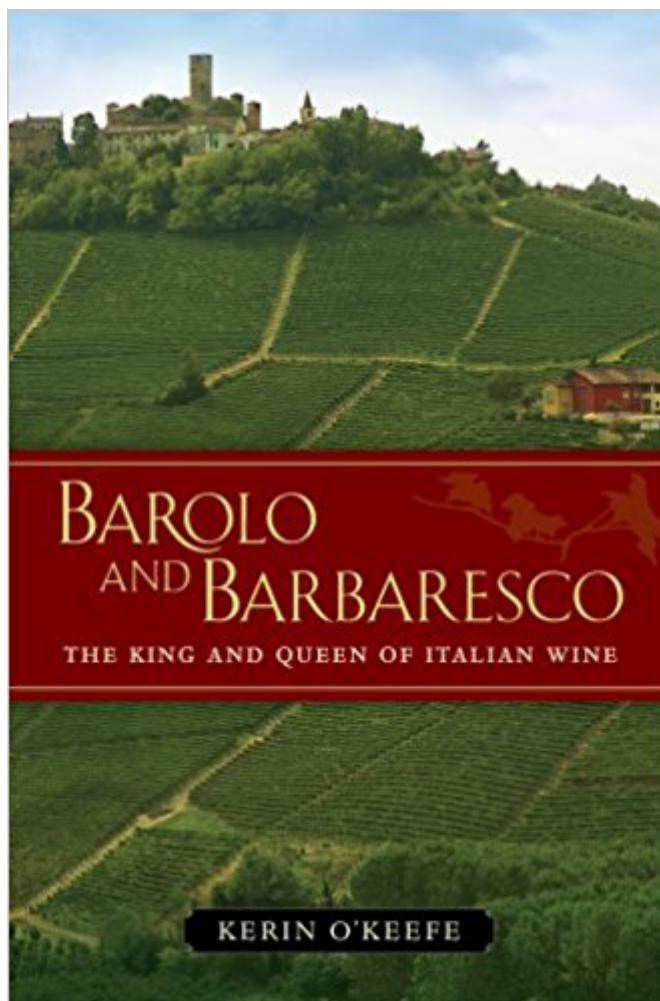


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# Barolo And Barbaresco: The King And Queen Of Italian Wine



## Synopsis

Following on the success of her books on Brunello di Montalcino, renowned author and wine critic Kerin O'Keefe takes readers on a historic and in-depth journey to Piedmont to discover Barolo and Barbaresco, two of Italy's most fascinating and storied wines. In this groundbreaking new book, O'Keefe gives a comprehensive overview of the stunning side-by-side growing areas of these two world-class wines that are separated only by the city of Alba and profiles a number of the fiercely individualistic winemakers who create structured yet elegant and complex wines of remarkable depth from Italy's most noble grape, Nebbiolo. A masterful narrator of the aristocratic origins of winemaking in this region, O'Keefe gives readers a clear picture of why Barolo is called both the King of Wines and the Wine of Kings. Profiles of key Barolo and Barbaresco villages include fascinating stories of the families, wine producers, and idiosyncratic personalities that have shaped the area and its wines and helped ignite the Quality Wine Revolution that eventually swept through all of Italy. The book also considers practical factors impacting viticulture and enology in the Langhe region, including climate change, destructive use of harsh chemicals in the vineyards versus the gentler treatments used for centuries, the various schools of thought regarding vinification and aging, and expansion and zoning of vineyard areas. Readers will also appreciate the author's numerous tasting notes, a helpful vintage guide to Barolo and Barbaresco and a glossary of useful Italian wine terms.

List of Illustrations  
Preface  
Introduction: Barolo and Barbaresco, the Pride of Piedmont  
PART ONE THE PLACE, THE GRAPE, THE HISTORY, AND THE WINE  
1 The Ancient Origins of the Langhe Hills  
2 Noble Nebbiolo  
3 The King of Wines, the Wine of Kings  
4 The Barolo Wars and Their Effect on Both Denominations  
5 Expansion, Subzones, and the Future of Barolo and Barbaresco  
PART TWO PROFILES OF KEY BAROLO PRODUCERS BY VILLAGE  
6 Barolo and Novello  
7 Castiglione Falletto  
8 Serralunga d'Alba  
9 La Morra and Cherasco  
10 Monforte d'Alba  
11 Verduno, Grinzane Cavour, Roddi, and Diano d'Alba  
PART THREE PROFILES OF KEY BARBARESCO PRODUCERS BY VILLAGE  
12 Barbaresco: From Domizio Cavazza to Subzones  
13 (Village of) Barbaresco  
14 Neive  
15 Treiso and San Rocco Seno d'Elvio  
16 Wineries in Alba and outside of Barolo/Barbaresco Villages  
Appendix A. Vintage Guide to Barolo and Barbaresco  
Appendix B. Barolo and Barbaresco at a Glance, with a guide to the officially recognized vineyard areas or menzioni geografiche aggiuntive  
Notes  
Acknowledgments

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"She is eminently qualified for such a book...It's a very useful tome to have to hand: measured, informative and very readable. I thoroughly recommend it", Nicolas Belfrage MW, *The World of Fine Wine*, Issue 48 2015

"The great wines of Italy's Piedmont have become important enough that it's surprising a book like Kerin O'Keefe's *"Barolo and Barbaresco"* hasn't appeared before. But O'Keefe, Italian editor for *Wine Enthusiast* magazine, delivers an essential resource, with an invaluable level of both narrative and detail. O'Keefe covers most major producers and a good number of minor ones, and offers some long-needed organization of the Langhe's geography.", Jon Bonner, *San Francisco Chronicle* "I would have welcomed O'Keefe's profiles when I started my *Barolo Odyssey*. Her accurate profiles of producers I know make me want to explore producers profiled that I have not encountered. The strength of this book is that it gives a detailed coherent account of the present and immediate past of Barolo and Barbaresco. This is a complicated story that O'Keefe has researched very effectively as a professional journalist. ...This is a well-told, unique story of two of the greatest of wines anywhere." Prof. Charles S. Taylor, *Journal of Wine Research*, Feb. 2015

"Rich with history, overviews of terroir, and of course producer profiles, this is a must have book for any Piedmont enthusiast", Gregory Dal Piaz, *snooth.com* "...the Italian Editor of *Wine Enthusiast* is back completing the holy trinity of Italy's great wines with a focus on Barolo and Barbaresco. And, once again, she's in terrific form....This is another fine study from one of the great wine commentators on Italy and is in the frame for wine book of the year.", Paul O'Doherty, *JancisRobinson.com*, Jan. 2 2015

"Barolo and Barbaresco is unique. . . . Although it is thorough and traditionally organized for the most part, her selection of newer, less-known, up and coming producers adds a creative touch that you don't find in most wine books. . . .

O'Keefe's book is a tour de force, a magnificent, comprehensive tome that required loads of research." (Ed McCarthy Wine Review Online 2014-09-09)"Fundamental by approach and inspiring by content. It will be useful for anybody with interest in Italian wines and is likely to become the first point of reference for those who genuinely love and appreciate great wines of Piedmont." (SpazioVino 2014-10-08)"[A]n essential reference, with an invaluable level of both narrative and detail." (Jon Bonner © San Francisco Chronicle 2014-10-05)"In some ways, the greatness of Barolo and its sibling, Barbaresco, while long accepted, is only beginning to be understood. Partly, this is because clear and precise appellations, so integral to understanding Burgundy, are lacking for Barolo. It's left to consumers to research and understand the differences among the various sub-zones. One new resource that will be a great help is Kerin O'Keefe's authoritative 'Barolo and Barbaresco: The King and Queen of Italian Wine.' (Eric Asimov New York Times 2014-10-17)"O'Keefe's breezy, often enthusiastic prose, combines solid background information with personal appraisals of many producers. Kerin O'Keefe has written an informative work that will enlighten most readers to the beauty of these wines and the lofty goals of their producers. Barolo and Barbaresco brings the wines of kings and queens closer to an appreciative audience." (Joel Butler MW International Wine Review 2014-10-22) "Essential and timely. . . . Read the book. Pull some corks. And start plotting an itinerary for a visit to the region." (Tyler Colman Dr. Vino 2014-11-06)"Anyone who loves the perfumes of Nebbiolo and the complexity and soulfulness of a mature bottle will enjoy this book." (Wine Spectator 2015-01-15) "Ms. O'Keefe, who wrote a similar guide to Brunello di Montalcino in 2012, is thorough and authoritative. She is a critic in the best sense of the word, not shy with her opinions, which she offers without polemics or bluster. This book is not for novices; readers are expected to have an understanding of how wine is farmed and produced. But for those who have delved into Barolo and Barbaresco and want to know more about where the wines are made, the people who make them and the differences in terroirs, this book is inspiring and essential." - The Best Wine Books of 2014 (Eric Asimov New York Times 2014-12-04) "Barolo and Barbaresco. . . had me reaching for words such as 'definitive' and even 'magisterial'. Don't let those rather pompous words put you off - it's a good read, too." - Books of the Year 2014 (Henry Jeffreys The Independent 2014-12-04)"An accessible and informed orientation to two of Italy's greatest wines . . . this book is a significant contribution to the English-language literature of Italian wine." (K.L. Ames CHOICE 2015-05-01)"O'Keefe is a rare journalist who does the work to flesh out what 'sense of place' means. She goes out into the vineyards of the greatest wine region in Italy. Her hands and her boots are marked by the marl and the clay and the

grasses. That dedication pours forth in her writing, which is neither ostentatious nor hesitant to focus on subtle-but-important differences of place." (Evan Dawson Palate Press 2015-06-24)

"Part narrative history, part guidebook, Kerin O'Keefe's exuberant engagement of the Italian Piedmont's 'royal' oenological culture further illuminates the ways in which horticulture, geography, and good old-fashioned local characters intersect to produce some of the world's best wines. Barolo and Barbaresco is not just a compelling read, it also reveals itself to be essential." --Matthew Gavin Frank, author of Barolo and Preparing the Ghost. "This book impressed me from the start with its authority and thoroughness and real passion for the wines. Barolo and Barbaresco will be the definitive book on the subject for years to come. Serious people in the wine trades, sommeliers, candidates for Master of Wine or Master Sommelier, collectors, and just plain Nebbiolo aficionados will be unable to do without it." --Tom Maresca, author Mastering Wine and The Right Wine "An up-to-date, authoritative book on the wines of Barolo and Barbaresco is long overdue, and Kerin O'Keefe's thorough treatment of the subject is very welcome. As an importer with a particular interest in Piedmontese wines, I find the book stimulating, enlightening and very useful." --Oliver McCrum, Oliver McCrum Wines

I have enjoyed this book tremendously! I love the author's writing style, and the information is so well researched and fabulous. As in the author's book on Brunello di Montalcino, I was able to follow it easily, taking notes as I went along. As a result of the book, I recently went to Alba and Barolo, and visited the cellars of Le Marchesi di Barolo. I felt so much more knowledgeable! Reading this book was like reading a novel ... once putting it down I couldn't wait to pick it up again to see what happened in subsequent chapters. I thoroughly enjoyed it and highly recommend it.

Long needed treatment of this great area. She is as conversant as anyone on the planet, and marvelously opinionated. I do confess that her aesthetics and mine agree, and that out-and-out "modernists" might be a bit upset at some of her celebrity omissions. So, her aim is not to be encyclopedic, but the most entertaining wine books have never had that aim.

It has an extensive list of producers and some stories about each one of them. Both the tasting notes and the vintage guide are quite helpful. I would love to get more maps from the region. Still it is worth the money.

This is a thorough, well researched book, written by someone who clearly enjoys Nebbiolo wines as much as I do. Kerin O'Keefe's discussion of the Barolo/Barbaresco "war" fought between the modernists and traditionalists during the 1980s and 1990s is particularly revealing.

Husband is enjoying this book

Kerin O'Keefe really knows how to write about Italian wine. This book clearly was produced with a lot of passion and love. Contains great historical and contemporary information about all of the different areas and producers as well as great guides on approaching the wines. A must read for anyone who appreciates Italian wine!

We just went to the Langhe in october so it has been fun reading about places and people we saw and met.

A well written and highly informative guide to one of the world's great wine regions.

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