

Kyle Phillips's Italian Wine Review (IWR)

The authoritative online consumer newsletter about the wines of Italy

➤ Garantito IGP and The 2007 Barolo: Novello, La Morra, and Elsewhere



The second day the IGP tastings (65 wines in the space of 4 hours, once again with the assistance of our sommeliers and the staff of [Wellcom](#)) began with Barolo of mixed origin, in other words assemblies of wines from vineyards in more than one Commune. While single vineyard wines are now all the rage, this is actually a more traditional way of doing things; as Bartolo Mascarello once said to me, "I make Barolo. Not Barolo from this vineyard or that vineyard, but Barolo from all my vineyards, because the sum is greater than the parts."

In other words, in a Barolo from the several Comuni, one might expect to the characteristics of the different Comuni, for example Serralunga's power and Novello's elegance

Speaking of the individual Comuni, the Novellisti are too few in number for one to draw reliable conclusions based just on them, but when combined with La Morra a picture of the vintage emerges, with alcohol that is often high, coupled with tannins that are in some cases disjointed, and all supported -- sometimes -- by balanced acidity. In short, it's a vintage with peaks and lows, and therefore one must choose with care.

As is always the case, however, some wines emerged, and after the tasting I [posted a list of the 11 wines](#) we all found worthy.

Here are the notes for all of the wines tasted:

(...)

Wines from the Commune of Novello

Elvio Cogno Ravera Barolo DOCG 2007

Almandine with black reflections and almandine rim paling to orange. The bouquet opens with some red berry fruit, slight greenish accents, some cedar and some rosa canina; it's delicate and rather graceful. On the palate it's fairly bright, with youthful directness and moderate fruit supported by some acidity and by tannins that are smooth and fairly rich flow into a tannic berry fruit finish. Needs time, has a pleasant delicacy to it, but is almost a work in progress - it's stumbling about now. I would give it 3-5 years, and expect it to age well for much longer.

2 stars