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JUSTERINI & BROOKS LTD.
ST JAMES'S STREET, LONDON

Justerini & Brooks

PIEDMONT 2022: DEEP ROOTS



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DEEP ROOTS



The best 2022s from Barolo and Barbaresco are fruit-forward and yielding, with neat tannins and limpid red cherry, plum and ripe strawberry aromatics that delight from the outset. They provide a lucid account of a year that really only has one story arc; it was hot and dry; and growers had to work to maintain freshness from beginning to end. 2022 is not a vintage of layered narratives, but by focusing on the best producers – those with *deep roots* both literally and figuratively – the results surpass expectations.

The wines are kindly, effusive, and more succulently fruited (less lush and broad) than other hot years – certainly more than we anticipated. It is true that they are unlikely to have the same long-term potential as in the past three vintages but what the 2022s have in their favour is genuine *drink appeal*.

Attentive growers put this down to a combination of early harvesting (most estates were finished by the first days of October), better canopy management (working to shade the grapes from the sun) and selective green harvests (cutting away sub-par fruit early on) to alleviate stress on the vine in the peak summer months. In drought conditions, the vineyard shuts down and maturation slows under the weight of accumulated heat. Warm nights meant that the vines were never energised in any real cool relief, so sugar

levels, counterintuitively, did not race ahead in any meaningful way. Consider the summer of 2022 as a steady mountain hike toward harvest, suffused with the aromas of wildflowers and sweeping views that are felt in the final wines. Slow growth meant that phenolic ripeness (that of skin, seed and acidity) was more closely aligned to sugar development than in years marked by intermittent extremes of heat, which can cause the elements to develop unevenly. Yields were naturally low, and the juice concentrated. Effective cellar work was crucial to produce good wine, though we heard time and again of the vine's ability to self-regulate over time – root systems in the best sites were forced to burrow deep to find veins of water – working to keep Nebbiolo's broad leaves awake and drinking the light, the grapes fresh and balanced.

We are fortunate to taste with many of the Langhe's most celebrated producers, so it is in that context that we encountered many excellent wines. By and large we were spared the excesses of inconsistency that others have reported. Our producers spoke of precise destalking, the inclusion of whole berries (for freshness and purity), shorter skin contacts at lower temperatures, and light pumpovers and soft *pigeage* in place of any longer, immersive *submerged cap* in cellars where it is ordinarily practiced. Reducing the overall length of time in barrel was common practice.

Much as the vines with the deepest roots navigated the 2022 drought most effectively, growers who understand the consequences of every ostensibly small decision had a clear game plan that had already begun in the dry winter before the vines had even budded. One cannot effectively retaliate against Mother Nature if the goal is to produce fine wines that respect both vintage and terroir, but it is evidently possible to *pro-actively defend* against extremes in the search for harmony. Those producers have made tough decisions and arrived in the end with wines worth buying.

Given the challenges of the year, it is true that buying selectively is important. After more than thirty years in Piedmont, we continue to do exactly that.

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THE COMMUNES OF BAROLO & BARBARESCO

We understand that many Justerini & Brooks customers are fully au fait with the intricacies of Piedmont's two principal wine regions, Barolo and Barbaresco, but for those less familiar, or perhaps just in need of a refresher, we provide here a summary of the key communes in both regions. When one considers the diversity of soil, elevation, aspect and micro-climate across the Langhe, even before the complexities of vine age, clonal variation, training methods and winemaking philosophies, it becomes ever-clearer that the wines of Barolo and Barbaresco comprise some of the most terroir-driven of any region in the world.

In the context of noteworthy single cru Barolo and Barbaresco, the likes of which are represented in our offer today, a little insight into the broad characteristics of each commune may help to narrow down a selection of wines that will appeal to your personal tastes. For the connoisseurs, we hope that a quick overview might tempt a move into new areas, or lesser-known crus, in the pursuit of diverse, contemporary Barolo and Barbaresco collections.

For your convenience, we have also included a summary of the single crus we offer from each commune. Whilst there are a total of eleven approved communes in the DOCG Barolo appellation, we have opted to focus only on the most prominent six. Not included are Roddi, Grinzane Cavour, Novello (home to Ravera – an increasingly famous, windy single vineyard), Cherasco and Diano d'Alba. In Barbaresco we have opted not to include San Rocco Seno d'Elvio, the southernmost zone of Barbaresco, officially in the municipality of Alba. At present, plantings are dominated by Dolcetto and simple Nebbiolo, but due to its cooler microclimate, it has potential for the future as growers explore later ripening areas for Barbaresco production.

BAROLO (BAROLO)

The township of Barolo lends its name to the DOCG appellation, and functions both physically and metaphorically as the heart of the region. Situated in the centre of the appellation, what it lacks in area under vine versus its neighbours Monforte d'Alba,

La Morra and Serralunga d'Alba, it makes up for in prestige, thanks largely to the historical importance of the Cannubi vineyard. Cannubi is undisputedly one of Italy's great "Grand Crus", with ancient documents marking out its significance for the region as early as the 1700s. The soils across the Barolo commune are broadly the softer Tortonian, made up of Sant'Agata Fossil marls, clay and sand, rather than the older, harder and calcareous Serravallian soils found commonly in Serralunga d'Alba and Monforte d'Alba. Being the lowest township in elevation, the diurnal swing is not as pronounced in Barolo as it is in other communes and this, combined with generally deep, complex soils tends to produce grapes which ripen earlier. Consequently, the wines of Barolo are prized for their rich fruits, bold but sweet tannins and overall engaging, pliant feel. The wines of Barolo tend to drink on the early side, despite a concentration level which allows for extended ageing if desired.

- Cannubi, Elio Altare
- Sarmassa, Roberto Voerzio
- Bricco delle Viole, Marco Marengo

LA MORRA (BAROLO)

The small, pretty village of La Morra is the focal point for what is in fact the largest commune in the appellation, both in terms of production and area under vine. The wines of La Morra have a reputation for elegance, perfume, and finesse, even if the reality is a little more complex. Given that there are 62 wineries physically located in La Morra, and many who vinify grapes from the area outside, it is unsurprising that La Morra produces a wide range of styles. Overall though, the facts are that it is, with Monforte d'Alba, the highest commune, which means extreme shifts in temperature between day and night – perfect for ripening Nebbiolo with huge perfumes and fresh acidities. In practice, La Morra can be divided in to three sub-regions, each producing wines in subtly different styles. First, the vineyards around Santa Maria; the wines here tend to be correct and solid, grown on a heavier clay base at generally lower elevations. Second, the cluster of vineyards around the

hamlet of Annunziata – home to the mighty Rocche dell' Annunziata and the lesser-known but high quality Arborina and Torriglione crus. Here the wines tend to be rounder and fuller with marked violet and rose perfumes. Lastly, the vineyards on the small, steep "Rocche" ridge comprising La Serra, Cerequio, Brunate and Fossati; Champions League sites which marry La Morra's trademark seductive character with a certain mineral austerity. The commune's overall soil composition is complex but, like Barolo, is comprised primarily of silty-clay-sandy Tortonian soils with pockets of limestone.

- Brunate, Marco Marengo
- Brunate, Roberto Voerzio
- Arborina, Elio Altare
- Rocche dell Annunziata, Roberto Voerzio
- Rocche dell Annunziata Riserva, Paolo Scavino
- Cerequio, Roberto Voerzio
- La Serra, Roberto Voerzio

VERDUNO (BAROLO)

A commune that for a long time sat under the radar but is now widely regarded as one of the region's

most exciting, Verduno is famed for the Monvigliero vineyard – a small, steep amphitheatre producing some of Barolo's most collectible wines. Barolo's northern outpost, dubbed "The Watchtower", Verduno is unique in being directly influenced by the Tanaro river which separates Barolo from Barbaresco. Well exposed vineyards and continuous breezes, combined with slightly lower temperatures, produce Barolos of soaring aromatics, lightness and spice. A radiant, luminous character characterises many of the wines produced here, which often bear a closer resemblance to Barbaresco than other Barolo communes. Vineyards like Massara and San Lorenzo di Verduno tend to provide more accessible drinking options in typically bright, perfumed styles, whilst Monvigliero's exposure and greater complexity in general requires a decade or more in the cellar to express its true potential.

- Barolo Comune di Verduno, Fratelli Alessandria
- Monvigliero, Fratelli Alessandria
- Monvigliero, Paolo Scavino
- San Lorenzo di Verduno, Fratelli Alessandria



CASTIGLIONE FALLETTO (BAROLO)

Castiglione Falletto, though small, is one of the most prestigious communes in the Langhe. Vineyards such as Monprivato, Rocche di Castiglione and Villero have long been highly desirable. In recent decades vineyards such as Bricco Fiasco (Bric del Fiasc), Scarrone, Pira and Bricco Boschis have seen a surge in reputation thanks to a younger generation of producers. Located in the centre of the Barolo appellation, Castiglione Falletto sits on a rift between the Tortonian and the Serravallian soils. Many argue that the best wines combine the lifted, fruit purity and finesse of the former with the minerality and depth of the latter. There is no doubt that the best wines from Castiglione age tremendously well, though the sandier sites, of which there are a number, produce wines which are on the whole remarkably charming and attractive in youth despite their deep-seated latent power. An overall balance of power and aromatic complexity is perhaps that which best characterises Castiglione Falletto. Typically, the wines are potent and mineral, with waves of strawberries, cherries and spices.

- Bric del Fiasc, Paolo Scavino
- Rocche di Castiglione, Brovia
- Villero, Brovia
- Garblet Sue, Brovia

SERRALUNGA D'ALBA (BAROLO)

Located on the eastern side of the appellation, Serralunga d'Alba has the highest number of classified single crus in the Barolo region and historically served as an important component in Barolo Classico blends. A clearly defined, baritone, austere profile to its wines has always made it a highly desirable area for Nebbiolo. The commune is characterised by a long ridge line which runs north to south, dividing the vineyards between the south south-west exposures and the south south-east. On the eastern slopes, vineyards such as Brea, Prapo and Cerretta tend to produce structured but polished Barolos with complex licorice and dark fruits with powerful but ripe tannins. On the western slopes, the drier soils of Vigna Rionda and Margheria, for example, tend to produce wines of a more ferrous, stony, saline expression. Serralunga sits, unsurprisingly, in the Serravallian sector where the soils are older and more compacted with a higher proportion of limestone and white and grey marls.

- Cerretta, Riserva, Elio Altare

- Brea, Ca Mia, Brovia
- Prapo, Paolo Scavino

MONFORTE D'ALBA (BAROLO)

Monforte d'Alba is, like La Morra, a large and high commune. However, unlike La Morra, and especially Serralunga, the maps in Monforte were drawn to allow for fewer but more extended single vineyards. That a vineyard as large as Bussia, for example, could possibly have a clear-enough identity to be consistent across all producers is unlikely. This, combined with a significant increase in Nebbiolo plantings in areas formerly deemed unsuitable, has put the commune in a slightly troubled position. When the wines are well made and gently handled, they are dark and powerful, but at the same time mineral, fragrant and fine boned. Salty, fragrant, ferrous, almost citrus-driven Barolos are typical of the commune. Ginestra and Bussia (specifically the sub-plots of Pianpolvere and Dardi) are the two most lauded and historic crus of Monforte, though Gramolere and Perno produce increasingly fine wines too. Given the size of the crus it is common to see better wines labelled with the name of the sub-plot or zone below the official MGA. The soils are Serravallian with a high proportion of sandstone and chalk, but do vary widely from vineyard to vineyard.

- Gramolere, Fratelli Alessandria
- Bussia Fantini, Paolo Scavino

NEIVE (BARBARESCO)

As a rule, the wines of Barbaresco tend to drink slightly earlier than those of Barolo. This is evidenced in many of the beautifully succulent, full bodied wines found in the Neive commune. Built around fruit expression and bold but ripe tannins, some of Barbaresco's most lauded wines hail from Neive. The soils in Neive have a high presence of blue marls, with a deep seam of limestone and clay and big presence of Sant'Agata Fossils. These combine to make for well-draining, drier soils on the surface with a hard but relatively steady water supply towards the bedrock. The vines' roots are forced to bury deep in in order to stabilise and thus there is a high proportion of old vines in Neive which are prized for their consistency, verticality and complexity. High-toned, floral and bewitching Barbarescos of intensity and persistence.

- Albesani-Borgese, Piero Busso
- Gallina, Piero Busso



BARBARESCO (BARBARESCO)

The historic commune in the heart of the appellation, Barbaresco itself produces complete, rounded expressions of Nebbiolo, resplendent with fine, linear tannins, brittle but jostling perfumes and lashings of red fruits and spices. Elevations overall are not especially high but a slightly cooler and breezier micro-climate compared to Neive means good freshness. The high proportion of sand in some of the most fabled sites such as Asili produces wines of incredible refinement and noble aroma. Rabaja, another great site, tends to display darker, spicier berried fruits, with epic energy and fine balsamic and mineral notes. For those starting out, Barbaresco tends to produce consistent, fruity and elegant wines with long aging potential.

TREISO (BARBARESCO)

The highest commune in the Barbaresco appellation, rising to over 400m, Treiso is notably cooler than its two neighbours, in some cases ripening almost a full month later. Harder and more compact soils, more Serravallian in profile, means darker and slightly wilder-styled wines tending towards crisp, forest fruit flavours, earth, salt and spices. Where the wines are occasionally described as austere, this is rarely borne out in the best examples, which combine freshness, depth and tense, jewel-like berry flavours.

- San Stunet, Piero Busso

BUYER'S PICKS PIEDMONT 2022



OUR TOP 5 MID-TIER BAROLO & BARBARESCO SUGGESTIONS

These five wines represent a confident spread of winemaking styles and are excellent blends or single vineyards. They can be broached over the next five years.

	PRICE	CASE
Barolo, Brunate, Marengo, 2022	£265 IB	6 x 75cl
Barbaresco, Albesani-Borghese, Piero Busso, 2022	£365 IB	6 x 75cl
Barolo, Classico, Fratelli Brovia 2022	TBC	6 x 75cl
Barolo, La Morra, Roberto Voerzio	£425 IB	6 x 75cl
Barolo, Bric del Fiasc, Paolo Scavino 2022	£430 IB	6 x 75cl

TOP 5 "MUST HAVE" WINES

These five recommendations represent some of our out-and-out favourite wines from the offer this year, irrespective of price. They are likely to be highly sought after but will provide long-term drinking pleasure and memorable drinking experiences if you are lucky enough to secure a case.

	PRICE	CASE
Barbaresco, Albesani, Riserva, VV, Busso, 2020	£315 IB	2 x 75cl
Barolo, Monvigliero, Fratelli Alessandria 2022	£420 IB	6 x 75cl
Barolo, Rocche di Castiglione, Brovia, 2022	TBC	6 x 75cl
Barolo, Cannubi, Elio Altare 2022	£750 IB	6 x 75cl
Barolo, Fossati, Voerzio, 2022	£1,195 IB	6 x 75cl

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PIERO BUSSO (NEIVE, BARBARESCO)

Piorguido Busso is as brilliant a young winemaker as you are likely to meet. We have followed his development for more than ten years now, and the wines never fail to impress. Inspired by the artisanal, historic wines of the Langhe, and those of the Cote d'Or, Germany and Champagne, he is an imbibor and student of fine wine in all its forms. Aided by propitious old-vine holdings in some of Neive and Treiso's most desirable sites, Pier produces Barbarescos of fruit-led finesse and light-touch tannic delicacy. Singled out by The Wine Advocate in January 2026 as one of the region's *Rising Stars*, the 2022s are suave and accomplished and are at the level of a producer who has rather already risen. Skin contacts remained quite long, between 35-55 days, and the wines were aged for two years in large cask. Between Pier and sister Emanuela, Busso is a dynamic winery that injects the family's broad smiles into the bottles they make. Excitingly, they have opted to release the first and until now only bottling of San Stunet Riserva from the legendary 2016 vintage – production is miniscule. Blink and you'll miss it!



	CASE	PRICE
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Barbaresco Albesani-Borghese 2022	6x75cl	£365.00
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A deeper Albesani that offers sumptuous notes of strawberries and dark cherries, with supporting hints of graphite and dried herbs. Broader and more curvaceous on the palate with pliant tannins, it will drink on the earlier side. Vigna Borghese is a sub-plot in front of the Busso cellar, home to the estate's oldest vines, averaging fifty years old. A southwest-facing vineyard at 280 metres elevation planted on sandy white limestone soils. Aged in 25 hl casks for 24-26 months.

Barbaresco San Stunet 2022	6x75cl	£365.00
	1x1.5L	£135.00
	1x3L	£295.00

Aromatic and open in style, the 2022 is a wine of ripe alpine fruits such as wild berries and red cherries, with darker cassis and liquorice typical of a warmer vintage. Sinewy and sculpted, with a juicy finishing palate. A cuvée that this year offers a lot of complex fruit expression and crushed stones on the finish. From the commune of Treiso, San Stunet is a southeast-facing vineyard at 400m altitude, one of the highest parts of Barbaresco. The soils are mostly limestone with blue marl. The site is late-ripening, usually picked ten days after the others. Typically, the wine is more linear in structure than Busso's other Barbarescos. Aged for two years in 25hl Slavonian oak casks.

Barbaresco Gallina 2021	6x75cl	£475.00
	1x1.5L	£175.00

A more generous perfumed nose with wild plum, bramble fruit, blackberry and violets. Grand-scaled with real stature on the palate, the 2021 Gallina balances complex fruit and spice with an earth-stone backbone. Powerful, with ripe tannins and great length, this is a really exciting Barbaresco. The Busso part of Gallina is considered a good one, as it is well-exposed, facing Ovello to the west rather than full south, so it benefits from breezes coming off the Tanaro. Produced from the oldest vines of the estate, the wine sees an extra year in bottle before release.

Barbaresco Albesani Riserva Viti Vecchie 2020	2x75cl	£315.00
	1x1.5L	£360.00

Exotically perfumed and floral, the VV is incredibly stylish and fluid, offering sweeter fruit notes of blueberries, rose, citrus and balsamic – woven together seamlessly. Beautiful fine-grained tannins enhance the ripe purity of fruit, through to a neat and cleansing finish. When Piorguido took over winemaking in 2010, the first wine he introduced was this small, 70-90-year-old vine, 0.2ha plot bottling in his grandfather's honour. The tiny area means that production is contingent on there being enough perfect grapes to fill a single cask. Typically, it requires a classic harvest at the end of October, with healthy and thick enough skins to permit a long maceration of 90 days with submerged cap. Aged for three years in cask and three years in bottle before release. Total production is 900 bottles.

Barbaresco San Stunet Riserva Viti Vecchie 2016	2x75cl	£550.00
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The first ever, and until now only, bottling of San Stunet Riserva, the 2016 was remarkable on our visit. Super fragrant and beautifully chiselled, its bright mineral intensity, florality and herbaceousness conspire to produce an extraordinarily complex, thrilling Barbaresco. Red fruits include strawberry, redcurrants and pomegranate, whilst elegant hints of dried rose, sage and peppermint bring a high-toned complexity to the wine. So tonic and fresh on the finish. Stunning.

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FRATELLI ALESSANDRIA (VERDUNO, BAROLO)

Fratelli Alessandria is a benchmark estate that has enjoyed a steady uptick in recognition and demand over the past ten years. Celebrated for its historic position in the great Monvigliero cru and for being a champion of the village of Verduno, the estate is well-placed to adapt to warmer vintages. Verduno represents the northern outpost of the Barolo zone and is the only area that really benefits from cooling breezes that come off the river Tanaro, which separates Barolo from Barbaresco. Stylistically, the wines are famed for their combination of exotic perfume and spice, always on the bright, red fruit spectrum, with a transparency and inherent freshness that in previous decades was sometimes overlooked as being too lean. Vittore explained that the early harvest in 2022 meant continuing in the direction of earlier picking that they are used to. “We are more sensitive and in an organic way, so the health of the grapes and everything is more delicate.” Favouring whole berry fermentation without crushing, and only soft pumpovers for extraction, they avoid any vegetal character or astringency. The young vines suffered in the drought of the vintage, but the old vines’ deep roots sustained them in the best sites. Ageing was carried out for the regular three years in cask, the main difference being that from 2022 onwards they opt not to rack the wines in the last two years in order to keep more tension and freshness in the wine.

	CASE	PRICE
Barolo Comune di Verduno 2022	6x75cl	£225.00

A deep, fruit-driven Barolo blend that benefits from top notes of violet and lavender in the typically fragrant Verduno style. There is a satisfying fleshiness to this wine that will delight from the outset. A blend of five vineyards all in Verduno: Pisapola, Campasso, Boscato, Rocche dell’Olmo and Riva Rocca. The first four plots are co-fermented whilst the bigger Riva Rocca plot is blended in later. Fermented in stainless steel and aged in 25hl Slavonian oak cask for three years.

Barolo San Lorenzo di Verduno 2022	6x75cl	£315.00
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Primary and open and flattering on the nose, the palate displays generous notes of kirsch, peach and hay, with dried flowers and hints of leather on the finish. Initially large-scaled, it opens up quickly and finds more nuance. San Lorenzo is the lower continuation of Monvigliero; it has the same south-facing position but generally produces wines with an extra layer of lovely glossy fruit, thanks to siltier soils. Alessandria has 0.8ha here. Fermented in stainless steel and aged in 25hl Slavonian oak cask for three years.

Barolo Monvigliero 2022	6x75cl	£420.00
	1x3L	£325.00

Brilliantly ruby-hued, the Monvigliero is vital and cleansing; fresh and mineral, chalky and pixellated; showing its class immediately. A melange of red fruit, dried herb, sage and rosemary, rosehip and wildflowers is buttressed by crystalline, talc-like tannins and super-focused acidity – a wine of wonderful balance. Alessandria has a sizeable 1.4ha and first bottled the wine as a single vineyard in 1978. Aged for three years in 25hl Slavonian oak casks.

Barolo Gramolere 2022	6x75cl	£335.00
	1x3L	£265.00

Gramolere is always more substantial in terms of tannic load and darker fruits, balancing that with more blood orange, pine and balsamic, as well as plummy notes, which are all held together beautifully – a taut and sparkling 2022, with wilder fruits. Harvested before Monvigliero for the first time ever. History has shown it to age graciously, with cut and sinew and mineral spark. From a 2ha plot in Monforte d’Alba inherited by Vittore’s mother, a Manzone (of the Giovanni Manzone estate): steep and west-facing at 400m elevation, with dark sandstone soils; the vines are an impressive 60 years old. Harvest usually takes place a week later here than in Verduno.

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ELIO ALTARE (LA MORRA, BAROLO)

Silvia Altare continues to march to her own beat, proud of the house style that has won over legions of fans since Elio made his name in the 1990s. A master of French barrique and one of, if not the, last producer to work with these exclusively, the profile of the wines here is always on the slicker side. Over the years, the level of new oak has been reduced to zero on the Barolo Classico and 10–15% on the crus, with fermentations carried out quickly and effectively in tank, promoting healthy colours and sweeter tannins. 2022 is a deep and intense vintage here but the wines have a surprising limpidity in the glass; erring toward red and purple notes and a consistent fruit-forward profile. Altare asserted that in 2022 their vineyards had clear identities, so they have bottled the full range (though there will not be a Cerretta Riserva release this year as they opted to blend the 2020 into the regular Barolo that year). A year of small yields, volumes of the Cannubi and Unoperuno are miniscule – fewer than a thousand bottles of each were made.

	CASE	PRICE
Langhe Rosso Larigi 2023	6x75cl	£290.00

Production has dropped from 3,000 bottles down to a miniscule 900 bottles per year. A stunning 70-year-old, south-facing Barbera parcel sitting at the top of the Arborina vineyard. Fermented and aged in 100% new oak barrique for 18 months.

Langhe Rosso Giaborina 2023	6x75cl	£290.00
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100% Nebbiolo produced from two plots in the Arborina vineyard, one from the 1940s and one from the 1980s, fermented and aged in 100% new oak barrique for 18 months.

Langhe Rosso La Villa 2023	6x75cl	£290.00
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A blend of 60% Nebbiolo and 40% Barbera from Arborina, fermented and aged in 100% new oak barriques for 18 months. The name La Villa is taken from the original plot for this wine in Monforte d’Alba; many moons ago they lost the lease on that vineyard but trademarked the name for the blend.

Barolo 2022	6x75cl	£250.00
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Silky, plush red fruits with a redcurrant and powdery chalky note, spearmint, more on ruby and preserved fruits, particularly strawberry and cherry, framed by a veneer of welcoming French oak, in texture rather than taste. Nicely shaped and ready to drink from release. Produced from vines in Sorrano (Serralunga), Sarmassa (a plot on the border with Le Liste, in the Barolo commune), Pernano (Castiglione Falletto) and Bricco Ambrogio (Roddi). Aged for two years in neutral barrique.

Barolo Arborina 2022	6x75cl	£395.00
	1x1.5L	£140.00

A richer wine that plays with cracked clay, a wave of small fruits, dark berries, and sweet tannins, the 2022 Arborina is lavish and polished with a silky, dark finish. A clay-dominated south-to-southeast-facing amphitheatre in the Annunziata hamlet of La Morra. Aged for 24 months in 15% new barriques after fermentation in stainless steel.

Barolo Unoperuno 2022	6x75cl	£1,100.00
	1x1.5L	£375.00

What began as a super-Cannubi is now a super-Classico, representing a cross-section of their best sites, all hand-destemmed and co-fermented and aged in barrique, a third new. They do three passes over three weeks so that they achieve an even mix of ripeness levels and then the juice is blended. In 2022, the blend is made up of Cerretta, Arborina and Cannubi with a little bit of Sorrano. Just 800 bottles were produced.

Barolo Cannubi 2022	6x75cl	£750.00
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A powerful Cannubi, mingling dark and red fruits, soy and stones, in a full-bodied quite structured way. It opens up to show lovely ripe fruits, the acidity overall soft and pliant through to a glamorous finish. Production totals three barrels, equivalent to just 900bts. From the historic central part of Cannubi, steep and well-draining, the wine was aged for 24 months in 15% new barrique after fermentation in stainless steel.

MARCO MARENGO (LA MORRA, BAROLO)

Marco and Jenny Marengo presented a set of wines that reaffirm their position as arguably the best-value Barolo producer in La Morra. Where the Bricco Viole is dark and spicy, the Brunate is more expressive, full-bodied but on the red fruits and chalk, making for an enticing pair. What's more, the ever-dependable Brunate includes all the wine that would usually be kept separate for the Riserva bottling, so it looks like an especially good buy in a vintage that was 30% down in production. The Barolo Classico sees some of son Stefano's influence, as it is now produced in a combination of ageing vessels: roughly 20% in traditional cask and 80% in the French barriques that the winery is used to. The 2022 has a neat feel that will drink from release. A vertical tasting of 1997–2019 in 2023 proved that the wines age beautifully and that less celebrated vintages often produce the best surprises.



CASE PRICE

Barolo 2022	12x75cl	£325.00
	1x1.5L	£75.00

An engaging and user-friendly Barolo that delivers neat ripe, fruits, juiciness and an agreeable mouthfeel. Produced from four vineyards, all in La Morra: Serradenari, Roncaglie, Boiolo and Fossati. Each component is vinified separately and blended in stainless steel tank four months before bottling. The wine was aged for 24 months in 20% large cask and 80% barrique with 8–10% new oak.

Barolo Bricco delle Viole 2022	6x75cl	£205.00
	1x1.5L	£85.00

Broad and deep with layers of compact dark fruits, mint and firm tannins, the Bricco Viole is more bound-up and backward today, gradually unfurling to reveal incense, iodine and tapenade-like savoury notes. Produced from 70–80-year-old vines inherited from Marco's mother's side of the family. Bricco Viole is a very fine Barolo vineyard that translates as 'Top of the Violet Hill' and is one of the highest vineyards in the Barolo commune at 400–450 metres above sea level. Compared to Brunate there is a little more clay in the soil here. The ageing is the same; 24 months in barriques, with 10% new oak in 2022.

Barolo Brunate 2022	6x75cl	£265.00
	1x1.5L	£105.00
	1x3L	£215.00

Full-bodied but with finer, chalkier tannins after Bricco Viole, it offers a complex mix of red and dark fruits, and impressive impact. For all its richness, there is a radiance and salinity here too. The Riserva 2022 was not produced, so all the best fruit in 2022 made it into the regular Brunate. Brunate is one of the top cru vineyards of Barolo, situated high up in the La Morra commune. Marengo's 0.6ha of Brunate is split across two parcels averaging 350 metres of altitude. Brunate has been in Marco's family since 1903 and the vines average seventy years old. Aged in 10% new oak barriques for 24 months.

Barolo Brunate Riserva 2020	6x75cl	£365.00
	1x1.5L	£145.00

Darker and more linear than the 2022 regular Brunate, with a higher acid line, which absorbs the barrel; Mediterranean herbs, coffee, leather and black cherries lend a more savoury feel. The Riserva comes from old vines the heart of Brunate, the upper middle part, planted in 1942. Produced in the same way as the other wines with 24 months in 20% new oak barrels, then kept for an extra two years in bottle.

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ROBERTO VOERZIO (LA MORRA, BAROLO)

Roberto Voerzio is an outlier in the Langhe in the sense that he has always worked to dramatically small yields, through high-density planting and extreme green harvesting (leaving just 500g of fruit on the vine for Barolo), steadfast in the belief that small production fundamentally equates to high quality. Consequently, 2022 is as small here as in any other year, the warm and dry conditions allied to organic viticulture producing grapes of pristine health and thickness. By further reducing the crop load, Voerzio accelerates ripening far ahead of his peers and the team here was picking Barolo from the end of August into early September, about three weeks earlier than in 2021. In Roberto's words, *"the tannins are silky, round and remarkably persistent, while the aromatic profile is already beautifully defined, offering generous notes of ripe red fruits, floral nuances and refined balsamic hints. These are wines that immediately captivate yet clearly promise a long and noble evolution over time."* Ferments are carried out naturally in stainless steel and ageing takes place in a range of formats, according to volume. For most of the wines this means a combination of traditional large casks and 500L tonneaux, with a very small amount raised in barrique – just Torriglione and Sarmassa – for two years. New oak averages 20-25% across the range. It is relevant to note that Roberto Voerzio stepped back from what he dubs *"score politics"* a few years ago, believing that the wines need time to settle post-bottling and be given time to breathe while tasting – a model that doesn't tend to accommodate critics on a tight schedule.

	CASE	PRICE
Barolo Comune di La Morra 2022	6x75cl	£425.00
Elegant and perfumed with red berry fruits, dried rose and orange zest. Juicy and crunchy. Fresh, with a nice purity to the fruit and silky sweet tannins, in a more gentle, classically La Morra style. Co-fermented in stainless steel and aged in one cask of 35hl, two of 25hl and a combined 5hl in barrique. A blend of plots from La Serra, Fossati, Case Nere and Cerequio. Production at this level is 800g per vine.		
Barolo La Serra 2022	6x75cl	£1,195.00
Blackcurrant and sloes with a more mineral and direct profile, developing into coastal herbs and sea spray, with a certain austerity and strictness to the tannins. Around 3,000 bottles were produced, aged in a combination of 25hl cask, barrique and tonneau. La Serra is the highest vineyard in the Voerzio portfolio, at 400m, tending to produce more linear wines.		
Barolo Rocche dell' Annunziata 2022	6x75cl	£1,195.00
An inviting, charming and silky Rocche enveloping wild cherry, white peach, rose and violet. A nice balance of richness and freshness with fine-grained tannins and subtle notes of coffee that coat the palate in an altogether more floral, creamy expression. From two parcels, south and southeast-facing, planted in 1997, totalling 1.3ha. Rocche dell' Annunziata is one of the great vineyards of Barolo. Approximately 3,000 bottles were produced.		
Barolo Cerequio 2022	6x75cl	£1,195.00
Sun-kissed red berry fruit, with nutmeg and sweet spices and a deeper, stony character coming after the more luxurious Rocche. Really alluring and open on the surface with a classy wash of firmer tannins below. Cerequio is one of the historic single vineyards of La Morra, south-facing and planted at 300 metres above sea level on sandy clay soils. Voerzio has 2.6ha here. Sarmassa is the lower continuation of Cerequio.		
Barolo Brunate 2022	6x75cl	£1,195.00
Brunate offers up darker aromatics of blueberries, plum and violets with an earthier and wild alpine profile on the whole. The 2022 is deep in fruit with a muscular feel to the structure. Complex with great intensity but it will need time to integrate and settle. One of the great crus of Barolo, situated high up in the La Morra commune just underneath La Serra, with a south to southeast exposure. 3,000 bottles were produced.		

	CASE	PRICE
Barolo Fossati 2022	6x75cl	£1,195.00
Fresh brambly-hedgerow fruits meet spicier hints of cardamon and orange peel. As ever, quite tight and forceful on the palate, but this is balanced with a real seam of graphite minerality and crushed rocks and chalk. There is a sleekness to the blue and violet-laced fruits that nicely offsets the vineyard's naturally nervy profile in 2022. Fossati is 33ha in total, the upper part in La Morra and lower part in Barolo; they are in the La Morra sector. One of the smallest cuvées in the Voerzio stable, on average 2,000 bottles are produced each year.		
Barolo Sarmassa 2022	1x1.5L	£395.00
An intense wine of richness and power, it leads with ripe, polished strawberries, star anise, red cherry and mountain herbs. Pulpy and fleshy with great concentration and balsamic notes. Sarmassa is a clay-driven site and the vines here are ten years old. Aged for two years in barrique, just 900 magnums have been produced.		
Barolo Torriglione 2021	1x1.5L	£395.00
A brooding and more backward wine, the 2021 Torriglione is the darkest in the line-up today, distinct against the more voluptuous 2022s. Framed by toast and coffee and wild herbs, there is polished density here with firm tannins. Aged for two years in barrique and bottled exclusively in magnums. Torriglione is located below and adjacent to Rocche dell' Annunziata.		
Barolo RV 350 Riserva 2019	3x75cl	£1,195.00
A Riserva that is only bottled in the best years, RV350 takes its name from Roberto's maniacal approach to yield, which for this cuvée amounts to just 350g per vine, selected from the two best performing sites of the year. Rich, glossy and expansive fruits are framed by a wash of velvety tannins and a high level of concentration – this is a deep and glistening, super-smart Barolo, aged in barrique for two years. A 50/50 blend from Case Nere and Rocche dell' Annunziata.		
Barolo Riserva Case Nere 2016	3x75cl	£595.00
Always released after ten years, the 2016 Case Nere is dark but expressive and spicy, offering briny notes of liquorice, tar and plum. It remains quite tannic and upright; a good example of the verticality and long-term potential of the vintage. Great concentration and length, to drink after a good decant.		
Barbera Pozzo dell' Annunziata 2022	1x1.5L	£265.00
Voerzio have long advocated for high quality Barbera. To prove a point, they make this stunning single vineyard Barbera in the same way as the Barolos to produce a savoury, complex wine. The 2022 displays a dark-fruited character with notes of iris, clove, nuts and earth. Pozzo was the first vineyard that Voerzio planted himself at high density, back in 1990. That approach has since been rolled out across the estate. Aged in barrique and bottled only in magnums.		

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PAOLO SCAVINO (CASTIGLIONE FALLETTO, BAROLO)

Elisa Scavino was clear that decisive action early in the year was key to arriving with balanced wines, describing 2022 as “an extreme vintage of small numbers. We are 20% down across the board so working to retain water in the soils proved to be essential.” For Scavino, this meant already topping up the organic matter in the poorest vineyards during winter 2021, hoping to improve soil nutrients and reduce evaporation in the warmer months. 100mm of rain in Spring got the shoot development going but the sustained dry conditions from then on meant slow growth for the rest of the season. “We did an early green harvest in June to lighten the load on the vine, and we kept the canopy as thick as possible on the west-facing side of the trellises to help shade the berries.” In the cellar, all ferments reverted to stainless steel for freshness and reduced skin contact to around a week. They also opted to bottle the wines after 18 months, a full year earlier than they used to, to promote a youthful and primary feel in the bottle. The Scavino range is large and diverse, encompassing many of the region’s most prestigious sites. The “home” vineyard, Bric del Fiasc, continues to excel. Pricing remains very fair, and the natural richness and fruit-forward nature of the vintage is nicely in tune with a house signature that tends towards sleek fruit and openness. Please note there is no Rocche dell’ Annunziata Riserva or Rocche di Castiglione release this year.

	CASE	PRICE
Barolo 2022	12x75cl	£365.00
	6x1.5L	£410.00

Cushioned and fruity in style, with top notes of nuts and sweet spice, this is a fruity and accessible Barolo Classico with pleasant citrus hints. It is produced from eight different vineyards in La Morra, Castiglione Falletto, Serralunga and Monforte d’Alba, and aged in large casks for two years. The blend is made after the first year of ageing in which all the vineyards are kept separate. Ready to drink on release.

Barolo Bricco Ambrogio 2022	6x75cl	£275.00
	1x1.5L	£105.00

Bricco Ambrogio offers creamy forest fruit and dark cherries, with some herbs and breezy acidity. A vineyard close to the Scavinos’ hearts, they bought in to the relatively unknown Bricco Ambrogio in 2002 and have expanded their holdings from 5ha to 7ha. The top cru of the lesser-known commune of Roddi, a very windy terroir exposed southeast and planted at 150 metres above sea level.

Barolo Monvigliero 2022	6x75cl	£350.00
	1x1.5L	£130.00

A limpid, red-fruited wine in which you can feel the talc and white soils through crisper, quite prominent tannins. Plum skins, hay and spices bring complexity in this more tannic expression. The prized 0.8ha that the Scavinos own in this great site was bought at the same time as Bricco Ambrogio, in 2002. From two parcels planted in 1968 (0.6ha) and 2005 (0.2ha). First bottled as a single cru in 2007, their holdings form a pyramid shape from the mid-slope up to the tree at the summit.

	CASE	PRICE
Barolo Bussia Fantini 2022	6x75cl	£340.00
	1x1.5L	£125.00

2022 is the second vintage of this wine and it displays clear-cut small berries, bright acids, and mint, soy and earth, consistent with the more savoury-styled wines of the area. It has a relatively light and drinkable feel with neat tannins. Fantini is a small area in the southern sector of Bussia at 450m, the highest in the Scavino range. The soils are primarily sandstone-derived, and the vines are surrounded by woods, supplied by a natural well, helping to replenish the dry soils and make the plants productive. Bussia is a huge cru in Monforte d’Alba. As such, it is common to include the subzone on the label to accurately reflect its origin. The Scavinos have 1ha.

Barolo Ravera 2022	6x75cl	£340.00
	1x1.5L	£125.00

Waves of dark fruits, balsamic notes and dried herbs dominate a more solid Ravera that contains a more imposing tannic structure next to the Bussia today. It will benefit from a bit more time in the bottle. Ravera is a big vineyard and the second highest plot that Scavino owns, at 430m. Typically this brings a more vertical dimension to its structure, Ravera coming across in the Scavino line-up as the cool day to the Prapo’s warm night. The Scavinos’ 2.5ha is all east exposed which brings a great deal of freshness.

Barolo Prapo 2022	6x75cl	£340.00
	1x1.5L	£125.00

Viscous and lush, with melting tannins and a broader, more accessible profile than the Ravera, there is a sweetness to the currants and blackberries that make it enjoyable to taste and readier to drink on release. Prapo is south-facing and early to ripen. A small, prestigious Serralunga cru, there are just six producers in this site, so it tends to be lesser known.

Barolo Bric del Fiasc 2022	6x75cl	£430.00
	1x1.5L	£155.00

For us, the standout wine in the range, the 2022 Bric del Fiasc is a wine of noble tannin and sumptuous, lavish, but complex fruits. Smaller berried with a clearer Alpine feel, it offers an impeccable mix of ripeness and minerality – a harmonious cuvée with a sense of measure. Bric del Fiasc is not a particularly high vineyard, but its fresh marl soils with sands means a combination of silky ripeness and mineral freshness. The Scavinos own 2.8ha in the centre of the vineyard, facing southwest.

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BROVIA (CASTIGLIONE FALLETTO, BAROLO)

Fratelli Brovia is one of the very best small family wineries in Piedmont. From their 15ha of Barolo vineyards, they produce some of the most articulate and downright delicious wines on offer today. These are Barolos of clear identity and character, and under Elena Brovia and Alex Sanchez's direction, each vintage is clearly written in the wines, in varying ways that never fail to seduce. 2022 was certainly a challenging year, but Alex explained that it all starts from the work in the previous year – there can be no let-up. Better pruning, cover crops, mulching and canopy management through the year all help to inspire quality wines, working to delay ripening as much as possible and effectively trying to “lengthen the season”. “Freshness is an obsession,” he explained. In the analysis, they have achieved 2022s with similar acidity levels to 2021. Additionally, to keep a nervy profile in the wines, they opted for shorter ageing in wood, down to 18 months – shooting for “sweetness of fruit whilst protecting the long-term development of the wines.” If one is to judge producers on their performance in the more difficult years, rather than the easy ones, then these new releases make clear that Brovia occupies a position right at the top of the tree.

	CASE	PRICE
Barolo Classico 2022	6x75cl	TBC

The Barolo Classico is assembled in huge old oak casks, so it needs more time in wood than the others before bottling. It predominantly comes from the younger 25-year-old vines of the very fine Brea and Gianetto vineyards in Serralunga d’Alba, as well as leftover wine from the estate’s top crus once their individual casks have been filled. In that regard, it is a Barolo Classico of great pedigree.

Barolo Rocche di Castiglione 2022	6x75cl	TBC
	3x1.5L	TBC

Super high-toned and intense, this is a 2022 with uncommon verticality, balanced with the prettiest crystalline red fruits. Limpid and clear-cut, with bright raspberry, salts and a beautiful sculpt to the tannins. A top-class wine. One of the most famous crus in Barolo, Rocche is a steep, south-east-facing Castiglione Falletto vineyard. Brovia’s plot was planted in 1966 at 350m. The high proportion of sand here means about 70% of the soils are dry, producing wines of great nerve and minerality. Aged in large, used oak casks for two years.

Barolo Villero 2022	6x75cl	TBC
	3x1.5L	TBC

Silkier and deeper than the Rocche, more horizontal, with creamy fruit and a more strapping style (typical of the warmer site), but it is far from one-dimensional, offering gorgeous fruit weight and hearty structure, through to a sustained finish. Brovia’s average vine age here is over 60 years old, planted on a good proportion of hard clay under sand. Southwest-facing at 300m, Villero has less air circulation and receives the warmer afternoon sun. Aged in large, used oak casks for two years.

Barolo Garblet Sue 2022	6x75cl	TBC
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Garblet Sue has a more front-loaded profile, balancing rich red fruits, with iron-rich spice and balsamic notes with deeper plums and cherry. The vineyard is officially called Altenasso in the current MGA classification, a lower Castiglione Falletto site with high fertility soils and a red/ferrous influence.

Barolo Brea Vigna Ca’Mia 2022	6x75cl	TBC
	3x1.5L	TBC

A wine of wonderful delineation, although ripe, it has a remarkably crisp and chalky profile, with great sapidity. The vines at their oldest are up to 71 years old which means they have learned to self-regulate well against extremes. Small berries, complex and wiry, with rosemary and thyme, Brovia measures Brea as being 2.5C lower in average temperature than the rest of the Barolo zone, due to cooling breezes coming from the east. A wine Alex Sanchez describes as having great “inner pressure”. From Serralunga d’Alba, Brea is home to the oldest vines of the Brovia estate – the Ca’ Mia plot was planted in 1958. A 65-year-old monopole vineyard with a relatively high amount of limestone soils as well as clay, that faces south-southeast – it is situated on the eastern side of the commune.

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