



Antonio Galloni

Massolino	2006	Vigna Rionda Riserva	95+
Massolino	2001	Vigna Rionda Riserva	95
Massolino	2001	Margheria	94
Massolino	2001	Parafada	94
Massolino	2008	Margheria	93
Massolino	2008	Parafada	92
Massolino	2008	Barolo Parussi	91
Massolino	2008	Barolo	88

Massolino is one the most consistent producers in Piedmont. Year after year brothers Roberto and Franco Massolino present a lineup that is exceptional, from the humblest wine all the way up to their Riserva.

The **2006 Barolo Riserva Vigna Rionda** is young - very young. Currently the fruit remains quite primary and the aromatics have yet to develop. Still, it is impossible not to admire the wine's structure and the sheer integrity of its fruit. I especially like the way the 2006 continues to open up as it sits in the glass. This is a hugely promising wine from the Massolino brothers, but readers will have to be patient. Anticipated maturity: 2016-2031.

The **2001 Barolo Riserva Vigna Rionda** is all silk and finesse. The tannins are barely perceptible. Sweet roses, spices, mint and red berries come together beautifully in this utterly sensual, inviting Barolo. The 2001 impresses for its refinement and understated personality. Expressive floral notes reappear on the engaging finish. Anticipated maturity: 2013-2026.

Massolino's 2001 Barolo Margheria is an infant. Today it comes across as rich, round and endowed with considerable depth. Hints of licorice, tar, mint and spices add complexity to an expressive core of dark red fruit. The Margheria remains quite young. Readers who enjoy a full tertiary experience will need to cellar the Margheria for at least a few more years. This is a hugely impressive Barolo from the Massolino brothers. Anticipated maturity: 2015-2026.

The **2001 Barolo Parafada** has developed beautifully. Smoke, licorice, dark cherries, plums, earthiness and spices are all woven together in this gracious, striking Barolo. The 2001 was aged in French oak barrels, which the wine has handled with impeccable grace. The refined Massolino style is very much in evidence in this finessed, stunningly complete Barolo. Hints of tertiary complexity appear on the bouquet, but this remains a young wine with more than enough fruit and structure to drink well for at least another decade. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2021.



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This is a beautiful set of 2008s from brothers **Franco and Roberto Massolino**. The 2008s here show the delicate, finessed side of the vintage.

The **2008 Barolo Margheria** shows the muscle and depth of Serralunga. Layers of dark red fruit, spices, menthol and licorice flow from this textured, deep Barolo. The style remains understated in the spirit of the 2008s here, but with a little more of the richness typical of Serralunga. Anticipated maturity: 2015-2028.

The **2008 Barolo Parafada** is the richest of these 2008s. It possesses gorgeous depth and fabulous overall balance. Layers of fruit flow effortlessly to the round, caressing finish. Tar, smoke and licorice add further shades of nuance and complexity. Anticipated maturity: 2016-2028.

The **2008 Barolo Parussi** is another refined, delicate wine. Bright dark red fruit, spices, mint and licorice are some of the nuances that take shape in the glass. The wine fleshes out nicely on the mid-palate as it shows tons of Castiglione Falletto character. Floral notes add further nuance on the finish. The 2008 should be ready to go with minimum cellaring. Anticipated maturity: 2015-2023.

The **2008 Barolo** is quite pretty and feminine in this vintage. This is a decidedly approachable, delicate Barolo. Bright red fruit, flowers and mint are some of the nuances that linger on the high-toned, slightly fleeting finish. The wine's mid-weight personality makes it accessible and delicious, even today. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2018.



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