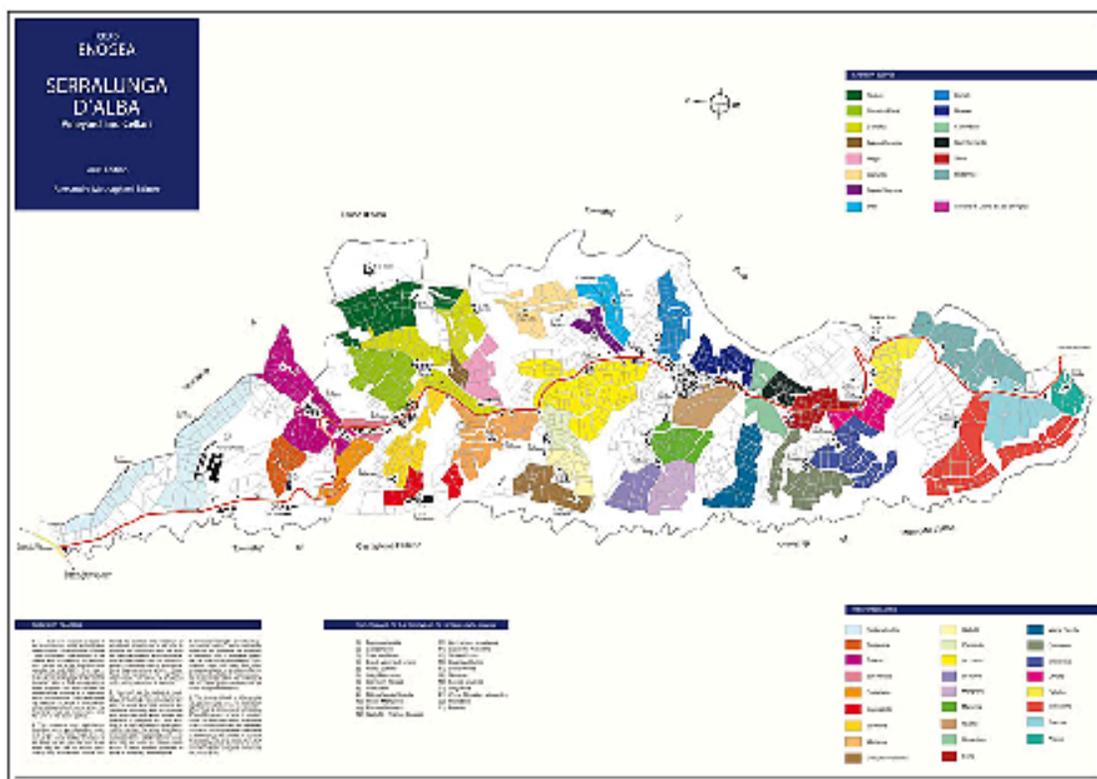


THE MAGICAL MAPS OF THE PIEMONTE VINEYARDS CREATED BY ALESSANDRO MASNAGHETTI

Alessandro Masnaghetti is an Italian wine journalist who has painstakingly crafted some of the most beautiful and timely maps of the vineyards of Barolo and Barbaresco. Signor Masnaghetti is the editor of the well-respected Italian wine journal, Enogea, and also contributes regularly to the German wine magazine, Vinum. What he has created on the side of his journalistic activities are a striking set of maps and painstaking research of the regions of Barolo and Barbaresco, which include heretofore unpublished lists of who owns vines where and detailed discussions of each cru's subplots, showing where the best sections of each vineyard lie, why these are the best sections, and who has vines here. He likes to call these maps "his labor of love", and they are essential reference works that decipher in unprecedented detail all of the individual crus of the most important villages of Barolo and Barbaresco. To date he has completed seven maps in the area, with beautifully laid out maps of the crus now available for the villages in the Barolo DOCG of Barolo, Monforte d'Alba, Serralunga d'Alba and Castiglione Falletto. In the Barbaresco DOCG, he has done three maps, of the villages of Barbaresco, Neive and Treiso. He has followed up this set of seven maps for Piemonte with a series on Tuscany, which is currently in the works and of which four are now completed as well.



*Signor Masnaghetti's projects are not only invaluable for the large, tremendously detailed and easy to read maps that comprise one side of each map, but also for the in-depth research that is found on the back of each map and includes detailed information on each cru in the village charted, with its size, altitude, exposition and its relative stylistic bent. Under each cru's section of data is also found who owns vines in this cru, and a small map that outlines where each proprietor's parcel of vines are to be found in the cru in question. This is information that is simply unprecedented and is an invaluable resource for any Piemonte lover with a thirst for knowledge of the region, as well as its wines. Along with The Slow Food Editore's *A Wine Atlas of the Langhe* and Maurizio Rosso's *The Mystique of Barolo*, the maps of Alessandro Masnaghetti are must haves for any lover of the wines of Piemonte. I have not yet seen copies of his Tuscan project, but I will be very surprised if they too are not invaluable resources as well when the set is completed (to date I believe four maps have been produced for Tuscany). The maps are available in the US from the Rare Wine Company, (www.rarewineco.com) for \$9.95 each or \$8.50 each if four or more are purchased (and you are going to want the whole set, believe me), or directly from Signor Masnaghetti in Europe at almasnag@tin.it, for seven euros a piece. Based on the beauty and detail of the Piemonte set that I have in the office here, these are invaluable additions to any nebbiolo lover's cellar accessories, and seem to be perfect for touring the vineyards when visiting as well. Again, I have not yet seen the Tuscany sets, but I cannot imagine that they will fall short of the very high level set with the initial Piemonte collection. I cannot recommend these gorgeous maps highly enough- don't miss them.*