

Decanter panel tasting (Nov 09): Barolo 2005

p19.0 Barolo, Vigna Lena, Cogno 2005

100% rosé clone of Nebbiolo; beautifully balanced, flavourful, and elegant. Long finishing. Drink 2010-2015. (19 points)

n/a UK www.amordivino.co.uk

p19.0 Barolo, Vigna Capella di Santo Stefano, Rocche dei Manzoni 2005

A classic Barolo, enormous for the vintage and needing a little time to integrate. Drink 2011-2030. (19 points)

£31.62 Decorum Vintners, London (020 8969 6581)

p19.0 Barolo, Ravera, Cogno 2005

Roses, tar, and cherries in the nose, lovely black cherry fruit with underlying leather and earth in the mouth. Drink 2010-2025. (19 points)

£33-35 (2004) Good Italian Wine Co, (www.gooditalianwine.com / tel 0800 078 75 65)

www.amordivino.co.uk (01784 441 965)

p19.0 Barolo, Giblin, Gemma 2005

Aroma of tobacco, leather, dried flowers; medium body, with fresh sour cherry and tobacco in the mouth and finish. Drink 2010-2025. (19 points)

n/a UK Tel 0039 0173 262360 / 0039 0173 613502

p19.0 Barolo, Colonnello, Aldo Conterno 2005

Excellent fresh fruit with lovely acidity and soft tannins, and a long, sour-cherry-and-tar finish - very fine. Drink 2010-2025. (19 points)

£83.95 Bennetts Wines, Glos (01386 840 392), The Butlers Wine Cellar, E Sussex (01273 698 724)

p19.0 Barolo, Bussia, Giacomo Fenocchio 2005

Fresh, elegant, and lively, with good fruit and fine balance. Drink 2010-2015 (19 points)

n/a UK www.giacomofenocchio.com

p19.0 Barolo, Bussia, Fratelli Giacosa 2005

Very lively, with fine balance, elegant structure, classic flavours, with a little tar and tobacco in the finish. Drink 2010-2025. (19 points)

£23.95 Coe Vintners, Essex (020 8551 4966)

p18.5 Barolo, Podere Ruggeri Corsini 2005

Tar, tobacco, dried roses aromas; big for the vintage, with long-lasting, fruity finish. Drink 2010-2025. (18.5 points)

n/a UK www.ruggericorsini.com

p18.5 Barolo, Le Munie, Franco Conterno - Cascina Sciulun 2005

Lean, muscular, well constructed; should age very well. Drink 2010-2025. (18.5 points)

n/a UK www.francoconterno.it

p18.5 Barolo, Bussia, Cascina Ballarin 2005

Classic aromas and flavor, well balanced and approachable. Drink 2010-2025. (18.5 points)

n/a UK www.cascinaballarin.com

p18.0 Barolo, Tenuta Arnulfo, Costa di Bussia 2005

Sweet Nebbiolo fruit with excellent acidity and soft tannins. Drink 2010-2020. (18 points)

n/a UK www.costadibussia.com

p18.0 Barolo, Giorgio Scarzello 2005

Abundant soft tannins and dark fruit flavors: true flavor of the region. Drink 2010-2020. (18 points)

n/a UK Tel 0039017356170

p18.0 Barolo, Bartolo Mascarello 2005

Earth, underbrush, and dried fruit in the aroma, with the same elements showing on the palate, plus fresh fruit sweetness underneath. This wine has a long life before it and probably will only get better. Drink 2010-2025. (18 points)

£71-75 (2004) Fine & Rare Wines, London W10 (020 8960 1995), Nickolls & Perks, W Mids (01384 394518)

p17.5 Barolo, Vigne dei Fantini, Silvano Bolmida 2005

Toasted wood veneer over classic flavors. Drink 2010-2020. (17.5 points)

n/a UK www.silvanobolmida.com

p17.5 Barolo, Preda Sarmassa, Virna Borgogno 2005

Nice rose, cherry and leather nose. Medium-weight palate, great balance, lithe and supple, with generous fruit. Drink 2010-2025. (17.5 points)

£28 Colombier Vins Fins, Derbys (01283 552 552)

p17.5 Barolo, Enrico VI, Monfalletto 2005

Dried roses lead the other textbook aromas and flavours; a balanced, friendly wine already enjoyable. Drink 2010-2025. (17.5 points)

£38.95 www.everywine.co.uk

p17.5 Barolo, Castellero, Barale 2005

Classic Nebbiolo on a medium-scale. Drink 2010-2020. (17.5 points)

n/a UK www.baralefratelli.it

p17.5 Barolo, Cannubi, Giacomo Brezza & Figli 2005

An intense wine, with big fruit, good acidity, and ample soft tannin: quite forward and drinkable. Drink 2010-2020. (17.5 points)

Monforte Wines

p17.5 Barolo, Cannubi Boschis, Luciano Sandrone 2005

Only some perceptible oak sweetness keeps this beauty from being a five-star wine. Drink 2010-2025. (17.5 points)

£75-114 Corks Out (0161 881 9663), Fine & Rare Wines, London W10 (020 8960 1995)

p17.5 Barolo, Bussia, Dardi Le Rose, Colla 2005

Excellent fresh, cherryish fruit, lovely acid-tannin balance, and a long, long finish. Drink 2010-2020. (17.5 points)

£28-32 (2004) Amps Fine Wines, Northants (01832 273 502), Bentley's Wine Merchants, Ludlow (01584 875 520), www.everywine.co.uk

p17.5 Barolo, Brunate, Francesco Rinaldi & Figli 2005

Big for the vintage, and still coming together: should be lovely. Drink 2010-2020. (17.5 points)

n/a UK www.rinaldifrancesco.it

p17.5 Barolo, Bricco Luciani, Silvio Grasso 2005

Classic aromas and flavours, very well structured, with a long finish. Drink 2010-2020. (17.5 points)

£30 (1996) Falcon Vintners, London W1 (020 7388 7055)

p17.5 Barolo, Bricco Luciani, Cascina del Monastero 2005

Textbook colors, aromas, flavors: very nice indeed. Drink 2010-2020. (17.5 points)

n/a UK www.cascinadelmonastero.it

p17.0 Barolo, Villero, Livia Fontana 2005

Dried roses and tar on the nose, black cherry fruit; balanced and enjoyable. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)

n/a UK www.liviafontana.it

p17.0 Barolo, Vigna Arborina, Gianfranco Bovio 2005

Classic aroma and flavour with a hint of smoke. Persistent, pleasing fruit-and-leather finish. Quite nice. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)

£29 Wine Trades

p17.0 Barolo, Rocche di Castiglione, Roccheviberti 2005
Sweet, ripe, Nebbiolo fruit; excellent dry-fruit finish. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
n/a UK www.roccheviberti.it

p17.0 Barolo, Prapo', Ettore Germano 2005
A fine wine with every part in order - tar, dried roses, tobacco aroma; fine Nebbiolo fruit; long, fresh finish. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
£35 Astrum Wine Cellars, London SW18 (020 8870 5252)

p17.0 Barolo, Gavarini, Vigna Chiniera, Elio Grasso 2005
A little bit of toasted wood over good fruit; finely balanced. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
£42.42 Mille Gusti, London (020 8997 3932)

p17.0 Barolo, Costa di Rose, Bric Cenciurio 2005
Refined and fresh, with a very pleasing finish. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
n/a UK www.briccenciurio.com

p17.0 Barolo, Cannubi Boschis, Virna Borgogno 2005
A big, structured, long-finishing wine of great potential. Drink 2010-2025. (17 points)
£28 Colombier Vins Fins, Derbys (01283 552 552)

p17.0 Barolo, Cannubio, Francesco Rinaldi & Figli 2005
Slightly closed, but classic: should develop beautifully. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
n/a UK www.rinaldifrancesco.it

p17.0 Barolo, Campo Dei Buoi, Costa di Bussia 2005
Pronounced Nebbiolo fruit, lovely sour cherry finish. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
n/a UK www.costadibussia.com

p17.0 Barolo, Cai Mia, Brovia 2005
A small whiff of vanilla among the classic tobacco and dried roses aromas and the black cherry flavours; long, tobacco-and-black-cherry finish. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
£48-56 Bat & Bottle, Rutland (08451 084 407), Dudley Jones, Hants (01730 263 303)

p17.0 Barolo, Bussia, Silvano Bolmida 2005
Nice package of fruit, acid, tannin; just a touch reticent. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
n/a UK www.silvanobolmida.com

p17.0 Barolo, Brunate, Vietti 2005
Dried roses and black cherry aroma. Palate a bit closed, but the persistent - and very pretty - dry fruit and floral finish argues it will be fine. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
£74-75 Bordeaux Index, London EC1 (020 7253 2110), Fine & Rare Wines, London W10 (020 8960 1995)

p17.0 Barolo, Brunate, Marcarini 2005
Very fine, medium-bodied Barolo with textbook flavours and aromas. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
£26-32 (2004) www.everywine.co.uk, Fine & Rare Wines, London W10 (020 8960 1995), Dudley Jones, Hants (01730 263 303)

p17.0 Barolo, Brunate, Le Coste, Giuseppe Rinaldi 2005
Leathery nose; sweet fruit, soft tannin; youthful and vigorous. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
n/a UK Tel 0039 0173 56156

p17.0 Barolo, Bric Cenciurio 2005
Lovely black cherry and tea, from start to finish. Drink 2010-2020. (17 points)
n/a UK www.briccenciurio.com

p16.5 Barolo, Vigna Pugnane, Franco Conterno - Cascina Sciulun 2005
Fruity and fresh, with good structure: needs time. Drink 2011-2020. (16.5 points)
n/a UK www.francoconterno.it

p16.5 Barolo, Vigna Mondoca di Bussia Soprana, Oddero 2005

The tar and dried roses aromas that are so evident in this vintage lead into the good fruit and structure also typical of its best. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£39.03 (1999) Vinium

p16.5 Barolo, Vigna Gattera, Fratelli Revello 2005

Aroma of smoke, earth, roses; good berryish fruit, with nice acid/tannin balance. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£21.56 Goedhuis, London SW8 (020 7793 7900)

p16.5 Barolo, Vigna Conca, Fratelli Revello 2005

A big cru that needs a little time; lots of fine sour cherry fruit not yet fully balanced. Drink 2012-2022. (16.5 points)

£34 Goedhuis, London SW8 (020 7793 7900)

p16.5 Barolo, Vigna Broglio, Palladino 2005

A touch of oak vanilla, but otherwise quite classic. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

n/a UK www.palladinovini.com

p16.5 Barolo, Rocche, Brovia 2005

Very ripe Nebbiolo flavours: sour cherry mostly, with a nice touch of elegance. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£37-47 (2004) Bat & Bottle, Rutland (08451 084 407), Fine & Rare Wines, London W10 (020 8960 1995)

p16.5 Barolo, Ravera, Marziano Abbona 2005

Typical of the vintage, fresh and accessible, with a very slight wood veneer. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£29.82 (2001) www.everywine.co.uk

p16.5 Barolo, Prunotto 2005

Very nice example of the vintage - fresh, accessible, and straightforward. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£26.75 www.agwines.com

p16.5 Barolo, Mariondino Bussia, Le Coste Mosconi, Parusso 2005

A fine, persistent finish of tobacco and black cherry follows a generous helping of sweet Nebbiolo fruit. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£39.75 (2004) www.winestore.co.uk (0845 058 0021)

p16.5 Barolo, Livia Fontana 2005

A touch closed, but textbook aroma and finish. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

n/a UK www.liviafontana.it

p16.5 Barolo, Le Vigne, Luciano Sandrone 2005

Coffee, underbrush and mineral palate, with a long, dried-cherry finish. Atypical but good. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£57-64 Fine & Rare Wines, London W10 (020 8960 1995), Nickolls & Perks, W Mids (01384 394518)

p16.5 Barolo, Josetta Saffirio 2005

Tar, tobacco, dried roses aromas and muted cherry on the palate, with a lovely black cherry finish. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£27.99 (2004) Corney & Barrow branches (020 7265 2400)

p16.5 Barolo, Gramolere, Fratelli Alessandria 2005

Tar, sour cherry, dried rose nose; soft tannins and slightly sweet fruit, with a nice cherry-and-tar finish. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£29.99 (2001) Winescape www.winescape.co.uk

p16.5 Barolo, Giulin, Rivetto 2005

A modestly-scaled Barolo, lively and vigorous, already pleasing to drink. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£24.98 Italy Abroad, Newcastle Upon Tyne (0191 226 8524 / www.italyabroad.com)

p16.5 Barolo, Gabutti Bussia, Oreste Stroppiana 2005

Slightly closed, but good soft tannins and nice acidity behind sour cherry and dried flower flavours, with a long fruit-and-tar finish. Drink 2010-2010. (16.5 points)

Divino

p16.5 Barolo, Castelletto, Mauro Veglio 2005

Shy, soft tannins, firm acidity and cherry fruit, with an emphatic tarry finish. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£45-49 www.everywine.co.uk, Vinium

p16.5 Barolo, Cannubi, Barale 2005

Forward, with generous fruit. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

n/a UK www.baralefratelli.it

p16.5 Barolo, Bussia, Prunotto 2005

Very nice example of the vintage - fresh, accessible, and straightforward. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£41.99 www.agwines.com

p16.5 Barolo, Bussia, Monti 2005

A touch closed, but with a lovely aroma and a long, pleasing fruit-and-tobacco finish, all of which augurs very well. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

n/a UK www.paolomonti.com

p16.5 Barolo, Boroli 2005

Dried cherry and earth aromas; fine fruit and balance. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

n/a UK www.boroli.com

p16.5 Barolo, Big 'd Big, Rocche dei Manzoni 2005

Slightly closed, but showing plenty of fruit and underlying structure; right now, tobacco leads the aroma and flavour elements, but that will change. Drink 2010-2020. (16.5 points)

£50 Decorum Vintners, London (020 8969 6581)

p16.0 Barolo, Vigneto Brunate, Andrea Oberto 2005

An almost classic wine except for an evident touch too much toasted wood. Drink 2010-2020. (16 points)

www.andreaoberto.com

p15.5 Barolo, Vigna La Rosa, Fontanafredda 2005

Good Nebbiolo character in nose and mouth, with a long, dry, very fruity finish. Drink 2010-2020. (15.5 points)

www.fontanafredda.it

p15.5 Barolo, Serralunga, Rivetto 2005

Aromas of tar, tobacco, dried roses; nice cherry flavours in palate and finish. Drink 2010-2020. (15.5 points)

www.rivetto.it

p15.5 Barolo, Serralunga d'Alba, Fontanafredda 2005

Pleasing Nebbiolo aromas and flavours. Long, dry, fruity finish. Drink 2010-2020. (15.5 points)

www.fontanafredda.it

p15.5 Barolo, Sarmassa, Marchesi di Barolo 2005

Coffee dominates black cherry in the aroma; palate more fruit-driven and balanced; very enjoyable. Drink 2010-2020. (15.5 points)

www.marchesibarolo.com

p15.5 Barolo, San Giovanni, Gianfranco Alessandria 2005

Fresh fruit and good acidity on palate, long, dry-fruit finish. Drink 2010-2020. (15.5 points)

Tel 0039 017378576

p15.5 Barolo, Rocche, Renato Ratti 2005

Leather and black cherry scents; good black cherry fruit in the mouth; nice structure. Drink 2010-2020. (15.5 points)

www.renatoratti.com

p15.5 Barolo, Cannubi San Lorenzo-Ravera, Giuseppe Rinaldi 2005

A whiff of espresso in the nose and some toasted wood on the palate, but also live fruit and a fine acid/tannin balance. Drink 2010-2020. (15.5 points)

Tel 0039 0173 56156

p15.5 Barolo, Brunate, Oddero 2005

Very traditionally made and classic tasting; nice black cherry/sour cherry fruit. Drink 2010-2020. (15.5 points)

www.oddero.it

p15.5 Barolo, Bosco Agostino 2005

Good Nebbiolo character, good balance, pleasing long finish. Drink 2010-2020. (15.5 points)

www.barolobosco.com

p15.5 Barolo, Audace, Roberto Sarotto 2005

Lovely fresh fruit on the palate, leather and underbrush in the finish: interesting and enjoyable. Drink 2010-2020. (15.5 points)

www.robartosarotto.com

p15.0 Barolo, Villero, Giacomo Fenocchio 2005

n/a UK www.giacomofenocchio.com

p15.0 Barolo, Vigna Santa Caterina, Guido Porro 2005

n/a UK Tel 0039 01736 13306

p15.0 Barolo, Vigna Merenda, Scarzello 2005

n/a UK Tel 0039 0173 56170

p15.0 Barolo, Vigna Mandorlo, Fratelli Giacosa 2005

A bit closed, but everything in place. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.giacosa.it

p15.0 Barolo, Vigna Lazzairasco, Guido Porro 2005

n/a UK Tel 0039 01736 13306

p15.0 Barolo, Sotto il Castello di Novello, Giacomo Grimaldi 2005

n/a UK Tel 0039 0173 35256

p15.0 Barolo, Serre, Gianni Gagliardo 2005

Some oak notes - espresso in nose, vanilla on palate -partially block otherwise excellent Nebbiolo fruit. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.gagliardo.it

p15.0 Barolo, Sarmassa, Giacomo Brezza & Figli 2005

Right now, simply correct, but the track record of this house suggests it will get better and better with bottle age. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.brezza.it

p15.0 Barolo, San Rocco, Eredi di Virginia Ferrero 2005

n/a UK www.eredivirginiaferrero.it

p15.0 Barolo, Rocche, Vietti 2005

Closed, but evidently big and well-structured, with a persistent leathery finish; should be fine with a little rest. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.vietti.com

p15.0 Barolo, Pressenda, Marziano Abbona 2005

Leather and dries roses in nose and finish; palate mute; needs a little time. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.abbona.com

p15.0 Barolo, Prapo, Schiavenza 2005

n/a UK www.schiavenza.com

p15.0 Barolo, Persiera, Josetta Saffirio 2005

Classic nose, nice leathery finish, and good juice, fruity and fresh, in between. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.josettasaffirio.com

p15.0 Barolo, Parafada, Vigna Rionda-Massolino 2005

A big wine, and mostly closed and/or showing toasted oak; all the fruit right now is in the finish, and it's lovely. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.massolino.it

p15.0 Barolo, Monvigliero, Fratelli Alessandria 2005

A bit of evident oak, but otherwise orthodox Nebbiolo flavours. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.fratellialessandria.it

p15.0 Barolo, La Serra, Marcarini 2005

Leather and delicate dried rose nose; palate correct, with good sour cherry fruit; some espresso in the finish. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.marcarini.it

p15.0 Barolo, Gigi Rosso, Arione 2005

Some oak notes - espresso in nose, vanilla on palate - partially block otherwise excellent Nebbiolo fruit. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.gigiroso.com

p15.0 Barolo, Gianfranco Alessandria 2005

Classic tobacco/leather/dried roses aromas, good fruit on palate; finishes a bit short. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

Tel 0039 01737 8576

p15.0 Barolo, Costa Grimaldi, Poderi Luigi Einaudi 2005

A veil of toasted oak temporarily obscures a potentially very fine wine; should improve dramatically as that recedes. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.poderieinaudi.com

p15.0 Barolo, Bricco Francesco, Rocche Costamagna 2005

Rather light-bodied but otherwise quite correct Nebbiolo flavours and structure. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.rocchecostamagna.it

p15.0 Barolo, Badarina Vigna Regnola, Bruna Grimaldi 2005

n/a UK www.grimaldibruna.it

p15.0 Barolo, Aurelio Settimo 2005

Pleasing Nebbiolo nose and fresh, still grapey flavours. Drink 2010-2020. (15 points)

www.aureliosettimo.com

p14.5 Barolo, Villero, Boroli 2005

Super-mature Nebbiolo flavours; needs time to come into balance. Drink 2010-2020. (14.5 points)

www.boroli.it

p14.5 Barolo, Vigna Marenca, Pira Luigi 2005

Decent, modest flavours, with a long, dry finish. Drink 2010-2020. (14.5 points)

£32-34 Fine & Rare Wines, London W10 (020 8960 1995), Nickolls & Perks, W Mids (01384 394518)

p14.5 Barolo, Sori Gabutti, Giovanni Sordo 2005

Good, accessible Nebbiolo fruit; a pleasant wine, already drinkable. Drink 2010-2020. (14.5 points)

www.sordogiovanni.it

p14.5 Barolo, Serralunga, Paolo Manzone 2005

Tobacco, toasty oak aromas, sweet Nebbiolo fruit and tarry finish. Some tough tannins to resolve.

Drink 2010-2020. (14.5 points)

www.barolomeriame.com

p14.5 Barolo, Sebaste 2005

n/a UK www.syllasebaste.com

p14.5 Barolo, Paesi Tuio, Terre da Vino 2005

n/a UK www.terredavino.it

p14.5 Barolo, Meriame, Paolo Manzone 2005

Tar, tobacco, toasted wood in the nose, sweet fruit and tar in the finish, palate closed but should be fine. Drink 2010-2020. (14.5 points)

www.barolomeriame.com

p14.5 Barolo, Lu, Eugenio Bocchino 2005

Toasted oak flavours now dominant; should balance out. Drink 2010-2020. (14.5 points)

www.eugenibocchino.it

p14.5 Barolo, Lorens, Eredi Lodali 2005

n/a UK www.lodali.it

p14.5 Barolo, Leon, Cascina Luisin 2005

Quite weighty, balanced and starting to drink well now. Drink 2010-2020. (14.5 points)

Tel 0039 0173 635154

p14.5 Barolo, Geratti Vigna Cucco, Cascina Cucco 2005

Medium-weight Barolo, balanced and already drinkable. Drink 2010-2020. (14.5 points)

www.cascinacucco.com

p14.5 Barolo, Castiglione, Vietti 2005

Closed, but evident heft and structure. Drink 2010-2020. (14.5 points)

www.vietti.com

p14.5 Barolo, Bricco Rocca, Cascina Ballarin 2005

n/a www.cascinaballarin.com

p14.5 Barolo, Bricco Boschis, Fratelli Cavalotto 2005

Leather and dried flowers in the nose, espresso in the finish. Drink 2010-2020. (14.5 points)

www.cavalotto.com