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95+ pts

Le Piane 2016 Boca**Boca, Piedmont****Red wine from Italy****Drinking window: 2026 - 2046**

The 2016 Boca is every bit as impressive as it was from barrel, but it needs time. The only question is how much. Effusive aromatics soar out of the glass, suggesting a feeling of openness that is not quite there on the palate, where the wine is decidedly austere. The 2016 is a classic Boca laced with expressive small red berry fruits, blood orange, mint and rose petal. It will be magnificent once the tannins relent a bit. Don't miss it!

Antonio Galloni, March 2022

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From Alto Piemonte, Valtellina & Points North (Mar 2022)

Le Piane

Christophe Künzli is now one of the old guard in Alto Piemonte. He was among the first producers in current times to recognize the value of these abandoned vineyards and to start making wines that expressed that potential. The range has expanded in recent years, but the Boca remains the flagship wine. It is one of the greatest examples of the appellation and belongs in any well-stocked cellar. It is also one of my personal favorites.

Grape/Blend

85% Nebbiolo, 15% Vespolina

Release price

Not Available

The logo for Vinous, featuring the word "vinous" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter "o" is replaced by a red circle with a thin white outline.

95 pts

Le Piane 2017 Boca**Boca, Piedmont****Red wine from Italy****Drinking window: 2025 - 2037**

The 2017 Boca is delicate and understated, almost surprisingly so given the dry, warm year. Crushed rose petal, white pepper, cedar and sweet pipe tobacco lend aromatic brilliance to this weightless, wonderfully expressive wine. The Le Piane Boca has a track record of aging exquisitely. I bet that will be the case here as well. I recently opened the 2006, as I wanted to drink a slightly mature wine from the estate. Well, I was way off, as the 2006 is still very, very young!

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Grape/Blend

85% Nebbiolo, 15% Vespolina

Release price

Not Available

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

1200

Release Date

October 2021

88_{pts}**Le Piane 2018 Mimmo****Boca, Piedmont****Red wine from Italy****Drinking window: 2022 - 2026**

The 2018 Mimmo is another intriguing wine in this range from Le Piane. There is plenty of depth and power. Wild cherry, tobacco, cedar mint and spice open nicely, I just wish there was a bit more precision in both the aromatics and tannins. As things stand today, the 2018 is a bit unruly and rough around the edges.

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Grape/Blend

70% Nebbiolo, 25% Croatina, 5% Vespolina

Release price

\$29.00

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

1200

Release Date

October 2021

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91 pts

Le Piane 2017 Piane**Boca, Piedmont****Red wine from Italy****Drinking window: 2021 - 2027**

The 2017 Piane is a fine choice for drinking now, as it has started to soften a bit in bottle. There's still plenty of the intensity from the old-vine Croatina/Vespolina-based field blend, but good aromatic complexity as well. Soft contours wrap it all together. This stylish Alto Piemonte red is an absolute delight, but it needs aeration to allow some rough edges to blow off.

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Grape/Blend

95% Croatina, 5% Vespolina

Release price

Not Available

94_{pts}**Le Piane 2018 Piane****Boca, Piedmont****Red wine from Italy****Drinking window: 2023 - 2033**

The 2018 Piane, the estate's old-vine Croatina/Vespolina field blend, is a huge, inky wine. Blueberry, espresso, lavender, mint and dark spice all flesh out in a potent, layered Alto Piemonte red endowed with tremendous depth and sheer intensity. The 2018 is quite the powerhouse. It is also exquisitely beautiful and vivid from the very first taste. A wine that speaks with gravitas, the 2018 Piane is a must have for fans of the estate.

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Grape/Blend

95% Croatina, 5% Vespolina

Release price

\$45.00

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

650

Release Date

October 2021

The logo for Vinous, featuring the word "vinous" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter "o" is replaced by a red circle with a thin black outline.92_{pts}**Le Piane 2020 Nebbiolo****Colline Novaresi, Piane, Piedmont****Red wine from Italy****Drinking window: 2022 - 2030**

The 2020 Nebbiolo is exquisite. Bright, floral and wonderfully vibrant, the 2020 bristles with energy right out of the gate. Crushed red berry fruit, flowers, cinnamon, mint and licorice all run through this deep, wonderfully nuanced Nebbiolo from Le Piane. .

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Grape/Blend

95% Nebbiolo, 5% Vespolina

Release price

\$22.00

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

1500

Release Date

October 2021

93_{pts}**Le Piane 2019 Maggiorina****Boca, Piedmont****Red wine from Italy****Drinking window: 2022 - 2029**

The 2019 Maggiorina is such an engaging wine. Dark and mysterious, with striking complexity, this Nebbiolo/Croatina-based field blend is an absolute winner. Wild black cherry, lavender, sage, menthol and dried herbs grace the Maggiorina with striking complexity and nuance.

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Grape/Blend

Field Blend of 13 Local Varieties

Release price

Not Available

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The 2020 Maggiorina is a racy, wonderfully expressive wine that captures the personality of the estate. Dried flowers, alpine herbs, tobacco and cedar lend striking aromatic nuance. There's plenty of depth from the Croatina in the blend to back it all up. In a word: gorgeous.

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Grape/Blend

Field Blend of 13 Local Varieties

Release price

\$25.00

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

2500

Release Date

October 2021

90_{pts}**Le Piane 2019 Bianco****Boca, Piedmont****White wine from Italy****Drinking window: 2021 - 2024**

The 2019 Bianco is a very pretty, nuanced white. Apricot, dried flowers, chamomile and tangerine peel are all beautifully laced together. The 2019 is silky, aromatic and super expressive.

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Grape/Blend

Erbaluce

Release price

Not Available

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The 2020 Bianco is an intriguing expression of Erbaluce. Apricot, honey and chamomile start to emerge, but the volatile acidity is just too overpowering. Appreciating the Bianco will require a forgiving palate. Both bottles I tasted were awkward.

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Grape/Blend

Erbaluce

Release price

\$27.00

Cases Produced (12 bottles/case)

600

Release Date

October 2021

