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SOTTIMANO	2011	MATE	NEIVE	(\$17.00)	RED	90
SOTTIMANO	2011	DOLCETTO D'ALBA	NEIVE	(\$17.00)	RED	90
SOTTIMANO	2009	BARBERA D'ALBA PAIROLERO	NEIVE	(\$28.00)	RED	91
SOTTIMANO	2010	BARBERA D'ALBA PAIROLERO	NEIVE	(\$28.00)	RED	92
SOTTIMANO	2011	BARBERA D'ALBA	NEIVE	(not available yet)	RED	(87-88)
SOTTIMANO	2010	LANGHE NEBBIOLO	NEIVE	(\$23.00)	RED	91
SOTTIMANO	2010	BARBARESCO FAUSONI	NEIVE	(not available yet)	RED	(92-94)
SOTTIMANO	2010	BARBARESCO PAJORÉ	TREISO	(not available yet)	RED	(93-95)
SOTTIMANO	2010	BARBARESCO COTTÀ	NEIVE	(not available yet)	RED	(92-94)
SOTTIMANO	2010	BARBARESCO CURRÀ	NEIVE	(not available yet)	RED	(93-95)
SOTTIMANO	2009	BARBARESCO FAUSONI	NEIVE	(\$62.00)	RED	92
SOTTIMANO	2009	BARBARESCO PAJORÉ	TREISO	(\$62.00)	RED	93
SOTTIMANO	2009	BARBARESCO COTTÀ	NEIVE	(\$62.00)	RED	92
SOTTIMANO	2009	BARBARESCO CURRÀ	NEIVE	(\$72.00)	RED	92+
SOTTIMANO	2008	BARBARESCO RISERVA	NEIVE	(\$105.00)	RED	94

I can't say enough good things about the Sottimano family and the work they have done over the years to firmly establish themselves among Barbaresco's top growers. This is one of the few places in Piedmont where every wine is consistently delicious. The only question is how delicious. In recent years, Andrea Sottimano has worked to give his Barbareschi extended time on the lees in a cold cellar, which also slows down the malos. This distinctly Burgundian approach stands in stark contrast to the way most French oak-aged wines are made in Piedmont, where malos typically follow right after the alcoholic fermentations. I tasted the 2010s just after they were bottled. Readers should take these notes as brief impressions on wines that will continue to come to life with further time in bottle.

with a pure, stunning expression of fruit. This is a fabulous showing. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2019. One of the many highlights among these new releases, the **2010 Barbera d'Alba Pajorello** is all about tension and inward minerality. Firm yet well-integrated tannins and the freshness of a very late harvest mark this vivid, utterly breathtaking Barbera. Readers will want to cellar the 2010 for a few years, and drink the 2009 earlier. A pure, crystalline finish rounds things out in style. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2019. The **2011 Barbera d'Alba** is a new, entry-level offering from Serracapelli in Neive that will be less expensive than the flagship Pajorello Barbera. Layers of dark, perfumed fruit caress the palate on this juicy, forward early-drinking Barbera. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2015. Sweet red berries, crushed flowers and rose petals are some of the notes that emerge from the **2010 Langhe Nebbiolo**. This racy, perfumed Nebbiolo impresses for its finessed personality and fabulous overall balance. The pedigree and potential of this great Piedmont vintage come through in spades. Sottimano fans know the estate's Nebbiolo is made from a plot in Basarin and could be technically sold as Barbaresco. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2020.

Absolutely nothing is missing in the **2010 Barbaresco Fausoni**. It boasts great balance of fruit, acidity and tannin, with a long, perfumed finish and tons of pure energy. Anticipated maturity: 2018-2030. The **2010 Barbaresco Pajorello** resonates off every corner of the palate with layers of rich, intense fruit. Here, too, the balance of fruit and tannin is simply masterful. The pure pedigree of the vintage comes through in spades. Pajorello is the only Sottimano Barbaresco made from vines in Treiso (rather than Neive), so it always stands a bit apart from the other wines in their lineup. The 2010 is shaping up to be a jewel. Anticipated maturity: 2018-2030. Sottimano's **2010 Barbaresco Cottà** captures the essence of this Neive vineyard and the vintage in its round, seamless fruit and explosive personality. It is another gorgeous, highly promising wine. Anticipated maturity: 2018-2030. The estate's **2010 Barbaresco Currà** stands out for the finesse and silkiness of its tannin. Here, the difference between the 2009 and 2010 is amply illustrative of the differences between the two years. In top years the signature of Currà is refinement, and there is plenty of that here. Anticipated maturity: 2018-2030. Even though the 2010s are

The **2011 Mate** (Brachetto) emerges from the glass with sweet rose petals, spices and red berries. Still Brachetto remains a rarity, but this gorgeous, perfumed wine boasts tons of class and pure harmony, all in a vinous, refreshing style perfect for drinking over the next few years. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2015. Another house speciality, Sottimano's **2011 Dolcetto d'Alba** is packed with juicy blueberries, flowers and sweet spices. Classic Dolcetto notes are given a little extra volume because of the warmth of the year. This round, fleshy Dolcetto is pure pleasure. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2015. The **2009 Barbera d'Alba Pajorello** is pure class and elegance. Layers of silky, perfumed fruit caress the palate from start to finish. The 2009 is another classy, polished wine from the Sottimano family. The rich, opulent style of years past has been replaced

younger, the overall impression is of far greater integration of the tannins.

A sweet, floral bouquet infused with a note of mint announces the **2009 Barbaresco Fausoni**. This mid-weight, gracious Barbaresco is all about finesse, detail and nuance. I very much like the sense of energy here. Firm yet well-balanced tannins frame the long finish. The balance of fruit, acidity and structure is about as harmonious as it gets in 2009. Anticipated maturity: 2014-2024. The **2009 Barbaresco Pajorello** boasts stunning depth, power and richness, all supported by the saline minerality of these poor, white soils. The Pajorello is the most fiercely tannic of the 2009s. Layers of menthol, spices, licorice and a host of balsamic notes wrap around the juicy, opulent finish. This is a gorgeous wine, but it also shows the limits of the vintage in tannins that will probably never fully integrate. Anticipated maturity: 2016-2024. Playing very much true to type, the **2009 Barbaresco Cottà** is the richest and roundest of these 2009s. As always, it has the most overt fruit to match its generally supple personality. Here, too the richness of the fruit goes head to head with the formidable tannins all the way through to the finish. This dark, fleshy Barbaresco should enter its sweet spot in another five years or so. Anticipated maturity: 2017-2027. Sottimano's **2009 Barbaresco Currà** is striking in this vintage. The Currà is often hard when it is young, but in 2009 the wine has a little more volume and richness, which serves to cover the tannins. Bright red berries, flowers, mint and sweet spices flesh out in this radiant, textured Barbaresco. High-toned floral notes flow through to the inviting close. Anticipated maturity: 2014-2024.

The **2008 Barbaresco Riserva** is pure silk and elegance from start to finish. Violets, flowers and sweet Pinot-like fruit meld together in this sensual, mid-weight Barbaresco. The 2008 boasts striking inner perfume, great textural richness and fabulous depth, all backed by silky, polished tannins. It is as impressive in bottle as the separate components were when I tasted them from barrel as young wines. Sottimano's Riserva is an old-vines bottling from Cottà and Pajorello. Anticipated maturity: 2016-2028. Various American importers, including Skurnik Wines, Syosset, NY; tel. (516) 677-9300; Estate Wines Ltd., San Rafael CA; tel. (415) 492-9411; Giuliana Imports, Boulder CO; (303) 547-6343

Azienda Agricola Sottimano

Loc. Cottà, 21 - 12052 - Neive (CN) - Tel. e Fax: 0173 635186 - Email: info@sottimano.it - Web: www.sottimano.it

P.IVA: 00284090040