

Rizzi

BARBARESCO NERVO - 2016

REGION: ITALY - PIEDMONT



RIZZI

Nestled at the very top of the impressively steep, vine-clad hills of the Treiso zone of Barbaresco, the winery's vineyards were planted as early as the 1960's in the white marl, calcareous soil typical of this area. An impressive selection of cru Barbaresci is punctuated by the spectacular Vigna Boito located at the peak of the Rizzi cru. The estate is managed entirely by the Dellapiana family with son Enrico as winemaker and viticulturist. Rizzi Winery participates in "The Green Experience" project which mandates guidelines for environmentally sustainable production.

GRAPES / SOILS

Barbaresco Nervo	Nebbiolo	Planted 1974, 1997, 2005	white marl clayey-calcareous, alternated by sand	9.39 acres/3.8 ha
------------------	----------	--------------------------	--	-------------------

THE WINE

Vineyard Profile

The Barbaresco Nervo is produced from Nebbiolo grapes harvested in the Crù Nervo. This Crù is situated under the village of Treiso. It represents the continuity with the great vine-clad hill of Rizzi and it's meeting point of two of the most important Crùs of Barbaresco (Bernardot and Rizzi). Everything conspires to make this, one of the finest vineyards in the entire Barbaresco area. First of all, the vines enjoy a perfect south-facing location, with heights above sea level that range from 1015 to 1215 feet/310 to 370 metres. In addition, the very steep slope makes work in the vineyard difficult and even dangerous, but it also improves drainage and, above all, ensure greater exposure to sunlight. Finally, this idyllic picture is completed by the soil composition, which is a very unfertile white marl that manages to imbue the grapes with elegance and power in equal measure.

- Village: Treiso
- Crù: Nervo
- Altitude: 1015-1015 feet/310-370 meters
- Exposure: South
- Soil: white marl clayey-calcareous, alternated by sand
- Training System: Guyot

Harvest Notes

- Hand harvested in first week of October
- Fermentation and Maceration: in stainless steel tanks at controlled temperatures below 86-90°F/30-32°C, for about 3 weeks
 - Malolactic Fermentation: normally lasts a month after primary fermentation
 - Aging: 12 months in oak barrels, then concrete tanks for 8-12 months, and then in bottle before selling, 3 years after the harvest

Winemaker's Notes

Red garnet color with slight orange note. Clear and bright with fine perfumes, elegant, full, with purple berries, rose and red berries beginning with raspberry, then spices, especially cinnamon, with a vein of licorice. On the palate, it impresses with its beautiful dense matter, earthier and mineral, to underscore the perfectly ripe tannins that do not bite. The tannins are rightly felt for a warm and sweet fruit, not without some rough youth. Wine characterized by elegance and femininity.

Technical Information

- 100% Nebbiolo
- Alcohol: 14.5%

REVIEWS

Barbaresco Nervo – 2016

92 Points - © Wine Advocate, June, 2019

The 2016 Barbaresco Nervo is a thickly or loosely textured expression that offers more power and richness than your standard Nebbiolo from this appellation. This wine is robust and nicely concentrated and pushes forward over the palate with great determination. After a few years in the bottle, you might serve this with Piedmont's classic finanziaria, a hearty peasant's stew of sweetbreads and other innards. Drink Date 2020 – 2023

17+ Points - JancisRobinson.com, November, 2018

Mid crimson. Less apparent perfume than the regular bottling at this stage. Notably sweet start and some real nerve. Fine tannins all curled up for a long winter sleep. 2026 – 2040

95 Points - Wine Enthusiast, October, 2019

Aromas of wild berry, rose and baking spice align with a whiff of menthol. Elegantly focused, the vibrant, youthfully austere palate delivers crushed raspberry, Morello cherry and licorice framed in taut, close-grained tannins and fresh acidity before a rather drying, tight finish. Give it a few more years to fully unwind. Drink 2024–2036.

92 Points - Terroir Sense - Ian D'Agata, March, 2021

Ruby-red. Expressive musky aromas of red berries, tobacco and herbs. Then sweeter and lusher than the Rizzi but a bit youthfully reduced. Most impressive today on the tangy, fine-grained finish, which displays sneaky length and concentration. Cellar this for four or five years before pulling the cork. Drinking window: 2025-2035

95 Points - jmessuckling.com, November, 2019

Another very pretty but serious Barbaresco, revealing a whole lot of flowers — everything from violets to lavender to dried rose petals. The full-bodied palate carefully melds muscular tannins with chewy fruit, while the forthright acidity carries the finish long and elegant. Spectacular! Drink from 2023.

93 Points - Decanter, January, 2019

This large estate produces four single-vineyard Barbaresco wines, and in 2016 all are of high quality, although the south-facing Nervo seems the most distinguished, if by a whisker. The Dellapiana family dislike oakiness in their wines, and this is aged both in large casks and concrete tanks. The nose is juicy and upfront, with seductive red fruit aromas. It's plump and silky, vibrant and lifted, with elegant tannins. There's a welcome zestiness and pungency here, and the finish is balanced and long. 2020 – 2038

GENERAL INFO

Country	Italy
Region	Piedmont
Appellation(s)	Treiso, Neive, Neviglie
Proprietors	Enrico Dellapiana
Founded	1974
Winemaker	Enrico Dellapiana
Annual Production	Between 7,500 to 9,000 9L cases