

Roberto Voerzio

2016

Roberto Voerzio is undeniably one of the finest stars of Piedmont and a Barolo producer with a world-wide following, his philosophy is a simple one; from the healthiest vines, in the greatest plots, come the very finest wines. He is one of those rare producers who has near mythical status as a vine grower. His vineyard management is meticulous, tending to treat each vine individually like parents would do with their children. This attention to details sees him amongst the vines throughout the season, green harvesting, pruning, and leaf thinning which, together with his policy of having high planting density, result in an exceptional small production. The yields are the lowest in the region, 500g of fruit per vine for the crus and even 1kg per vine for Dolcetto and Barberas - the yield of most top growers' best crus. In the winery Roberto's vision is to make the purest expression of Nebbiolo as possible. Fermentations are with wild yeasts, extractions are very gentle using the light "pumping over" technique, elevage takes place in both french oak with a maximum of 30% new, both large casks and barriques. The wines are an exquisite mix of intensity and lightness, measured concentration and bright juicy, moreish flavours.

Roberto has this to say about the 2016 vintage:

"There was a good amount of heat with light rains in June, July and August, which meant the plants were happy and healthy. It calmed the temperatures and kept everything super balanced. We harvested between the 15-20th September. The 2016 harvest was like a mini summer, very easy conditions. The unique characteristics of 2016 were the very big day-night differences during the harvest. 25C degrees during the day and 12C during the night. This makes for classical aromas, high acidity, freshness and crisp tannins. The wines are similar to 2006 in profile but better balanced and more attractive from the beginning."

Roberto Voerzio

2016 Barolo Comune di La Morra

£465 c/s In Bond (6 bts per case)

A brand new wine, 2016 is the first ever vintage! One third of this comes from the Boiolo cru and two thirds is a blend of Cerequio, La Serra, Rocche del Annunziata and Case Nere. The vines are grown in the typically Voerzio way high density and low yielding – just a kilo of fruit per vine. The plots are all co-harvested and fermented.

Intense but tight-knit initially but after a bit of coaxing the very La Morra style fruit is unlocked. Offering up crisp red fruits - strawberry and raspberry. The fruit is supported by a bit of structure – grainy tannins and some underlying sweet spice notes and a lick of sweet oak.

This is incredibly deep and tight with dried rose petals, cedar and light plums and strawberries on the nose. The palate is refined and firm with precise balance of fruit, tannin and acidity. This is the first vintage. 50% of this comes from Voerzio crus and the rest comes from an area called Boiolo, near Brunate and Rocche dell'Annunziata. Wonderful balance and depth. Drink after 2022.

95 Points, James Suckling

2016 Barolo Cerequio

£1025 c/s In Bond (6 bts per case)

One of the historic single vineyards of La Morra, south-facing and planted at 300 metres above sea level on sandy clay soils. On average 300 cases per year are produced.

A plethora of wild flower, fennel, pollen, and fine wild red fruits - lovely nose, such aromatic immediacy, a wonderful perfume. The palate has a very fine lacy weave of tannins. Fresh, sweet herbs, plum and cherry on the finish. A combination of lifted fruit, gentle ripe aromas and fine, fresh tannins.

2016 Barolo La Serra

£1025 c/s In Bond (6 bts per case)

This is Voerzio's highest Barolo vineyard, situated in the commune of La Morra, at between 380 to 430 metres above sea level.

Less expressive, firmer and more mineral. More salty and oceanic than the Brunate with a chalky texture. Athletic and nervy but good strength and line. Winter berries and black cherry stones with a herbal, leafy quality.
95 Points, Antonio Galloni

2016 Barolo Brunate

£1025 c/s In Bond (6 bts per case)

One of the great crus of Barolo, situated high up in the La Morra commune just underneath La Serra, with an east / south East exposure. Aged for two years in a mixture of barriques and large cask (30% new oak).

Surprisingly expressive and vivid, much less closed than usual. Dark aromatics of violet, incense and blueberries with mint and herbal notes. Very attractive, layered and complex aromas. Medium bodied with high intensity and taut, vibrant tannins, a lifted character. Dark but not heavy, great vitality and detail with an interesting savoury, stony quality to the finish.

2016 Barolo Rocche dell'Annunziata

£1025 c/s In Bond (6 bts per case)

The sandy clay and limestone soils give a very elegant, silky red fruited wine. A south-facing parcel within one of the region's great vineyards, situated in the Annunziata sub zone of La Morra.

Complex aromatics of confit red fruits, wild flowers and anise. Seductive and sensual, limpid caressing fruit that bleeds into a savoury earthy spice. Complex liquorice and balsamic notes. Mineral as well as fruity and spicy. Gorgeous.

2016 Barolo Fossati

£1025 c/s In Bond (6 bts per case)

A fuller, burlier structure that points to Barolo a little more than it does La Morra. A 35-40 year old plot. At the top of the vineyard the soils are volcanic and stony. Extending down towards the bottom the soils are more clay-influenced.

Complex aromatics of confit red fruits, wild flowers and anise. Seductive and sensual, limpid caressing fruit that bleeds into a savoury earthy spice. Complex liquorice and balsamic notes. Mineral as well as fruity and spicy. Gorgeous.

2015 Barolo Torriglione

£1025 c/s In Bond (3 Magnums per case)

A very steep vineyard near Rocche dell'Annunziata. The average age of vines is 35-40 years.

A smaller plot that Voerzio age in smaller French oak barrels for two years.

Full of ripe, deep sweet fruit, blackberries and cherries with layers of cocoa and spearmint. Full bodied with plenty of richness and warmth. Viscous yet with a gripping tannic note.

2016 Barbera Riserva Pozzo

£670 c/s In Bond (3 Magnums per case)

Produced only in magnum, 500 cases made from a vineyard in La Morra, east / south-east exposure, planted at 8,000 vines/ha. 15 months in 30% new 70% used barriques, 5 months in steel and 18 months in bottle.

Violets, lavender, dark cherries, plums, tobacco, menthol and new leather all flesh out in an absolutely impeccable, gracious Barbera loaded with class and elegance. The 2016 boasts great depth, intense colour and fabulous overall balance.

Offered subject to remaining unsold and final written confirmation.

Delivery will be charged at cost.

Wines to be shipped late 2020.