

# GAJA

## BARBARESCO 2020

### NEW RELEASE

The 2020 vintage is reminiscent of the balanced fruit vintages of 2000 and 2004 where the finesse of Nebbiolo is apparent. The wines are characterized by precise and complex fruit expressions and clean and elegant aromas. They are wines that are already drinkable but will reward with time as the presence of fruit is always a guarantee of aging potential.

### Climate and harvest

The 2020 vintage was characterized by frequent rainfalls that can be defined as atypical for various reasons. Rains were overall above average (the total annual average has been 1000 mm in the Barolo area and 900 mm in the Barbaresco area compared to the usual 800mm). Instead of the distribution coming in winter and spring, it was concentrated in the summer months. Despite the frequent summer thunderstorms, none of our vineyards were damaged by hail. Most of the winter rains fell in November (there was also an early snowfall on the 15th) which helped counteract the drought from December to March. During winter, the temperatures were mild. Particularly, January 2020 will be remembered for being the warmest in the last 50 years. The actual cold, with temperatures below freezing, arrived in mid-March and lasted a month. However, no frost damage occurred. With the sole exceptions of a heat spike in late May, one in August, and one in mid-September, the period from May to early October was characterized by alternating warm days and thunderstorms followed by cooler days. The heat spikes in mid-August and in September from the 10th to the 18th helped grape maturation and the final ripeness of Nebbiolo. Significant temperature variations during the rest of September and October, helped the color, aromas, and the overall health of the grapes.

### Tasting notes

A rich, round, and fruity expression of the vintage. The Barbaresco 2020 shows notes of strawberry, red fruit, and cherry. The palate shows great integration of the tannins, more rounded than in 2019 yet gentle and graceful. Blackberry, orange, and floral notes yield to a delicate, palate, and voluminous finish.

### Vineyards

14 vineyards situated in the municipality of Barbaresco. The land, at a height between 250 and 330m above sea level, covers a surface of 21.4 hectares. The plants are 40 years old on average.

Appellation Barbaresco D.O.P.

Grape varieties 100% Nebbiolo.

### Winemaking method

The grapes from each single vineyard separately undergo fermentation, maceration and ageing in oak for 12 months. Then they are blended and further aged in oak for another 12 months.



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