



COCITO

Region: Neive (Piedmont), Italy

Owner: Ezio Cocito

Winemaker: Ezio Cocito

WINERY PROFILE:

Ezio Cocito comes from a family of farmers and admits to having two passions in life: horses and Nebbiolo. It was through these shared interests that Ezio and Giorgio Rivetti (of La Spinetta) became great friends, a friendship that would change the future of Ezio's small family farm. Until 1994, only Moscato had been planted in the family vineyard in Neive, but after much deliberation and long talks with Giorgio, Ezio decided to replant the Moscato vineyard with the noble Piedmontese grape Nebbiolo.

When, a few years later, he purchased the Baluchin vineyard in Neive (Barbaresco) in 2000, he turned to his friend, fellow horse aficionado and award-winning Barbaresco producer, Giorgio Rivetti, to help him craft a small production Barbaresco from his family Estate. Giorgio provided expert advice and extended the use of La Spinetta's winery in Castagnole Lanze for the production of Ezio's new Barbaresco. In exchange, Ezio offered his help in caring for Giorgio's horses – an ideal collaboration!

VINEYARDS AND VINIFICATION:

Ezio produces just one wine: Cocito Barbaresco Baluchin Riserva. Vineyards are planted in the calcareous clay/sandy soil of the miniscule Bric Micca Cru, the highest point (1,200-1,300 feet above sea level) of the Baluchin vineyard in Neive. Baluchin means "star" in the Piedmontese dialect, and refers to the vineyard's ideal position for star gazing on clear night.

Ezio focusses all of his efforts on the highest quality possible of this singular Barbaresco, producing the wine only in exceptional vintages. When asked if he plans to eventually expand his wine portfolio, Ezio happily sums up his production philosophy, "I have one daughter and one Barbaresco. I think when you're able to get it right the first time, you don't have to worry about trying to create something better." It's hard to argue with that.

