

Zuria Orange Vinedos Hontza Natural Wine, Rioja Alavesa 2024



Region

With nearly 65,000 hectares of vineyard, 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

Viñedos Hontza is a family project born in 2015 out of a deep desire to close the circle between the vineyard and the glass, with wines that fully express the richness of the terroir from which they come. Certified organic they follow Biodynamic principles to take meticulous care of the earth, following similar principles in the winery with minimal interference. They see themselves as stewards of a natural process, guides who help the wine to express itself, with a respect for the natural process and drive to constantly innovate to refine techniques for unique expression.

Tasting Notes

Grown in clay and limestone soils of the basque area of Rioja Alavesa, this skin contact white is a blend of Viura and Calagrefño (an almost extinct aromatic variety) which has seen 8 days on the skins. The wine undergoes a spontaneous fermentation, with a low intervention approach in steel vessels and then 50% ages in chestnut barrels. The wine is unfinned and unfiltered. This is a terrific example of gastronomic skin contact styles of basque wine, with a lovely mineral, floral, citrus and slightly salty character, with slight tannins and a refreshing acidity.

Food

A perfect match for fish, white meats, pinchos and tapas.

Technical Information

Country	Spain
Region	Rioja
Grape(s)	Viura (70%) Calagreno (30%)
Type	Orange
Style	Mineral
Oaked Style	Lightly oaked
Body Style	Medium bodied
Sustainable	Yes-certified sustainable

Dry/Sweet Style	Dry
Alcohol Content	11.5%
Closure Style	Cork
Organic/Biodynamic	Biodynamic practices
Allergens	Milk: No Egg: No
Vegetarian/Vegan	Vegetarian: Yes Vegan: Yes



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