

LUIGI BAUDANA



PRESS  
REPORT 24



# 2024

## Wine&Spirits

### TOP 100

**Luigi Baudana made the Wine&Spirits  
Top 100 Winery of 2023!**



### 98 points on 2019 Barolo Cerretta

“Since the Vaira family became owners of this estate in 2009, Giuseppe Vaira has taken a lighter approach in the cellar, eliminating new French oak barriques in favor of large Slavonian casks and decreasing the practice of salasso (bleeding) to bring the concentration of Cerretta into a more natural balance. The 2019 Cerretta combines power, freshness and depth of fruit to create the most impressive wine we have yet tasted from this estate. Its ample flavors of fresh, thick-skinned red cherry are edged in cool, firm tannins that keep the flavors taut as the wine gains complex spice notes and richer fruit tones over the course of several days.”

Stephanie Johnson, Wine&Spirits

## ON THE WINERY

**Vinous**

Antonio Galloni

January 2023

### 2019 Barolo: Back on Track

“These are some of the most impressive wines I have tasted from Luigi Baudana, the Serralunga estate the Vajra family has managed since 2009. [...] All three Barolos are exceptional, from the village wine to the two crus.”

February 2020

### 2016 Barolo: Right Place, Right Time

“The Vaira family has turned out a magnificent set of Barolos at both their own winery and at Baudana. (...) At Baudana, the wines are naturally more muscular, but that is Serralunga, after all. Most importantly, the Vairas have developed a personal style that melds classicism with a level of approachability that makes these wines so alluring, even upon release.”

February 2018

### 2014 Barolo: Surprise, Surprise...

“These are some of the finest wines I have tasted from the Vajra family’s Luigi Baudana estate in Serralunga. All three Barolos are endowed with a real sense of Serralunga structure that distinguishes them from the Barolos the Vajras make under their historic family label.”

September 2014

### 2010 Barolo: Flying High Again

“The Vajra family continues to do terrific work in their resurrection of the Baudana estate in Serralunga. These three 2010 Barolos are all fabulous and well worth seeking out.”

## The Wine Spectator

Bruce Sanderson

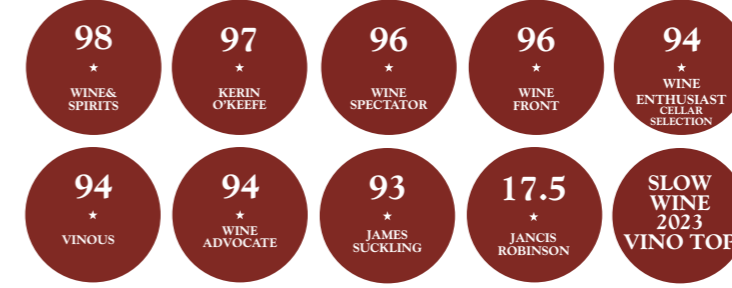
June 2019

“The Luigi Baudana estate, owned by the Vajra family of G.D. Vajra in Barolo, is located in the small hamlet of Baudana. The winery makes two traditionally-styled crus, Cerretta and Baudana, from less than 6.5 acres of vineyards. It also make a Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d’Alba from both vineyard’s younger Nebbiolo vines. The Cerretta is the most vertical of the two, coming from the cooler Cerretta Piani section of the cru. showing fine depth of fruit and aging potential. The Baudana, equally capable of longevity, typically reveals more density and muscle.”

## BAROLO BAUDANA



## BAROLO CERRETTA



- 97 2020 - Kerin O'Keefe, www.kerinokeefe.com, Feb 2023**  
Aromas of menthol, black spice, leather, rose hip and citrus lead the nose on the stunning 2020 Baudana from Luigi Baudana. It's smooth and delicious, delivering wild raspberry, strawberry compote, blood orange, tobacco and star anise alongside a backbone of polished tannins. Crushed mint lingers on the close while fresh acidity keeps it beautifully balanced.
- 95 2020 - Jeff Porter, WineEnthusiast, July 2024**  
*The note will be available from September Edition.*
- 94 2020 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Apr 2024**  
With fruit from Serralunga d'Alba, the Luigi Baudana 2020 Barolo Baudana is a bold and ripe expression with dark currant, black cherry, sweet orange peel and crushed red rose. Soft, earthy layers appear on the mid-palate with hints of spicy licorice. All of that intensity, with soil, fruit and spice, swells over the palate, giving this wine an impactful character. It is almost ready to drink straight out of the gate.
- 93 2020 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2020 Barolo: Selective Excellence, Jan 2024**  
The 2020 Barolo Baudana opens with a burst of plump, juicy, red-toned fruit. Bright acids and persistent tannins are a reminder we're in Serralunga. The 2020 [...] is a relatively accessible wine for this part of the appellation. The purity of the fruit here is lovely. Pretty floral and spice overtones lift the finish effortlessly.
- 92 2020 - James Suckling, Jan 2024**  
Attractive notes of cherries, peaches, red plums and violets on the nose. Juicy and bright, with a medium body and delicious red berry fruit accompanied by fine-grained tannins.
- 97 2019 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jun 2023**  
All the soil, the tobacco, liquorice and mint, dark red fruit, spice, rock salt and perfume. It's tense, lavish stony tannin, so ferrous, but also fresh and lively, raspberry and cherry, crushed rock, poached strawberry too, and so long. My word. This is Serralunga in full voice.
- 96 2019 - Stephanie Johnson, Wine&Spirits, Mar 2024**  
This wine is harmonious and layered right out of the gate, offering a youthful energy and appeal that is surprising for a Barolo from Serralunga. There's plenty of power in the cool, polished tannins, but the wine is also packed with flavors of cherry, raspberry and blood orange that create a mouthwatering sensation of fruit picked at exactly the right moment. Notes of thyme and licorice, baked clay and rust enhance the wine's depth and complexity. Vajra
- 17.5 2019 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2019, Jul 2023**  
Serralunga d'Alba. Mid ruby. Deep morello cherry, morocco leather and savoury spice on the nose of impressive depth. Elegant, ripe raspberry fruit, growing in depth on the finish. Long, coating, grainy tannins. Proper grand-cru level. (WS)
- 95 2019 - Kerin O'Keefe, www.kerinokeefe.com, Feb 2023**
- 96 2019 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2019 Barolo: Back on Track, Jan 2023**
- 94 2018 - Bruce Sanderson, Wine Spectator, Aug 2021**

- 97 2020 - Kerin O'Keefe, www.kerinokeefe.com, Feb 2023**  
The 2020 Cerretta from Luigi Baudana is fantastic. It starts off the with intense aromas of camphor, dark culinary spice, blue flower and new leather while the delicious palate features ripe raspberry, fleshy Morello cherry and layers of star anise, ground clove and white pepper. Taut, close-grained tannins give it an enveloping texture while a mineral note recalling wet stone lingers on the long finish.
- 94 2020 - Jeff Porter, WineEnthusiast, July 2024**  
*The note will be available from September Edition.*
- 94 2020 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2020 Barolo: Selective Excellence, Jan 2024**  
The 2020 Barolo Cerretta is a very complete wine in this vintage. Deep and layered, but in the medium-bodied style of the year, the 2020 impresses with its balance and overall harmony. Succulent red cherry fruit, spice, rose petal, mint and dried herbs fill out the layers nicely. The substantial finish is quite attractive.
- 94 2020 - Monica Lerner, Wine Advocate, Apr 2024**  
The Luigi Baudana 2020 Barolo Cerretta has bold lines and shows dominant dark fruit. You get all of that Serralunga d'Alba intensity with ferrous earth, dried apricot, blackcurrant, iron ore and crushed stone. The wine ends on a dry note that is reinforced by the tight nature of the fine chalky tannins, but there is enough fruit to soften out the effect. There is a hint of nutmeg or sweet spice on the palate.
- 93 2020 - James Suckling, Jan 2024**  
A fresh and elegant Barolo showing rose petals, wild strawberries, sour cherries and dried citrus peel on the nose. It's medium-bodied, with very fine tannins and a crushed stone minerality coming through at the end.
- 98 2019 - Stephanie Johnson, Wine&Spirits, Mar 2024**  
[...] The 2019 Cerretta combines power, freshness and depth of fruit to create the most impressive wine we have yet tasted from this estate. Its ample flavors of fresh, thick-skinned red cherry are edged in cool, firm tannins that keep the flavors taut as the wine gains complex spice notes and richer fruit tones over the course of several days.
- 98 2019 - Bruno Besa, The World of Fine Wine, Apr 2024**  
Deep garnet to pink. Intense, deep, complex, impenetrable, yet super-clean nose, with menthol, red cherries, and licorice. Balanced, layered, rich, and youthful palate, with sweet red and black fruits and a long, mineral finish. A Barolo for long-term aging. 2035-50.
- 17.5 2019 - Jancis Robinson, Barolo 2019, Jul 2023**  
Serralunga d'Alba. Mid-to-deep ruby. At first, balsamic and peppery dark-cherry and leather nose that slowly increases in depth and complexity with aeration. Lots of juicy, compact cherry fruit on the palate, fantastically balanced by bags of chewy tannins. Very long, juicy and tannic and quite spectacular.
- 96 2019 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jun 2023**
- 96 2019 - Kerin O'Keefe, www.kerinokeefe.com, Feb 2023**

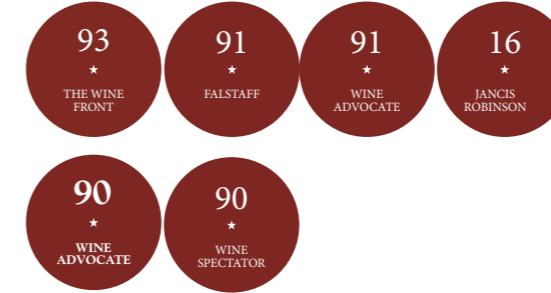


## BAROLO SERRALUNGA



- 96 2020 - Kerin O'Keefe, www.kerinkeefe.com, Oct 2023**  
2020 Barolo del Comune di Serralunga from Luigi Baudana boasts enticing aromas and flavors, including succulent black cherry, black raspb licorice, crushed mint and iris. Smooth and fresh, it features tightly woven, polished tannins and great balance. Utterly delicious
- 94 2020 - Jeff Porter, WineEnthusiast, July 2024**  
*The note will be available from September Edition.*
- 93 2020 - Monica Larnar, Wine Advocate, Apr 2024**  
The Luigi Baudana 2020 Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba has a strong aromatic imprint with ferrous earth, iron ore, dried flower, orange peel, spice and dark fruit. There is good freshness too, despite the hot-vintage conditions. Fresh berry flavors give this wine an approachable character (and vibrant energy). That pretty freshness is what you will remember most.
- 93 2020 - James Suckling, Jan 2024**  
This is a sleek and savory Barolo that shows notes of blood orange, wild raspberries, white tea and peaches, with a touch of brined olive. It's medium- to full-bodied, fine-tannined and elegant.
- 96 2019 - Stephanie Johnson, Wine&Spirits, Mar 2024**  
Nebbiolo from three Serralunga MGAs (Cerretta, Baudana and Costabella) combines seamlessly in this fresh and elegant wine. The red fruit tones feel crisp and precise, propelled by brisk acidity and brightened by notes of spearmint and orange peel.
- 93 2019 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jun 2023**  
Lots of liquorice, and raspberry/strawberry, stony and earthy, mint and sage. Ripe, stony tannin, a whole lot of red fruit flavour, some tea and aniseed, juicy red fruit and a warm and come-hither feel, but Serralunga rides high, and the finish is ripe, juicy and tea-laced. Very good. Classic.
- 93 2019 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2019 Barolo: Back on Track, Jan 2023**  
The 2019 Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba shows all the breadth of Serralunga, but in the somewhat austere style that runs through all the wines this year. Dark red fruit, sage, mint, leather and spice fill out the layers effortlessly. Rich and ample, yet super-classic, the Serralunga Barolo hits all the right notes. It may very well be the hidden gem in the entire Vajra range.
- 91 2018 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, The Enigma of 2018 Barolo, Feb 2022**  
The 2018 Barolo del Comune di Serralunga d'Alba is redolent of savory and ferrous notes woven into a core of dried red cherry fruit. Spice, mint and tobacco develop later, adding pretty shades of nuance. Readers will find a super-classic Serralunga Barolo, but one that won't need more than a few years to be at its best.
- 94 2017 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Jun 2021**
- 92 2017 - Monica Larnar, Wine Advocate, Jun 2021**
- 93 2017 - Antonio Galloni, Vinous, 2017 Barolo: Here We Go Again, Feb 2021**

## LANGHE BIANCO DRAGON



- 91 2022 - Monica Larnar, Wine Advocate, Apr 2024**  
A blend of Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Nascetta and Riesling, the Luigi Baudana 2022 Langhe Bianco Dragon makes a very pretty appearance in the glass with brilliant luminosity. The wine plays its cards well with complexity, a tropical side with star fruit, minerality and sliced honeydew melon (the ripe side of the cut).
- 91 2022 - Othmar Kiem & Simon Staffler, Falstaff, Oct 2023**  
Bright straw yellow with greenish reflections. Fresh, fragrant nose of white peach, star fruit, young banana, fine savouriness in the aftertaste. Very juicy and clear on the palate, prancing, fresh with pleasant acidity and fruit, balanced.
- 90 2021 - Monica Larnar, Wine Advocate, Jun 2021**  
A blend of mostly Chardonnay, with Sauvignon Blanc, Nascetta and a touch of Riesling, the Luigi Baudana 2021 Langhe Bianco Dragon (in a screw-cap bottle) is super fresh and zesty with lovely citrus, white almond and fresh honeysuckle. The wine's lean and direct style would pair with sushi or a grilled fish with olive oil and lemon. The dragon on the front label represents Saint George and is a symbol of courage in the face of adversity ( and difficult times like what we are going through now).
- 16 2020 - Julia Harding MW, Jancis Robinson, The Wine Society Press Tasting, Oct 2021**  
Mostly citrus aroma, but then more complex on the palate, a vibrant mix of citrus and apple flavours. Nutty, super-fresh and with chewy depths on the palate. Tight, crisp, an appetite-whetter.
- 90 2020 - Monica Larnar, Wine Advocate, Jun 2021**  
The Luigi Baudana 2020 Langhe Bianco Dragon is mostly Chardonnay with Sauvignon Blanc, Nascetta and a touch of Riesling. These results are glossy and shiny in this vintage, showing enormous purity and lifted intensity. The bouquet is really very beautiful, with orchard fruit, preserved lemon and an elegant touch of natural rubber that works perfectly. In fact, you can smell the wine even when the glass is placed far away. To the palate, it is silky and smooth, and something you might want to bring on a special fly-fishing trip to pair with your evening dinner of lemon-pepper trout.
- 93 2018 - Gary Walsh, The Wine Front, Apr 2020**  
Lovely lovely version of this wine. Gooseberry, papaya, slight grass and spice. Juicy, a little chalky, just right acidity to shape it. but nothing harder. Finish has length and pink grapefruit zing, along with a pineapple and passionfruit exotica.
- 93 2017 - Mike Bennie, The Wine Front, Apr 2019**  
Fragrant wine of great interest, vivacity and fruitiness. Scents of frangipani, candied citrus, fresh apple juice, bath salts. Palate is sweet-ish, fruity as can be, a touch sweet but cut nicely with lemony acidity, indeed, almost Warhead Lolly tang here. It's a little wild and savoury underneath that, which keeps things interesting. I like this. Exotic.

# REVIEW DATABASE

## BAROLO DOCG BAUDANA

2020: **97** KO, **94** ML/WA

2019: **97** GW/WF, **96** SJ/W&S, **95** KO, **17.5** JR

2018: **94** BS/WS, **93** AG/VM, **17+** JR, **92** ML/WA

2017: **96** KO/WE, **95+** AG/VM, **95** GW/WF, **93** BA/WS, **93** ML/WA, **93** JS, **17** JR

2016: **96** BS/WS, **95+** GW/WF

## BAROLO DOCG CERRETTA

2020: **97** KO, **94** ML/WA

2019: **98** SJ/W&S, **97** AG/VM, **96** KO, **96** GW/WF

2018: **94** ML/WA, **93** AG/VM, **17.5** JR

2017: **96** BA/WS, **94+** GW/WF

## BAROLO DOCG COMUNE DI SERRALUNGA D'ALBA

2020: **96** KO, **93** ML/WA, **93** JS

2019: **96** SJ/W&S, **93** AG/VM, **93** GW/WF

2017: **93** AG/VM, **92** ML/WA

2016: **93** AG/VM, **93** ML/WA, **93** KO

2015: **93** AG/VM

2014: **93** BS/WS, **92** AG/VM, **91** ML/WA

2013: **94** BS/WS, **17+** MJ/PR

## LANGHE DOC BIANCO DRAGON

2022: **91** ML/WA, **91** FALSTAFF,

2021: **90** ML/WA

2020: **90** ML/WA, **16** JR/WSPT

2018: **93** GW/WF

2017: **93** MB/WF

2015: **16.5** W.Lyons/The Times, **90** BS/WS

# HISTORIC REVIEW LEGENDA

## PUBLICATIONS:

*BI*  
*DE*  
*GR*  
*JD*  
*JR*  
*JS*  
*KO*  
*MJ*  
*SW*  
*VM*  
*WA*  
*WF*  
*WE*  
*WK*  
*WS*  
*We&S*

*Bibenda*  
*Decanter*  
*Gambero Rosso*  
*Jebb Dunnuck*  
*Jancis Robinson*  
*James Suckling*  
*Kerin O'Keefe*  
*Matthew Jukes*  
*Slow Wine*  
*Vinous Media*  
*Wine Advocate*  
*The Wine Front*  
*Wine Enthusiast*  
*Wine Anorak*  
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