Rioja Crianza Azabache 2020



Region

The region of La Rioja lends its name to Spain`s most widely recognised wines. Rioja is split by three major districts; Alta and Alavesa to the north, which are higher in altitude and the hot dry Oriental district to the south (previously known as Rioja Baja). Tempranillo, Garnacha, Graciano and Mazuelo are the main red grape varieties used however more international varieties can also be used. The traditional aging classification system gives Rioja wines their distinctive style through the influence of extended ageing in oak barrels.

Producer

Fincas de Azabache is a state of the art cooperative, founded in December 1956. The Bodegas now owns 2600 hectares of vineyards at the foot of Mount Yerga, which is at the heart of the driest sub region of Rioja; "Oriental", previously Rioja Baja. With limited risk of rot, this is an area conducive to the principles of organic viticulture, to which the Bodegas is firmly and successfully committed. The cooperative have recently invested heavily in a new winery, the fruits of which we are now seeing.

Tasting Notes

This excellent Rioja is well balanced with a soft seductive character typical of the Tempranillo, Garnacha and Mazuelo grapes. It is made to emphasise the fruit characteristics with a subtle hint of toasty, smokey and vanilla notes gained from one year in American oak barrels and allowed to mature 6 months in bottle before release. It exhibits a soft rounded mouthfeel, with fine silky taninns. The palate has intense plum and cherry flavours with elements of vanilla and spice that linger on the finish.

Food

Excellent by the glass or to accompany tapas, chorizo, braised meats and cured cheeses.

Technical Information

Country	Spain
Region	Rioja
Grape(s)	Tempranillo (70%) Garnacha (20%) Mazuelo (10%)
Type	Red
Style	Spicy
Oaked Style	Oaked
Body Style	Medium bodied
Sustainable	No

Dry/Sweet Style	Not applicable
Alcohol Content	14%
Closure Style	Cork
Organic/Biodynamic	No
Allergens	**Milk:** No **Egg:** No
Vegetarian/Vegan	**Vegetarian:** Yes **Vegan:** Yes

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