

FINCA LA EMPERATRIZ CRIANZA 2013

Vintage: 2013

Weather: Winter 2012/13 was mild and rainy at Finca la Emperatriz, leading to a very early bud break. The rains continued throughout the whole growing season, rainfall was at record levels and fungal diseases like mildew and oidium had to be kept at bay. But surprisingly September was suddenly warm, with many days of southerly winds, not at all common in Rioja. As a consequence, the cooler areas of the DOCa had something of an advantage in this vintage, the higher temperatures at the very end of the season allowing a full ripening, some two weeks later than usual. In this vintage, neither Terruño nor Parcela N°1 will be released, so these grapes were used for Crianza and Reserva.



Harvest: Hand-picked between 19 and 28 October.

Varietals: Tempranillo 95%, Garnacha 3% and Viura 2%.

Wine-making: The grapes are selected in the vineyard and then fermented for 4 days in stainless steel, with a gentle pumpover to extract colour and tannins. The heavy lees and skins are removed to leave the wine on the fine lees.

Ageing: Aged in 225 litres barrels of American (80%) and French (20%) oak. 14 months in barrel and 12 in bottle.

Analysis: Alcohol: 14.1% / pH: 3.73 / Total acidity: 5.4 g/l / Volatile acidity: 0.56 g/l.

Tasting Notes: Deep, cherry colour, clear and brilliant. Intense nose of red fruits (strawberries and cherries) and other black berries, with floral hints and fine toasted notes. On the palate it is deep and complex, fruity and floral, mineral notes with refined tannins and a long spicy finish. Great flavours, but so easy to drink!

ORIGIN

Region
Rioja Alta, D.O.Ca. Rioja.

Plot:
A blend of plots 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18 from the Finca La Emperatriz estate.

Terroir
Impressive terroir with a layer of large white pebbles to a depth of about 40cm, covering a loose, sandy sub-soil.

This is an ideal soil to grow vines as it has excellent drainage, plenty of light and the roots are well placed to receive all the nutrients they require. The wines produced from this type of soil are fine and elegant.

Vineyard

Vines of between 15 and 65 years old. Bush vines or high trained. Yields of 5,900 kg/ha (40 hl/ha).



FINCA
La Emperatriz

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