

FINCA LA EMPERATRIZ VIÑEDO SINGULAR BLANCO 2017

CLIMATE CONDITIONS

2017 was the Frost Vintage. In Finca La Emperatriz losses were close to 35%, considering many late sprouting bunches had to be removed not to affect quality.

It was one of the warmest vintages that can be remembered (1,478 IW hours), with a very low rainfall of 381 mm.

It was also the earliest vintage in the 20 years we have been working the estate's vineyard.

Although everyone will remember this year as catastrophic due to frost, we can say that, thanks to it there were very low yields that made vines (especially Tempranillo) "work" in optimal conditions, without defoliation due to excess heat and drought (which would have led to imperfect maturation).

The few grapes that arrived at the winery did so with many more balanced parameters than those expected due to weather conditions.

Only old vines are used to elaborate this wine.

Harvest Hand-harvested into 180 kg crates, the 19th September.

Varietals 100% Viura.

Wine-making Grape selection at the sorting table. 6 hours of skin maceration. Half of the wine fermented in concrete tank and the other half in 225-liter barrels. 4 months of lees aging with very spaced battonage.

Ageing 10 months in concrete tank and 8 months in French oak barrels, 1/3 new, 1/3 of second-use and 1/3 of third-use.

Analysis

Alcohol	PH	Total acidity	Volatile acidity
13,5% vol.	3,28	5,5 g/l	0,36 g/l

Production

300 Half-Bottles, 16,896 Bottles, 360 Magnum, 18 Double Magnum, 4 Imperial, 3 Balthazar, 2 Melchior, 1 Primat.

ORIGIN

Region D.O.Ca Rioja, Rioja Alta.

Terroir Impressive terroir with a layer of large white pebbles to a depth of about 40 cm, covering a loose, sandy sub-soil. 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 50-65 years old bush vines. With the same type of soil, gravel and pebbles on surface. At 570 meters altitude.

Yields of 5,700 kg/ha (37,05 hl/ha).



RATINGS

Robert Parker Wine Advocate, 2020 **93** points

GUÍAPEÑÍN Guía Peñín, 2021 **93** points

JAMESSUCKLING.COM James Suckling, 2021 **93** points

Tim Atkin Rioja Report, 2021 **95** points

What is a Viñedo Singular wine?

This is the highest quality category of the D.O.Ca Rioja, which recognises the uniqueness of a vineyard which, due to its characteristics, is different and distinct from those of its surroundings, and from which wines with exceptional qualities are obtained.

The necessities of this restrictive category, among other requirements are; a vineyard with at least 35 years of age, manual harvest, 30% less yield than the rest of the appellation's vineyards, and a qualification process with two tastings in which the wine must be valued as excellent.



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Viñedo Singular · Rioja Alta