

MACCH

WINE COLLECTIVE

selected by Jacqueline Pirolo

LINA

December 2020: Piemonte

This month I decided to keep it regionally specific and take a journey through one of Italy's most famous wine regions: Piemonte. Although we are just beginning to scratch the surface of the wines coming from this region - I tried to highlight lesser known, indigenous grapes and to feature a few of the same varietals to showcase their differences and versatility.

Remember there is always more! Shoot me an email if you'd like to purchase another bottle of something in your pack that you loved.
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Cheers and thank you!

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Cascina Preziosa,
Coste della Sesia Spanna 2017

Producer: Cascina Preziosa
Name: Coste della Sesia Spanna
Variety: 85% Nebbiolo, 15% Barbera
Vintage: 2017
Agricultural Technique: Organic
Location: Castellengo, Piemonte, Italy

Alto Piemonte is the untouched, less touristic area of Piemonte. Similar to the more well-known areas of Barolo & Barbaresco, Nebbiolo is the dominate varietal. However, unlike them in Alto Piemonte, Nebbiolo or its clone Spanna is often blended with other indigenous varietals sometimes resulting in bolder expressions. Owner Gianni Selva Bonino and Consultant Cristiano Garella observe organic practices, produce 3 wines on just over 7 acres of land that they keep beautifully groomed. Their Spanna expression is pure elegance that pairs perfectly with lamb or agnolotti.

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Angelo Negro, Roero Arneis
"Serra Lupini" 2019

Producer: Angelo Negro
Name: Serra Lupini
Variety: 100% Arneis
Vintage: 2019
Agricultural Technique: Organic
Location: Monteu Roero, Piemonte, Italy

Most people associate Piemonte with red wine, however, don't sleep on the indigenous white varieties cultivated in this region! Arneis (meaning "little rascal" because it is difficult to grow) is an indigenous varietal to the Piemonte region. It has been grown for centuries and the wines that it produces tend to be dry and medium to full bodied with incredible notes of pears and apricots.

The Negro winery is one of the indisputable legends of the region! Giovanni Negro produced the first dry Roero Arneis on record in 1971 and today has a range that includes several different Arneis and Nebbiolo bottlings.

No oak, tons of tropical vibes, with a sapid, mineral finish!

Cieck, Canavese Rosso 2016

Producer: Cieck
Name: Rosso
Variety: 60% Barbera, 20% Nebbiolo,
15% Neretto di San Giorgio, 5% Freisa
Vintage: 2016
Location: Canvnese DOC, Piemonte,
Italy

Now in his eighties, Remo Falconieri labors daily in the cellar alongside his daughter, Lia, and Domenico Caretto. Cieck was founded in 1985 and was one of the original five producers in Canavese. Traditionally, wines from this area were rarely single varietal; instead, being a blend, dependent on the harvest, to achieve a harmonious wine.

You can see below what each variety brings to this blend:

Canavese Barbera: slightly fruity,
balanced, full bodied
Nebbiolo: delicate, slightly floral
Neretto di San Giorgio: has great
vegetative power and lower acidity
Freisa: considerable tannins and
acidity

Ercole, Barbera del Monferrato 2019

Producer: Ercole
Name: Barbera del Monferrato
Variety: 100% Barbera
Vintage: 2019
Location: Monferrato, Piemonte, Italy

Barbera is to Monferrato what stone crabs are to Miami! It is the hardy, staple grape of the famous Piemonte region. With a singular concentration on the Piedmont region of Italy, The Piedmont Guy has championed a select group of passionate winemaking families for nearly a decade. Ercole (Italian for Hercules) is aimed at honoring the work of the unsung heroes of Italy - the grape growers themselves. This wine is produced by a generations-old cooperative of local growers in the Monteferrato Area.

Order a pizza and enjoy this LITER of goodness!

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Luigi Giordano, Barbaresco
"Cavanna" 2016

Producer: Luigi Giordano
Name: Barbaresco Cavanna
Variety: 100% Nebbiolo
Vintage: 2016
Location: Barbaresco, Piemonte, Italy

Barbaresco is without a doubt, one of the world's greatest red wines, however so often it is found in the shadows of its famous and pricey cousin, Barolo whom it shares a lot of common traits with; both are made from the Nebbiolo grape, are grown in Piedmont and have astonishing longevity. However, Barbaresco can have a softer approach in its youth. Founded by Giovanni Giordano in the 1930's, the seven-hectare vineyard is now a fourth-generation winery whose vineyards are planted on some of Barbaresco's most prestigious crus. The cru of Cavanna showcases the winery's elegant style of winemaking and currently represents the only single-vineyard cru of its kind on the market.

Cavanna's got it going on in the best way - brilliant color, intense perfume, jammy, spicy & rustic!

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Noah, Bramaterra 2011

Producer: Noah
Variety: 80% Nebbiolo, 10% Croatina, 5% Vespolina & 5% Uva Rara
Vintage: 2011
Agricultural Technique: Organic
Location: Brusnengo, Piemonte, Italy

Alto Piemonte is the untouched, less touristic area of Piemonte. Similar to the more well-known areas of Barolo & Barbaresco, Nebbiolo is the dominant varietal. However, unlike them, in Alto Piemonte Nebbiolo is often blended with other indigenous varietals sometimes resulting in bolder expressions. The name Bramaterra (also the DOC) is believed to originate from the Italian words "bramare" which means "to long for" and "terra" meaning "the land".

An exciting, young winery; husband and wife, Andrea Mosca and Giovanna Pepe Diaz established NOAH (named after their son) in 2010, where they finally brought their longing to work the land, to life.

Pieropan, Calvarino
Soave Classico 2018

Producer: Pieropan
Name: Calvarino
Variety: 70% Garganega & 30% Trebbiano
di Soave
Vintage: 2018
Agricultural Technique: Organic
Location: Soave, Veneto, Italy

Soave is an Italian white wine made of Garganeda grapes grown around the medieval village of Soave located in the Vento region of Italy. In my opinion some of Italy's more serious white wines; one that can improve with age! Pieropan is a 5th generation Italian family whose legacy began in the 1800's and today is one of the most acclaimed soave producers. The Calvarino vineyard's soil dates back to the tertiary era and is rich in clay which give the wine an attractive savory, mineral quality.

San Fereolo, Dogliani
"Valdiba" 2017

Producer: San Fereolo
Name: Valdiba
Variety: 100% Dolcetto
Vintage: 2017
Agricultural Technique: Biodynamic
Location: Dogliani, Piemonte, Italy

#DrinkMoreDolcetto - as this is one of Piemonte's hidden gems! Dolcetto means "little sweet one", however this variety typically packs aggressive tannins and loads of dark fruit. Nicoletta Boca is the driving force behind San Fereolo. She makes a few different dolcetto expressions and according to Boca, the Valdiba "seeks the path of simplicity, that is not necessarily trivial." She acquired the land in 1992 and since then has mastered the terroir and completed the conversion to Biodynamic farming. Biodynamic farming incorporates ideas about a vineyard as an entire ecosystem, and also takes into account astrological influences and lunar cycles.

This wine is incredibly satisfying and is an all-time favorite of mine!