



# Massolino

Crafted from a historic cru, Parafada 2021 showcases Nebbiolo's nobility through concentrated fruit, firm tannins, and complex aromas, evolving gracefully with decades of maturity.

Serralunga d'Alba  
MASSOLINO



Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 100% Nebbiolo

## Barolo Parafada 2021

Piedmont, Italy

### Region and Vineyards

The **Parafada cru** is situated in the heart of **Serralunga d'Alba**, a commune renowned for producing Barolo of exceptional structure and ageing potential. At 320 metres above sea level, the vineyard lies on a ridge with a full southern exposure, ensuring optimal sunlight throughout the growing season. Its sheltered position, protected from prevailing winds, creates stable conditions that allow Nebbiolo to reach complete phenolic ripeness, producing grapes of exceptional concentration and balance. The soils here are of mixed texture but strongly **calcareous**, a characteristic that imparts minerality, firm tannins, and the capacity to evolve over decades.

Parafada covers a modest surface of just 1.2 hectares, making it the smallest of Massolino's crus but arguably the most emblematic. The vineyard is planted with Nebbiolo vines averaging **60 years of age**, the oldest in the estate. These deeply rooted vines yield small quantities of grapes of remarkable intensity and complexity. First vinified as a single cru in 1990, Parafada has since established itself as one of the clearest expressions of Serralunga's identity, offering wines that are simultaneously powerful, austere, and elegant.

### Winemaking

The vinification of Parafada reflects the **traditional methods** long associated with Barolo, designed to preserve Nebbiolo's authenticity and highlight its natural nobility. Grapes undergo a lengthy fermentation and maceration process in large oak fermenters (*tini*) at a controlled temperature of around 30 °C. This extended maceration encourages the extraction of deep colour, aromatic intensity, and firm tannins, laying the foundation for the wine's robust character.

After fermentation, the wine is transferred to **large Slavonian oak casks**, where it matures for up to 30 months. The use of these large vessels ensures slow and delicate oxygenation, integrating the structure of the wine without masking its purity of fruit. Once removed from cask, Parafada rests for about a year in bottle within the cool, dark cellars of the estate. This additional maturation refines the tannins and polishes the wine's complexity, enabling it to evolve with grace over decades while maintaining its **austere elegance** and depth.



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## Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep garnet red with bright reflections that gradually evolve with maturity.
- **Aroma:** Complex and intense, marked by red fruits, floral tones, and spice. With age, layers of dried roses, tar, and herbs emerge.
- **Palate:** Full-bodied, robust, and austere, with firm tannins and lively acidity. Concentrated fruit and earthy complexity lead to a **long and powerful finish**.

## Did you know?

Parafada is sourced from **Massolino's oldest vineyard**, planted with Nebbiolo around 60 years ago. Since its debut in 1990, it has been recognised as the cru that most faithfully represents **Serralunga d'Alba's style**, combining structure, austerity, and longevity. Often described as the "classic Serralunga," it exemplifies the commune's reputation for Barolo that marries depth with enduring elegance.

## Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Risotto al Barolo:** The wine's depth and tannins reflect the richness of this Piedmontese classic.
- **Roast veal with herbs:** Its savoury complexity enhances delicate yet flavourful meat.
- **Wild boar stew:** Concentrated fruit and robust tannins stand up to the intensity of game.
- **Aged Parmigiano Reggiano:** The crystalline texture of the cheese balances the wine's austere structure.

### Robert Parker (RP) : 97 Points (2021)



*The Massolino 2021 Barolo Parafada is also from Serralunga d'Alba, although this MGA site reveals a different profile based on flowers and dried herbs. The wine has a botanical feel with crushed oregano that frames cassis, wild cherry and plum. There is a ferrous note of rusty nail that is characteristic of this site and adds another level of complexity. This wine is structured, taut and shows incredible tension.*

### Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 93 Points (2021)



*The 2021 Barolo Parafada is a gorgeous, super-expressive Serralunga Barolo with beautiful mid-palate depth and fine balance. Translucent, sculpted red-toned fruit, orange peel and chalk take shape in the glass. This opens beautifully through the finish, showing notable textural presence and tons of character.*



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**Jeb Dunnuck (JD) : 97 Points (2020)**

*A ripe brick red color, the 2020 Barolo Parafada is layered, ripe, and spicy, with notes of licorice, dried cherries, incense, cedar, potpourri, and baking spice. Pure and expansive, it's weightless yet has penetrating richness in its pure notes of kirsch and also offers sweet tannins that weave seamlessly with fresh acidity, followed by an exceptional and long finish. A gorgeous wine from Massolino, it offers a wide drinking window over the coming 15-20 years.*

