
Gaggiano “Gervasio” Bramaterra DOC

Winery: Gaggiano

Category: Wine – Still – Red

Grape Variety: 80% Nebbiolo, 10% Vespolina, 10% Croatina

Region: Bramaterra / Alto Piemonte / Italy

Vineyard: 2 small hilly plots between Sostengo and Casa del Bosco

Winery established: 2014

Feature: Sustainable

Awards: 2015 92 Wine & Spirits



Product Information

Soil: Acidic, volcanic soil with red earth, sand and rocks. South-West / South-East exposure.

Elevation: 270-380 meters (890 – 1,250 feet)

Age of vines: about 40 years old

Vinification: Harvest mid-September to mid-October. Destemmed and crushed. Fermented in stainless steel vats with pumping over and délestage. Malolactic fermentation takes place during the following springtime, in wood. Ages for 22 months total, 18 of those in tonneaux.

Yield: 0.9 kg/plant.

Tasting Note: Deep and lively tones from ruby to garnet. On the nose, fresh cherry and blueberries alternate with black pepper and violets. On the palate, the wine is mineral, round and juicy, without losing its grace and finesse. Integrated tannin and great potential for ageing. The wine is dedicated to grandfather Gervasio Fabris.

Alc: 13.5 % vol.

Producer Information

In northeastern Piemonte, wines from Nebbiolo are produced in a set of townships known as Alto Piemonte. To call the region a geological treasure is to introduce a high drama going back 280 million years, to the spectacular effluvia of the Sesia supervolcano and its subsequent collapse. Continental collisions then churned the volcano's remains, and after that the glaciers entered the stage, dragging the whole cornucopia slowly across the land, leaving behind distinct pockets of varied soil types—and one of the most fascinating subzonal discussions in wine. The potential of the Alto Piemonte terroirs was well known in the nineteenth century, when the wine culture of Barolo and Barbaresco, with their less-acidic soils, was still being born. Back then, the world's sought after Nebbiolo wines were from this region further north, one blanketed in 100,000 acres of vines, not just of Nebbiolo but also treasured local indigenous grapes. The story of how these plantings plunged to under 2,000 acres involves layer upon layer of devastation: from phylloxera and other diseases, the hailstorms of a century, war and economic change that left the farmers no choice but to take other jobs, abandoning their way of life and leaving the wild forests to overtake the vines.

The restoration of Alto Piemonte's vineyards is a story of dedication. The last two decades of recovery are due in no small part to the work of Cristiano Garella, who consults with the Fabris family to bring us these stunning wines from Gaggiano. The Gaggiano vineyards find their home west of the River Sesia, where the story is of iron-rich red volcanic soils in Bramaterra and Gattinara, and the sandy soils of Lessona. The red rocks lead to wines of intensity and structure, and the sand delivers an alluring, floral elegance.