

Azienda Agricola  
**MOCCAGATTA**

Piedmont

The Moccagatta Estate, founded by the Minuto family in 1952, has always held a rather low profile. The outstanding qualitative leaps made in the late eighties, however, have drawn the attention of both winemakers and winelovers alike. Adoption of barrel fermentation and aging in small French oak; severe pruning and grape thinning; employment of sophisticated cellar equipment and careful fermentation-maceration techniques; all this and more have poised Moccagatta at the forefront of quality winemaking in Barbaresco.

The Estate owns plots in three crus of radically different character in the townships of Barbaresco and Neive. From these - Basarin, Cole, Bric Balin - three single vineyard Barbaresco wines are produced, each individually vinified so as to enhance the character peculiar to their terroir. From Basarin comes also a remarkable barrel-fermented Barbera of astounding complexity.

Other 5 plots are devoted to Chardonnay (a single vineyard and a "base" wine are made) from which an average of 10,000 bottles are produced. This is a world class wine which I have little hesitation in calling one of Italy's very finest expression of this superb varietal.

Finally Moccagatta makes small quantities of very fine Dolcetto and Nebbiolo.

In short, under Franco and Sergio Minuto, the Moccagatta Estate has gained for itself a spot among the finest producers in Piedmont. Unfortunately, as seems to be the rule, here too great quality goes hand in hand with small quantities. ◇



**Barbaresco Cole**

Zone: *Barbaresco*  
 Cru: *Cole*  
 Varietal: *Nebbiolo*  
 Vineyard Ext.: *0.46 hectares*  
 Average Prod.: *800 bottles*



**Barbaresco Basarin**

Zone: *Neive*  
 Cru: *Basarin*  
 Varietal: *Nebbiolo*  
 Vineyard Ext.: *1.80 hectares*  
 Average Prod.: *10,000 btl*



**Barbaresco Bric Balin**

Zone: *Barbaresco*  
 Cru: *Muncagöta*  
 Varietal: *Nebbiolo*  
 Vineyard Ext.: *4 hectares*  
 Average Prod.: *23,000 btl*



**Chardonnay Buschet**

Zone: *Barbaresco*  
 Cru: *Buschet*  
 Varietal: *Chardonnay*  
 Vineyard Ext.: *0.70 hectares*  
 Average Prod.: *4,500 bottles*