

Decanter recommendations

Decanter panel tasting (Nov 09): Barolo 2005

By Tom Maresca

2005 Barolo, Cannubi Boschis, Virna Borgogno

Producer's Name: **Virna Borgogno**

Origin: Piedmont, North West, Italy

Appellation: Barolo

Typical Grape Composition: Nebbiolo

A big, structured, long-finishing wine of great potential. Drink 2010-2025. **(17 points)**

Decanter Rating: ★★★★★

2005 Barolo, Preda Sarmassa, Virna Borgogno

Producer's Name: **Virna Borgogno**

Origin: Piedmont, North West, Italy

Appellation: Barolo

Typical Grape Composition: Nebbiolo

Nice rose, cherry and leather nose. Medium-weight palate, great balance, lithe and supple, with generous fruit. Drink 2010-2025. **(17.5 points)**

Decanter Rating: ★★★★★

Decanter panel tasting (May 09): Barolo 2004

2004 Barolo, Cannubi Boschis, Virna (May 2009)

Closed nose. Fresh palate, good acidity, persistent and brisk. Not complex, but accessible. Good length. Drink from 2009. **(15.5 points)**

Decanter Rating: ★★★★★

2004 Barolo, Preda Sarmassa , Virna

Decanter Rating: ★★★★★

2004 Barolo, Virna

Decanter Rating: ★★★★★

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RECOMMENDED



Azienda Agricola Virna

Cannubi Boschis

Barolo 2001

has been recommended
in a *Decanter* blind tasting

Amy Wislocki, *Editor*

Steven Spurrier, *Consultant Editor*

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'Recommendations' or see *Decanter* magazine

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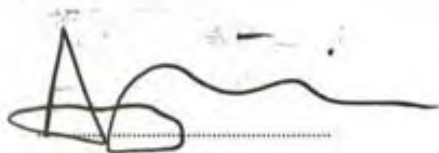
**HIGHLY
RECOMMENDED**

Azienda Agricola Virna

Preda Sarmassa

Barolo 2001

has been highly recommended
in a *Decanter* blind tasting



Amy Wislocki Editor



Highly recommended

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Barolo, Preda Sarmassa, VIRNA 2001



Attractively spicy with fair intensity of dark fruits. Hints of wood smoke and earth. Round, full and savoury with sweet, firm tannins. Lovely balance. Drink 2011-16.

Barolo, Cannubi Boschis VIRNA 2001



Barolo, Preda Sarmassa, VIRNA 2004



Barolo, Cannubi Boschis VIRNA 2004



Textbook aromas; long, sweet finish. 2010-2022

Barolo VIRNA 2004



Barolo 2009

Outstanding 18.5–20pts (95–100pts)



Virna, Cannubi Boschis, Barolo

Decanter average score: 19/20pts (96/100pts)

Individual judges' scores: **Paolo Basso** 19 **Ian D'Agata** 19

Michael Garner 19

£36 Colombier Vins Fins

Virna Borgogno graduated in 1991 from the oenology school in Alba, and only 10 years later founded the estate that she runs with sister Ivana and her husband, Giovanni Abrigo, a producer in Barbaresco. Their Cannubi Boschis vines are roughly 45 years old, and the Barolo is made with short 10-day macerations on the skins at relatively high temperatures (30°C is common). The classic Barolo is instead a blend of two vineyards from Novello (Merli and Sottocastello), which means it is a more rigid, austere wine with good ageworthiness. This is an up-and-coming estate that has a tasting room right in the Barolo town centre, so it's easy to visit.

Paolo Basso Balsamic notes of eucalyptus, anise, vanilla and sweet spices. Rich, full bodied, with an expressive and savoury deep character. Very long persistency.

Ian D'Agata Clean, fresh, but also rich and ripe red fruit. Real density and long, with silky tannins. Great balance.

Michael Garner Intriguing nose of prunes, chocolate and cinnamon. Ripe, fleshy and juicy, but with good balance. Understated structure with hugely impressive length and definition.

Drink 2015–2025 **Alcohol** 14.5%