

MAISONS MARQUES & DOMAINES



PIO CESARE



Pio Cesare

Barolo Ornato DOCG

Piemonte, Italy
Vintage: 2016

Overview

The Pio Cesare family's unique winemaking method stresses minimal intervention to produce wines of particularly supple flavor expression. A ceaseless devotion to the individuality of each of the region's wines informs Pio Cesare's choices in the cellar: shorter maceration, separate lot fermentation, judicious selection for barrel and large cask aging, and bottling schedules determined by the ideal structure of each wine. This allows Pio Cesare to craft wines of varying weight, ageability and drinkability as determined by the vineyard rather than market fashion.

Year after year, the wines of Pio Cesare are recognized for their consistency and regional expression. From world-class Barolo and Barbaresco to crisp Cortese and sweet Moscato, the wines of Pio Cesare offer exceptional quality and variety.

First launched with the 1985 vintage, Barolo Ornato was Pio Cesare's original single-vineyard bottling. Great structure, power, concentration, with a very long life. Produced in small quantities.

The 2016 Ornato is Gambero Rosso's Red Wine of the Year 2021.

Winemaking

This is a single-vineyard Barolo from very ripe grapes of three different plots of the famous Pio Cesare family's Ornato Estate in Serralunga d'Alba, one of the top vineyards in the whole Barolo area. It is fermented in stainless steel with skin contact for 30 days and aged in oak "botti" for about 30 months, and a small amount in French oak for the first 12 months.

Tasting Notes

This wine has great structure and concentration, with ripe fruit, soft tannins and tobacco. May be enjoyed upon release, but will reward time in the cellar.

Harvest Notes

2016 was characterized by a very long-lasting vegetative cycle, with a slow but regular ripening season. Spring begun with abundant rainfalls, which provided the vines with adequate water levels. Summer, which started late, lasted until the end of September with mild temperatures. Thanks to this very long vegetative window and a good water supply, the grapes achieved a complete and healthy ripening, producing remarkably well-balanced wines with excellent aromas and great structure. An exceptional and classic vintage, very similar in style to 2013.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Varietals: 100% Nebbiolo

Aging: In oak "botti" for about 30 months; a small amount in French oak for the first 12 months