

## Roberto Voerzio 2017

Famed for his unique style, miniscule yields and fanatical attention to detail, Roberto Voerzio is a must-have producer for any serious fine wine collector.

Whilst not yet reviewed by many critics, the scores on all the back vintages are always in the high nineties, they can be ordered with confidence.

Please let me know if you would like to secure some.

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 Voerzio considers 2017 to be a 'unique' year. What really defined 2017 was the drought, according to Roberto "it did not rain for 5 months from May!" but he felt that their habitual practices of manuring after the preceding harvest and deep ploughing, helped to avoid stress: "bunches were lush, full of health and full of energy". Colours here are lighter than in 2016 but the wines are very aromatic, pretty and forthcoming with generous fruit profiles and relatively gentle tannic structures. Despite the ripe fruit, alcohols are a fairly measured by Piedmont standards, being around the 14% mark. This may not be a vintage to lay down for as long as 2016, but it is one that will seduce and give great pleasure over the coming 10-15 years.

### **2017 Barolo Cerequio**

**£1,025 c/s In Bond** – 5 cases available (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.*

Extremely perfumed and beautiful, offering rose-petal and lavender aromas with some tar to the ripe cherries. Some spice, such as nutmeg, as well as light hazelnut. Fresh. Full-bodied, very tight and compact with firmness and wonderful length and focus. Consistent drive through the center of the wine. Better after 2025.

**98 Points, James Suckling**

### **2017 Barolo La Serra**

**£1,025 c/s In Bond** – 5 cases available (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.*

Sweet berry with light tar and hazelnut on the nose. It's full-bodied with creamy, chewy tannins that are fine-grained and lead you down to a long, energetic finish. It goes on and on. Drink after 2025.

**98 Points, James Suckling**

### **2017 Barolo Brunate**

**£1,025 c/s In Bond** – 5 cases available (6 bts per case)

*With its fragrant, refined red fruit, this a very open knit and inviting Brunate. Beautiful strawberry fruit melts in the mouth, wrapped in a textured, binding structure that is soft and caressing. A hint of sweet spice adds layer and complexity. As immediately alluring as this is, it does not give you everything straightaway, retaining a little magic and mystery, and drip feeding the palate with more flavours. This builds gradually into a very sophisticated wine, but one with the finest of touches. One of the great crus of Barolo, situated high up in the La Morra commune just underneath La Serra, with a south / south East exposure.*

Very subtle aromas of dried strawberry with cedar and flowers that follow through to a full body with tight, linear tannins that are focused and polished. Earth, spice and stone undertones. Extremely firm and long. Succulent. Racy and driven. Needs four or five years to open.

**97 Points, James Suckling**

### **2017 Barolo Rocche dell'Annunziata**

**£1,025 c/s In Bond** – 5 cases available (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.*

Not Yet Reviewed

### **2017 Barolo Fossati**

**£1,025 c/s In Bond** – 5 cases available (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. A ying / yang combination of power and aggression with body and drinkability. Spicy dark fruit – lots of volume and power on the palate, quite ferrous. A masculine virile style of wine. Dark fruit and stones.*

Not Yet Reviewed

**2017 Barolo Comune di La Morra**

**£465 c/s In Bond** – 10 cases available (6 bts per case)

*The second ever vintage produced, 2016 was 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.*

Dried strawberry with asphalt, dried meat and acorns. Lots of flowers as well. Full-bodied and powerful with fantastic depth of fruit and layers of chewy, ripe tannins. An extremely powerful and muscular wine, yet it maintains its energy and verve. Try after 2024.

**97 Points, James Suckling**

*Offered subject to remaining unsold and final written confirmation.*

*Delivery will be charged at cost.*

*Wines to be shipped spring 2022.*