

NEBBIOLO

a) Flavours of Nebbiolo



Nebbiolo is a **red grape variety** with particular flavours and aromas reminiscent of tar, violet, and most of the time a rich espresso-like bitterness. When young the wine is massively structured and very tannic. However, if you are patient and let the wine age it will be very rewarding. Indeed, with age Nebbiolo offers a delicious combination of power and suppleness.

Nebbiolo was for a long time described as a black and tannic wine. It needed years in bottle before drinking. However, modern Nebbiolo reflects a very different wine. It is **softer and more forward but still keeps its tannic structure**.

b) Premium Nebbiolo Region

◆ **Italy.** Very little Nebbiolo is planted outside Italy, except in some small areas in California. **For Italians, Nebbiolo holds a place equal to that of Cabernet Sauvignon in France.** It is the most famous and popular grape. The grape grows almost exclusively in the Northwest of Italy in a region called Piedmont. Here are produced the famous wines Barolo and Barbaresco.



◆ **Australia.** Nebbiolo should have great potential here, but finding the right sites for this difficult vine has been tricky. However, Victoria's King Valley, where the climate is favourable for Nebbiolo, is producing some interesting examples.



Nebbiolo is extremely fussy about its climates. Getting the climate wrong is probably the biggest reason why so few New World Nebbiolos have been successful. In Piedmont it requires the best-exposed south-west facing sites at altitudes 150-300m. Without all those criteria, Nebbiolo will be difficult to grow, or will give poor crops.



Nebbiolo Key Facts

Moderate climate: Medium acidity, red fruit character, medium tannins and earthy aromas