

San Rocco Seno d'Elvio (Alba), Province of Cuneo

Established: 1993

Owners: Colla families

Winemakers: Pietro Colla

Production: 150,000

Hectares of vines: 27

Viticulture: Conventional



Founded in 1993 by brothers Tino and Beppe Colla (of Prunotto fame), Poderi (vineyards) Colla is today run by Tino and son Pietro and Beppe's daughter Federica. Their property is made up of three distinct properties: **Cascine Drago** in San Rocco Seno d'Elvio near Alba, also home to the winemaking; **Tenuta Roncaglia**, which takes its name from the historic Barbaresco cru and; **Tenuta Dardi Le Rose**, forming part of the renowned Barolo Bussia cru in Monforte. The Colla's loyalty to the roots of classic Piedmontese viticulture comes from a family heritage going back many generations. Tino perfectly sums up their winemaking philosophy:

Classic - not traditional (which may have a negative connotation). By classic, we mean to enhance their continuity with great wines of the past.

Original - the characteristics of the variety and area are uppermost.

Natural - from vineyard to bottle, from grape to wine, with the least possible technological intervention, manipulation or additions.

Dolcetto d'Alba DOC 'Pian Balbo'

Single vineyard Dolcetto from Tenuta Roncaglia, displaying the classic vivacious blueberry fruit of the variety with a fresh, lively palate.

Barbera d'Alba DOC 'Costa Bruna'

From the Roncaglia cru in Barbaresco, where the oldest vines are 60+ years old. Deep, intense ruby red with a vinous bouquet, the palate round and full with well integrated wood. Appealing and forward in youth and equally cellar worthy, this is named after the matriarch of the family, Bruna, who happens to be one of the best cooks in the Langhe.

Nebbiolo d'Alba DOC

Colla's Nebbiolo has become a benchmark for the variety, offering superb value for the traits it shares with its more famous siblings Barolo and Barbaresco. Full-bodied with strawberry fruit, firm and structured with pleasing tannins. Made to drink in the short-medium term, in the best vintages it fleshes out nicely with an extra few years in the bottle.

Barbaresco DOCG Roncaglia

Documented as far back as the 1800's, Roncaglia is one of Barbaresco's finest cru's and the vineyards span the hillside in an amphitheatre like shape, capturing generous light and sunshine.

2016. A stellar wine, the 2016 Barbaresco Roncaglia is pretty, delicate and understated to the core. Rose petal, sweet spice, tobacco, mint, anise and sweet red cherry all grace this translucent, super-expressive Barbaresco from Poderi Colla. A Barbaresco of understatement and class, the 2016 is light on its feet, persistent and finely sculpted. Time in the glass brings out the wine's inner sweetness and perfume, but the 2016 also needs time in bottle to be at its best. This is such a gorgeous wine. 95 points, Antonio Galloni

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Barolo DOCG Bussia 'Dardi Le Rose'

This 7 hectare vineyard at Dardi is one of the sub-zones (soprana) of the prestigious hillside cru of Bussia, located outside the village of Monforte d'Alba. Bussia is renowned for Barolo of great depth and concentration with mineral and animal notes. Typically, this has brooding aromas of scorched earth, spices and tobacco that lead to rich, complex layers of dried figs, plums and prunes that gradually open on the palate, finishing long and sweet. Always approachable in youth, always rewarding with long term cellaring.

2013. Colla's 2013 Barolo Bussia Dardi Le Rose is a knock-out. Intensely sweet and perfumed, the 2013 reminds me of some of the most profound Barolos and Barbarescos I have tasted. Ripe red cherry, pipe tobacco, mint, dried rose petal, orange peel and anise are some of the endless nuances that seem to develop in the glass. The 2013 is a wine of depth, pedigree and class. It should provide thrilling drinking for a number of years. This is a regal wine in every way. Don't miss it. 96 points, Antonio Galloni

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