



## Italy, Piedmont: Barolo, Barbaresco & More (New Releases)

featuring Virna

reviewed by Monica Lerner

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### **2016 Virna Barbera d'Alba "La"**

The 2016 Barbera d'Alba La opens to an inky dark appearance with thick aromas of blackberry syrup, cassis and dark spice. The wine is smooth and velvety in terms of mouthfeel with loosely knit texture and soft tannins. Try it with meatloaf and a dark, wine-based mushroom sauce. The fantasy name "La" refers to the Barbera grape, which is feminine. **(89 points)**

### **2015 Virna Barolo Cannubi**

The 2015 Barolo Cannubi shows the silky softness and ripeness that comes through in this celebrated vineyard cru, especially in the warm vintages. Cannubi is usually one of the first vineyard parcels to ripen in the Barolo township. This is a balanced and elegant wine that focuses on finer aroma details of wild berry, cherry, spice, tar and licorice. Accompany this Barolo with a tasting platter of bresaola, culatello, coppa and mild cheeses. **(93 points)**

### **2015 Virna Barolo del Comune del Barolo**

The 2015 Barolo del Comune del Barolo offers dark fruit flavors with berry fruit, rose hip and grilled herb. There is a delicate side to the wine that you recognize in the fine and pretty quality of the primary aromas, but this hot-vintage expression also delivers power and ripeness that you feel on the finish. Give this wine a year or two to find even footing. About 25% of the blend comes from the Sarmassa vineyard with 75% from the Preda cru. **(92 points)**

