

GAJA

COSTA RUSSI 2020

(Kos-tah ROO-see)

The word *Costa* indicates the side of a hill, while *Russi* was the nickname of the old sharecropper who worked in the vineyard.

APPELLATION: Barbaresco D.O.P.

VARIETAL: 100% Nebbiolo

VINEYARDS: The Costa Russi vineyard is situated in the municipality of Barbaresco, at the foot of a hill where, a little above, there is Sorì Tildin. The land, facing south-west, consists of clayey-calcareous marls and covers a surface of 4.35 hectares, with average altitude of 230 m above the sea level. The vines are 65 years old on average.

VINIFICATION: Fermentation and maceration for around three weeks followed by ageing in oak for 24 months.

VINTAGE: The 2020 vintage was characterized by frequent rainfalls that can be defined as atypical for various reasons. Instead of the distribution coming in winter and spring, it was concentrated in the summer months. Despite the frequent summer thunderstorms, none of our vineyards were damaged by hail. During winter, the temperatures were mild. Particularly, January 2020 will be remembered for being the warmest in the last 50 years. The actual cold, with temperatures below freezing, arrived in mid-March and lasted a month. However, no frost damage occurred. With the sole exceptions of a heat spike in late May, one in August, and one in mid-September, the period from May to early October was characterized by alternating warm days and thunderstorms followed by cooler days. Significant temperature variations during the rest of September and October, helped the color, aromas, and the overall health of the grapes.

TASTING NOTES: All the crus coming from the 2020 vintage show a richness in the mouth. In the Costa Russi, there is an abundance of strawberries, and plums, all showing in a very pronounced way. As the wine opens, there are broader notes of raspberry, red currant, pepper, verbena, elderflower, and marzipan. The palate starts with a hint of sweetness with a round mouthfeel. The finish is elegant

FIRST VINTAGE PRODUCED: 1978



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