



ARNALDORIVERA

Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

By Monica Lerner

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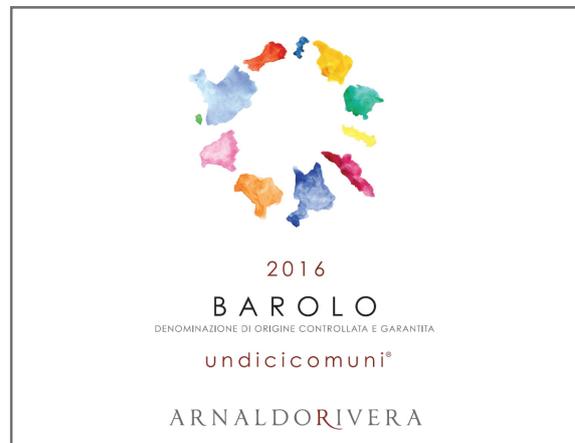
ArnaldoRivera Barolo undicicomuni 2016 - 92 points

This wine takes the record for the most complex blend made with the largest number of vineyard sites.

The Arnaldo Rivera 2016 Barolo Undicicomuni draws its fruit from 10 vineyards spanning the appellation, and **I know of no other winery that has attempted such an ambitious assembly of Nebbiolo**. For the record, the blend (starting in 2013 until the 2017 vintage) is Serralunga d'Alba (San Rocco); Castiglione Falletto (Codana, Piantà and Villero); Diano d'Alba (two sites in Sorano); La Morra (Boiolo and two sites in Rocche dell'Annunziata); and Verduno (Campasso). From the 2018 vintage onward, the blend is made from a whopping 21 parcels.

The watercolor design on the label depicts the shape of these vineyard sites.

This super blend showcases the depth and the tannic firmness of the grape with bold fruit aromas backed by tar, licorice and earthy truffle. I'd dedicate a few more years of cellar aging in order to soften those tannins. An ample 50,000 bottles will be released in September 2020. Drink Date: 2023 – 2040



Arnaldo Rivera Barolo Monvigliero 2016 - 91 points

The Arnaldo Rivera 2016 Barolo Monvigliero represents a blend of fruit from three sites located within the celebrated Monvigliero cru. The vines were planted between 1948 and 1972 in one site, in 1950 in the second and in 2002 in the third. On average, the vineyards are located at 260 meters above sea level. Extended fermentation occurs over three weeks in stainless steel with malolactic fermentation in oak. The finished wine ages in tonneaux and botte grande for 32 months. The character of this wine is savory and earthy, with some truffle essence spread over black fruit and licorice. Like the other wines in this series from Arnaldo Rivera, I think better work could be done with the management of the tannins, which are a bit too rough and bitter at this young stage. Some 5,000 bottles will be released in September 2020. Drink Date: 2023 - 2040

Arnaldo Rivera Barolo Ravera 2013 - 93 points

The Arnaldo Rivera 2016 Barolo Ravera is actually a blend of fruit from six vineyards located within the cru, planted at various stages from 1963 to 1968, 1970, 1991, 1992, 1997 and 1999 to 2002. The winemaking approach is the same as the other single-vineyard wines in this series, which see 32 months of aging in tonneaux and botte grande. The bouquet offers dark fruit and savory spice with tilled earth and cardamom pod. The Ravera also shows a meaty tone with bresaola or cured ham, but this is only a very light accent. The mouthfeel is tight and linear, with dusty tannins on the close. Some 5,600 bottles will hit the market in September 2020. This is one of my favorites in the series. Drink Date: 2023 - 2040

Arnaldo Rivera Barolo Castello 2016 - 91 points

This wine sources its fruit from youngish vines in Grinzane Cavour planted in 2003. With only 5,000 bottles made, the Arnaldo Rivera 2016 Barolo Castello is an open-knit and accessible expression. The bouquet produces aromas of dark berry, plum, tilled earth and licorice. The wine shows depth and power, with good complexity, making it a fine partner to grilled meats. This vineyard site is located at 250 meters above sea level at the foot of the Grinzane Cavour castle (a UNESCO heritage site), and fruit from this vineyard has been fermented by this cooperative winery since 1973. Drink Date: 2022 - 2035

Arnaldo Rivera Barolo Bussia 2016 - 92 points

The Arnaldo Rivera 2016 Barolo Bussia is actually a blend of two sites located within Bussia at about 410 meters above sea level. The vines were planted in 1969, with more plantings between 1981 and 2003. Starting with the 2018 vintage, a third site in Bussia Gabutti adjacent to Romirasco will be added to the blend. This vintage boasts a dark and nicely saturated appearance with bold cherry, blackberry, tar and licorice. I also get a distinct aroma that reminds me of bitter almond or toasted hazelnut. The tannins are slightly astringent and textured, requiring more bottle age until they subside. Some 4,500 bottles were released. Drink Date: 2023 - 2040

Arnaldo Rivera Barolo Vignarionda 2016 - 93 points

The Arnaldo Rivera 2016 Barolo Vignarionda comes from a single parcel in Serralunga d'Alba planted at 330 meters above sea level. The vines are relatively young, planted in 2003. The bouquet is both spicy and savory with a long list of aromas that span from dark fruit, cherry liqueur, cola and balsam herb to earthy licorice root. The aromas are tangy and almost exotic in character. Thanks to that robust fruit weight, the tannins feel consequently softer and better integrated in this wine. A mere 3,400 bottles were made. Drink Date: 2024 - 2040

Arnaldo Rivera Barolo Rocche di Castiglione 2016 - 94 points

With only 2,400 bottles made, the Arnaldo Rivera 2016 Barolo Rocche di Castiglione represents the smallest production in this wide-reaching collection of single-vineyard Baroli. Fruit comes from Castiglione Falletto, one of the best-performing comuni in the classic 2016 vintage. The grapes are harvested from vines that were planted from 1977 to 1990, and you feel the extra richness and concentration of old wood as a result. This expression is reserved and closed at this young stage, requiring extra cellar time before it unfolds. The fruit is tight and compact with wild berry, cola, blood orange and iron rust. It will hit the market in September 2020. Drink Date: 2024 - 2045