



FINCA La Emperatriz

~ Viñedo singular desde 1878 ~

TERRUÑO 2015

Vintage: 2015

Climate Conditions: In our estate, winter was wet and had heavy snowfalls, but spring started off mild. May was extremely dry and hot, with the highest temperatures since 1964 and lowest rainfall since 1928. June was stormy and windy, but ended hot to be followed by the hottest July since the XIXth century and the highest minimum temperatures ever recorded. The second half of August cooled down somewhat, with 20°C difference between day and nighttime temperatures and occasional showers. These continued into early September, which was otherwise dry and mild and cool at night, ideal weather for achieving ripeness with perfect health. The harvest began about 10 days earlier than normal, though very low nighttime temperatures – as low as just 1°C on 15th October – slowed the ripening.

Harvest: Hand-picked into 18 kg crates on the 15th of October.

Varietals: 100% Tempranillo.

Wine-making: After harvesting, the grapes were stored at 8-10°C in a refrigerated container overnight, followed by a cold maceration for four days. Destemmed grapes without being crushed fermented in an open tank of stainless steel and then racked straight to barrels, where malolactic fermentation took place.

Ageing: Aged for 14 months in 225 litres barrels of French (80%) and American (20%) oak, both new and of second use.

Analysis: Alcohol 14,4% / pH:3,67 / Total acidity: 5,4 g/l / Volatile acidity: 0,57 g/l.

Tasting Notes: Deep ruby colour. A wealth of aromas appear: ink, ripe fruit (blackberry, cherry), spicy notes (black pepper) and pencil lead. Broad, savoury, round palate with firm but well-integrated tannins and a long finish reminiscing of dry stones. This red wine has future ahead and is likely to develop beautifully in the bottle.

Production: 21.552 botellas de 75 cl y 177 magnums.

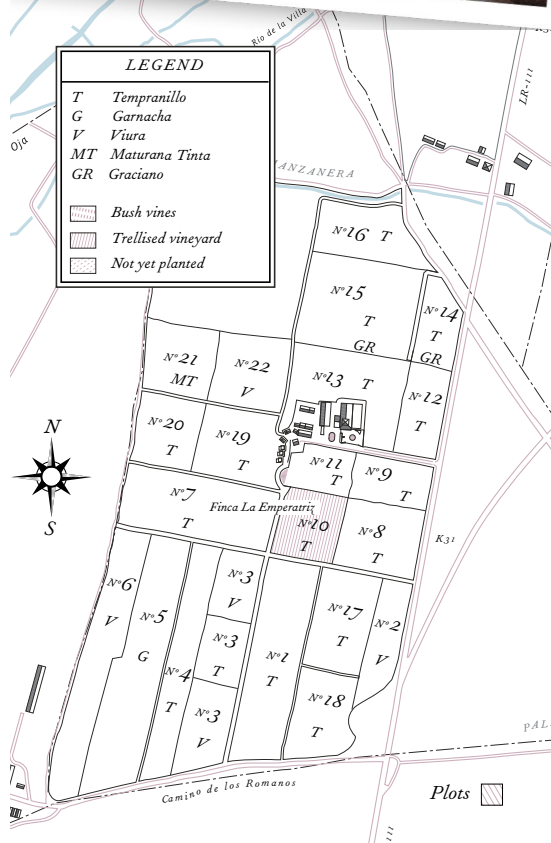
ORIGIN

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

Plot
Plot number 10, planted in 1997, trained to 2m high with a double guyot and a cover crop planted between the rows.

Terroir
Impressive terroir with a layer of large white pebbles to a depth of about 40 cm, 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
Vineyard trained to 2m in height to maximise exposure to sunlight. Yield of 37hl/ha.



**Tim
Atkin** MW

93
POINTS

Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

92+
POINTS

Hermanos
Hernáiz
VIÑEDOS