

### 2005 Vietti Barolo Brunate

Rating: 94  
Drink: 2013-2035

The estate's 2005 Barolo Brunate is a brooding, mysterious wine that possesses a level of sheer concentration and richness that is exceedingly rare in this vintage. It is also an incredibly primary, full-bodied Barolo that will require significant patience, but all of the signature Brunate notes are in the glass, and this Barolo should develop into a splendid wine over the coming years. This is another awesome effort from Vietti. I may be underestimating this wine, as it is ridiculously great even at this early stage. Anticipated maturity: 2013-2035.

Vietti has long been an elite, reference-point producer in Piedmont but in recent years brothers-in-law Luca Currado and Mario Cordero have taken major steps to further elevate the quality of their wines across the board. My tasting with Luca Currado encompassed 20-plus Barolos covering vintages 2005 through 2008, including multiple parcels the estate uses for its multi-vineyard Barolo Castiglione. All of the wines were potentially outstanding and some will doubtless turn out to be profound. Vietti fans have much to look forward to in coming years, the biggest decision here will be making choices among a large number of truly special wines. For starters, the 2005s aren't too far

- Antonio Galloni (April, 2009)

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### 2005 Vietti Barolo Castiglione

Rating: 92  
Drink: 2011-2025

The 2005 Barolo Castiglione is especially taut and focused in this vintage. Floral notes are intermingled with dark red fruit, spices and new leather in this gorgeous, poised offering. The 2005 Barolo Castiglione uncharacteristically needs some bottle age but it offers integrity of fruit that is remarkable. Over the last few years Luca Currado has stepped up the quality of the Castiglione bottling in a major way. Any parcels in this multi-cru Barolo that don't meet his exacting standards are declassified and used in the Lange Nebbiolo Perbacco (see above). In 2005 the main vineyards in the Barolo Castiglione are Ravera, Bricco del Fiasco, Fossati, and Ciabot Berton; while the fruit from Bussia, Bricco Boschis and Bricco Ravera (Ginestra) ended up being used in that year's Perbacco. Anticipated maturity: 2011-2025.

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### 2005 Vietti Barolo Lazzarito

Rating: 94  
Drink: 2012-2035

What a joy it is to taste the 2005 Barolo Lazzarito. A dramatic, large-scaled wine, the Lazzarito sweeps across the palate with awesome density and richness. Classic Serralunga notes of melted road tar, menthol, new leather, spices, plums and black cherries emerge from this breathtaking, powerful Barolo. Currado has backed off the French oak and gradually lengthened maceration times in this bottling which has resulted in a Barolo of uncommon elegance and transparency to site. Despite the wine's sheer opulence, the finish is long and fresh, with lingering notes of tobacco and autumn leaves, suggesting the Lazzarito has years of fine drinking ahead of it. This is a superb effort. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2035.

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### 2005 Vietti Barolo Rocche

Rating: 95  
Drink: 2012-2035

The 2005 Barolo Rocche is the most finely detailed and nuanced of these 2005 Barolos. The wine reveals spectacular richness and clarity as layers of sweet perfumed fruit, menthol and spices emerge from the glass. The Rocche is an especially complex, multi-dimensional wine with tons of fruit and simply incredible balance. While this is easily one of the finest Barolos in 2005, the wine also appears to need at least a few years of bottle age. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2035.

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