



SANDRONE

(Above) The historic Cannubi Cru Vineyards of Barolo, perhaps the most famous hill in Italy, where Sandrone works with several sites.



Barolo ALESTE 2015

Barolo, Italy

ESTATE

Sandrone's wines are sometimes described as straddling the modern and traditional styles in the region: elegant, attractive and easy to appreciate right from their first years in bottle, but with no less power and structure than traditional Barolos.

WINE

A combination of the names of Luciano Sandrone's grandchildren ALEssia and STEfano, ALESTE is the new name for Luciano's first wine, the Barolo Cannubi Boschis, which garnered early acclaim with the international trade and press. This single-vineyard wine is typically dense and concentrated, but shows incredible harmony and balance.

VINEYARD

The vineyard is one of the great cru sites in Barolo, synonymous with richness and complexity. Sandrone's ALESTE Barolo is grown on the soil of Cannubi Boschis from which it displays the characteristics of wines from this village: profound aromatic complexity and comparatively softer tannins in relation to vines grown in Monforte or Serralunga. The "Boschis" subzone of the Cannubi has a particularly good exposure to the south and southeast in a small bowl or "conca" that helps hold the warmth in the early morning. Its soils are sea deposits of calcareous clay, not very deep, with good drainage.

WINEMAKING

Grape Varieties: 100% Nebbiolo

Fermentation: Each vineyard is vinified separately, and after destemming and light crushing, the must is covered with CO₂ for a gentle warm maceration of approximately a day. Alcoholic fermentation begins about 24-36 hours later from native yeasts. A gentle maceration takes place in upright open-top steel tanks for the first 9-10 days of alcoholic fermentation. Immediately after alcoholic fermentation, which takes about 28-30 days, malolactic fermentation takes place in 500-liter French oak casks.

Aging: French oak casks (25% new) for 24 months, followed by 18 months of bottle aging.

Alcohol: 14.5%

VINTAGE

The year 2015 was characterized by a period of extraordinary heat, followed by a milder period that allowed the perfect maturation of the grapes, giving the wines generosity, balance and harmony. Seven weeks of extreme heat from the last week of June to August 14 were ended by a series of strong storms that rapidly brought cooler temperatures for the near-perfect maturation during the last 10 weeks of vegetative cycle.

vinous

"Sandrone's 2015 Barolo Aleste is a total stunner. Succulent dark cherry, plum, mocha, lavender and spice are all beautifully framed by ripe, silky tannins. Creamy, resonant and super-expressive, the 2015 Aleste hits all the right notes. -JR, 6/19

96

95

Wine Advocate

94

94 Wine Spectator

94

James Suckling

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