



## PIO CESARE 2016: AN EXCEPTIONALLY CLASSIC VINTAGE

"While it will certainly benefit from additional time spent in bottle, the 2016 vintage is surprisingly supple, rich and approachable despite its youth."

- Pio Boffa, 4th generation winemaker

Piemonte produced excellent quality wine in 2016, with ripeness to match the very good 2015 but firmer tannin and higher acidity. Ideal harvest conditions allowed the Nebbiolo to ripen fully, and yields were higher than average too.

*James Robinson*

Even though the 2015 vintage had been met with acclaim, it seemed to many that the 2016s were even better – an impression confirmed after tasting the 2016 Barolos.

*Decanter*

### CLASSIC RANGE

*Pio Cesare's classic Barolo and Barbaresco are produced in the most traditional way: a combination of multiple single-vineyard sites spanning different villages, enhancing the peculiarities of each respective terroir. Long maceration and aging in oak "botti" in the winery's ancient cellars have defined the family's style since 1881.*



#### Barolo DOCG 2016

*The grapes are sourced from family-owned vineyards in Serralunga d'Alba (Ornato), Grinzane Cavour (Gustava), La Morra (Roncaglie), Barolo Novello (Ravera), and Monforte d'Alba (Mosconi). The balance of the grapes comes from other exclusive vineyards owned by growers, who have been providing grapes to the Pio Cesare family for generations. Vinification takes place in stainless steel tanks, with skin contact for about 20 days. The wine is aged in mid-toasted French oak for three years: 70 percent in 20 to 50 hectoliter casks; 30 percent in barriques.*

**96 points** | **Editors' Choice** | Enticingly fragrant, this wine offers alluring scents of iris, rose, perfumed berry and wild herb. It's full-bodied and elegant, delivering crushed raspberry, juicy Marasca cherry, star anise and orange zest set against a backbone of taut, fine-grained tannins. Bright acidity keeps it balanced and lends density. Drink 2024-2036. *Wine Enthusiast* | 9.20

**95 points** | Traditionalists happily fall back to this wine from Pio Cesare. This historic winery, now in its fifth generation and located within the city limits of Alba, takes care to shape a classic interpretation without too many extra bells or whistles. The fact that Pio Cesare now has the flashier Barolo Ornato and the newly created Barolo Mosconi, only gives more importance to this wine. The Pio Cesare 2016 Barolo offers deep, dark fruit with a mingling of spice, smoke, tar and smoke. *The Wine Advocate* | 7.20



#### Barbaresco DOCG 2016

*The grapes are sourced exclusively from the Pio Cesare family's vineyards: the famous "Il Bricco" estate and the great hill of San Stefanetto, both located in the village of Treiso. The wine is fermented in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks. There is skin contact for 20 days. Thirty-five percent of the wine is aged in French oak barriques (one-third new) for 30 months. The remaining 65 percent spends three years in French oak casks, 20 to 50 hectoliters each.*

**95 points** | Yum. Very fine tannins with a dusty texture. Plenty of subtle ripe strawberries, orange peel and cedar. It's medium-bodied with a fresh, fruity finish. Tight and beautiful. Give it a year or two to open, but already a beauty. *James Suckling* | 7.20

**95 points** | Pio Cesare's 2016 Barbaresco is, quite simply, everything Barbaresco should be. Medium in body and translucent, with a firm backbone of youthful Nebbiolo tannin, the 2016 is captivating from the very first taste. Rose petal, lavender, mint, blood orange and red berry fruit open effortlessly. This is textbook Barbaresco. I loved it. *Vinous* | 10.20

### SINGLE-VINEYARD RANGE

*The collection of prized parcels also allows the family to produce limited releases of single-vineyard bottlings.*



#### Barbaresco Il Bricco DOCG 2016

*Sourced from two plots at the top of the Il Bricco vineyard in Treiso, one of the highest and coolest points in the Barbaresco region (6,478 bottles).*

**97 points** | A soft, fruity red with strawberry and smoke undertones, as well as spices. Full-bodied. Chewy, round and racy at the end. Very structured and linear. Give it time to open. Better after 2022 and onwards. *James Suckling* | 6.20

**94 points** | The Pio Cesare 2016 Barbaresco Il Bricco is a beautifully lightweight and lithe expression, with an enormously silky and subtle mouthfeel. Barbaresco is always a bit more open and accessible compared to Barolo, but this particular release of 7,000 bottles has benefited from an extra year in the bottle and has gained even more definition and traction in terms of mouthfeel as result. This wine speaks in long, slow and well-enunciated tones. Indeed, it whispers into your heart. *The Wine Advocate* | 7.20

**94 points** | The 2016 Barbaresco il Bricco, from Pio Cesare's vineyard in Treiso, is gorgeous. Sweet red cherry, kirsch, mint, cinnamon and start anise all flesh out in the glass, with an extra kick of warmth (not heat) that gives the wine a real sense of breadth. Best of all, the 2016 will drink well with minimal cellaring, although it certainly has the substance to age well for some time to come. *Vinous* | 10.20



#### Barolo Ornato DOCG 2016

*A historically significant amphitheater located in Serralunga, a village renowned for great structure and longevity. The very first "cru" ever produced by the family in 1985 (14,015 bottles).*

### GAMBERO ROSSO Red Wine of the Year 2021

**98 points** | The blue fruit and freshness are impressive here. At the same time, there's richness and focus with ripe fruit. Yet, it remains cool and bright. Superb center palate with great fruit and depth, but compact and focused. Needs three or four years to come together. *James Suckling* | 9.19

**96 points** | This fine site in Serralunga is elevated at 380 metres, which may explain the wine's finesse. Very ripe sour cherries dominate the nose, which is perfumed and lifted, with a touch of vanilla beneath the soaring fruit. It's taut and sleek, with high acidity but no greenness. The tannins are well integrated, so the texture is polished. It's still tight and undoubtedly complex, with hints of tobacco and coffee. The balance is impeccable and this will go the distance. Although it may be accessible young, this will develop more nuances with further ageing. Long minty finish. *Decanter* | 4.20



#### Barolo Mosconi DOCG 2016

*Now in its second vintage, the family's latest acquisition in the village of Monforte, from a selection of the oldest Nebbiolo vines, the Mosconi vineyard is recognized for complexity and supple tannins (5,799 bottles).*

**97 points** | Really attractive blue fruit and flowers with hints of minerals. Full-bodied, very tight and sexy with super fine tannins, at the same time. A structured and racy young wine. Better after 2021. *James Suckling* | 9.19

**96+ points** | This is the second vintage released of this new wine from Pio Cesare, and what an elegant treat it is.. a toned and slender wine that shows the inner power and muscle of this corner of the appellation. The bouquet is defined by a pretty mineral note that is backed by wild berry fruit, rose petal and a dusting of crushed stone or tilled earth. I feel the tight tannins of this wine, but I also taste the elegance of the fruit that surrounds them. *The Wine Advocate* | 7.20