

Elio Altare

2016

Elio owns 5ha of vineyards planted to Nebbiolo, Dolcetto, and Barbera, and is known not only as a pioneer of the Barolo region, but also as one of the world's greatest winemakers. Over the last few years, Elio has passed the leadership of the winery to his daughter Silvia, and his overwhelming pride for her accomplishments as a winemaker is evident. These are fabulous wines and highly sought after.

"These wines will stack up against the great vintages like 2010 and 2001, and if you blink your eyes, the allocations will disappear!" **Silvia Altare**

Equally effusive about 2014 she continues "the sceptics asked, why produce Riserva in 2014? Because elegance and balance are our guiding principles." With the clear quality they have produced in Cerretta, few could argue with their decision. As Silvia says challenging vintages are often the ones to buy Altare!

"Elio Altare keeps some of the most meticulous weather notes of anyone I know in Piedmont, which makes a visit here always highly educational. Silvia Altare describes 2016 as a year with a long harvest that was the result of a drawn out flowering. Picking took place between October 4 and 12 in what was essentially two harvests. Two-thousand seventeen was a different story. Flowering took place over just four days, which is quite fast. The entire year was warm, especially in August, which led to a harvest that was about ten days earlier than normal. As for the wines, they are positively stunning across the board in both vintages. At a time when so many growers have shifted towards a more classic style, Silvia Altare told me she has no plans to change the approach that has made her family's wines so highly coveted all over the world. It's hard to argue with that, especially given how deeply personal and compelling these artisan wines are." **Antonio Galloni**

2017 Langhe Rosso Larigi

SOLD OUT (6 bts per case)

100% Barbera from vines planted in La Morra in 1948. Vineyards have a south, southeast facing exposure with soils rich in clay and sand. 300 cases produced.



The 2017 Larigi is silky, perfumed and gracious. Bright floral notes and red berry fruit are front and center in this super-appealing, mid-weight Larigi. The 2017 is wonderfully finessed and nuanced. As always, Larigi needs time in bottle to be at its most expressive; today, the 2017 is primary and fruity. Cellaring is essential.

94 Points, Antonio Galloni

Larigi is a historic family vineyard in La Morra planted to the Barbera grape. The Elio Altare 2017 Langhe Larigi pours from the bottle with a darkly saturated appearance and bold aromatic intensity. The hot vintage underlines aromas of blackberry preserves, candied cherry, cola and scorched earth. The wine rests in new oak for 18 months, so you get plenty of integrated smoke, tar and spice as well. The alcohol content is 16%, one of the highest measures I have seen in this report. You hardly feel it whatsoever because the wine offers terrific overall balance despite all that natural richness and opulence. A mere 1,920 bottles were released.

93 Points, Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate

2017 Langhe Rosso La Villa

SOLD OUT (6 bts per case)

**60% Barbera, 40% Nebbiolo grown in sand and tuffaceous soils with southeast exposure.
300 cases produced.**



The 2017 La Villa, Altare's Barbera/Nebbiolo blend, is another fabulous wine in this range. The 60% Barbera gives La Villa wonderful depth, darkness and volume to play off the Nebbiolo aromatics and structure. Black cherry, plum, mint, spice, licorice and new leather build into the sumptuous finish. I would prefer to cellar the 2017 for at least a few years, its considerable beauty today notwithstanding.

95 Points, Antonio Galloni

The Elio Altare 2017 Langhe La Villa is a blend of 60% Barbera (from the Larigi vineyard) and 40% Nebbiolo from the family's historic Arborina cru. The wine is soft, supple and rich, driven in part by 18 months of aging in new oak. The dark fruit component sits squarely across barbecue spice, smoke and tar. The wine achieves good balance thanks to the acidic freshness of Barbera and the natural structure of Nebbiolo. I opened my sample hours prior to tasting, and the results sang loud and clear. Only 1,920 bottles were made.

94 Points, Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate

2017 Langhe Rosso Giàrborina

£285 c/s In Bond (6 bts per case)

**100% Nebbiolo from one parcel planted in 1948 and another in 1989. Vines are planted to sand and calcareous soils and have a south, southeastern-facing exposure.
300 cases produced.**



The 2017 Langhe Giàrborina is gorgeous. A wine of dramatic sweetness and intensity, the 2017 is utterly captivating today. Ample and creamy, with striking depth, the 2017 is an outrageously beautiful wine that will drink well with minimal cellaring and also age well for many years to come. Sweet floral and spice notes resonate on the finish. This is such a gorgeous and inviting wine.

95 Points, Antonio Galloni

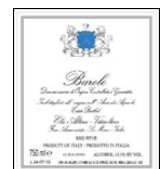
This wine is almost a Barolo for all practical purposes, save for the fact it is released one year early. The Elio Altare 2017 Langhe Giàrborina draws its fruit from the Arborina vineyard in La Morra, and if you look closely, you will see that its fantasy name reflects the vineyard name. This is a beautiful wine, offered at an appropriate price point that reflects the care and precision of the final results. Dark fruit (blackberry and plum) is folded within smoke, tar and black licorice. Thanks to 18 months in new oak, you'll find that the darkness and richness of the fruit is supplemented by sweet oak tannins and texture. A mere 1,920 bottles were released.

94+ Points, Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate

2016 Barolo

SOLD OUT (6 bts per case)

100% Nebbiolo from vineyards in the villages of Castiglione Falletto, Monforte, La Morra, and Barolo.



The Elio Altare 2016 Barolo is a blend of fruit from Barolo, Castiglione Falletto, La Morra and Novello. Some 10,800 bottles were released. This is a classic interpretation of Nebbiolo that offers beautiful intensity and balance. The bouquet is pure, elegant and direct with highly distinguishable aromas of wild cherry, tobacco, earth and licorice root. It sees two years in used barrique, and this time in wood contributes to the volume and depth of the palate. The wine is almost ready to drink out of the gate, or comfortably within the next 10-year window.

94 Points, Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate

Bright and floral, with lovely aromatic top notes that give the wine energy, the 2016 Barolo is a terrific introduction to the Altare Barolos. Lavender, rose petal, mint, spice and new leather are some of the many notes that grace this silky, mid-weight Barolo.

93 Points, Antonio Galloni

2016 Barolo Arborina

£430 c/s In Bond (6 bts per case)

£150 per Magnum In Bond (1 Magnum per case)

100% Nebbiolo planted in the sandy, clay soils of La Morra. 800 cases produced.

The 2016 Barolo Arborina is one of the most perfumed, gracious wines I have ever tasted from Altare. More than that, the tannins that can be a bit aggressive in young Arborina are wonderfully silky, supple and nuanced. Sweet red cherry, kirsch, spice, wild flowers, mint and white pepper all give the Arborina brilliant top notes. Medium in body and impossibly refined, the 2016 is a stunner, but it is a less obvious wine than it has tended to be in the past.

95 Points, Antonio Galloni

The Elio Altare 2016 Barolo Arborina sources its fruit from the family vineyard that surrounds and extends downhill from the higher perch where the Altare winery and home is located in La Morra. The wine exudes darkness and rich concentration with blackberry aromas that are followed by spice, tar and campfire ash. It ages in barrique for two years, and only 20% of that oak is new. These results are open-knit and accessible, revealing velvety texture and black fruit flavors. Production is 4,800 bottles.

94 Points, Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate



2014 Barolo Riserva Cerretta Vigna Bricco

£400 c/s In Bond (6 bts per case)

Located in Serralunga, the Cerretta vineyard plays host to some of Barlo's greatest names, including Giacomo Conterno. Produced for the first time in 2006, Altare's vines enjoy southern exposure and are grown mostly in clay. Yields average about 5 tons per hectare. 800 cases produced.

A different profile to the other Barolos, darker and more solid but not lacking in class or vitality. Quite a delicately reductive nose that then morphs into dark chocolate, cocoa, salt and cherries. There are many layers of flavour to peel back here – herb, cracked clay and rock salt emerge finishing on vivid, wild alpine berry notes. A clear Serralunga character with an alpine, mouth-watering freshness. Crisp vertical tannins and good acidity provide definition and structure. An upright style of wine but it does not lack for concentration or depth of flavour. A beauty. Cerretta is made and aged the same way as the estate's other Barolos, 24 months in a third new oak but with an extra two years bottle age before release.

This is usually the last wine I taste in the Elio Altare lineup, but because of the delicate nature of this vintage, this wine comes after the Barolo Arborina and before the Cannubi (both from 2016) in order of increasing intensity. The 2014 Barolo Riserva Cerretta Vigna Bricco offers sharp intensity and a polished, subdued approach. The aromas presented mirror the wine's birthplace with the dark fruit, ferrous earth, blood orange and tarry licorice that is characteristic of Serralunga d'Alba. It sees 24 months in oak, with only 20% new wood. The wine is dense and well structured, thanks to the quality of the tannins at the back. Some 4,800 bottles were released.

95 Points, Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate

The 2014 Barolo Cerretta Vigna Bricco is the most successful of the 2014s from Elio Altare. Deep, powerful and resonant in the glass, it fills out its ample frame nicely. Black cherry, plum, chocolate, menthol, licorice and dark spice flesh out in an ample, textured Barolo that shows why the Barolos of Serralunga are so compelling.

94+ Points, Antonio Galloni





Offered subject to remaining unsold and final written confirmation.

Delivery will be charged at cost.

Wines to be shipped late 2020.