. Black cherry, plum, smoke, licorice, new leather and spices flesh out in a supple, radiant Barbera to enjoy on the young side. The Barbera spent six months in oak.

Langhe Arneis 2015

Points

90

Drink 2016-2018

The 2015 Langhe Arneis is rich, honeyed and wonderfully expressive. Apricot pit, peach, and honeyed notes give the wine its generous, inviting feel. Drink this creamy, layered Piedmont white over the next year or two.

Langhe Nebbiolo 2015

Points

90

Drink 2018-2020

The 2015 Langhe Nebbiolo is another entry-level wine that shows how compelling this vintage is. Rich, radiant and seductive, the 2015 offers superb depth from start to finish. Succulent red cherry, plum, mint, wild flowers and pomegranate lead into the racy, flamboyant finish. The full-bodied, voluptuous style of the year is very much in evidence.



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Dolcetto d'Alba 2015

Points

88

Drink 2017-2022

The 2015 Dolcetto d'Alba is dark, rich and quite powerful, with plenty of dark fruit and more than enough intensity to drink well for a number of years. This is an especially tannic Dolcetto that will benefit from another 6-12 months in barrel.

Chardonnay Elioro 2014

Points

89

Drink 2017-2024

The 2014 Chardonnay Elioro is very nicely done. Aging in barrel with lees stirring gives the wine its distinctive personality. All the elements are very nicely balanced in an expressive Chardonnay with lovely varietal character and depth. This is about as good as it gets for Chardonnay in Piedmont. I also tasted the 1991, a wine from a disastrous vintage for reds, in which the Chardonnay vines were just five years old. That wine was eye-opening in terms of how well it has aged.

Barbera d'Alba Funtanì 2014

Points

87

Drink 2016-2019

Cordero's 2014 Barbera d'Alba Funtanì is penalized by green notes from the oak. There is good depth in the glass, but I would prefer to drink the 2014 sooner rather than later.

Barbera d'Alba Superiore 2013

Points

89

Drink 2016-2023

The 2013 Barbera d'Alba Superiore Funtanì offers good depth in its dark cherry and stone fruit, with hints of blood orange, chocolate, cranberry, mint, cedar and star anise that add lift throughout. A touch of sweetness and tannin from the French oak shapes the racy, expressive finish. As is often the case, I find the French oak influence on the Funtanì borderline distracting.