



Viñas Jóvenes 2021

D.O.C.A. RIOJA ALTA

Miguel Merino

THE VINEYARDS

Old vines do not live forever. In order to have access to such special vines in the future as we do today, we planted in 2001 the vineyard of El Rincon, in the South of Briones. We have also planted some new vineyards which will become part of this wine until the vines are old enough to yield grapes for our Reservas.

GRAPE VARIETIES

“El Rincón” is mostly planted with Tempranillo vines. Also, on the side with the best Sun exposition we have some plants of Graciano. Out of the three other vineyards, two are planted with Tempranillo and the other one with Garnacha.

THE VINTAGE

Spring 2021 was a difficult one in Briones. We suffered 3 hail storms in two weeks, and over 80 litres of rainfall just in June. Summer was dry but not too hot, and September started with two days of rain that was most welcome by vines. The weather during the harvest was just perfect: sunny days, and cold nights. In general terms, our yielding was low due to hail and the 2021 wines are deep and intense, but balanced.

WINE-MAKING

The grapes were hand picked and transported in 250kg crates so that they arrive to the winery in the best conditions. Once there, all the bunches were checked again in the sorting table. Fermentation took place in small vats of stainless-steel, at controlled temperature. For us elegance is much more important than strength, and we try to follow this policy at our fermentations.

AGEING

The wine rested during 12 months in ‘second use’ barrels that were previously used for our Reservas, and in 500L barrels. We top each barrel after six weeks to minimize its oxidation. The wine was then bottled and left to rest and develop for 12 months.

BOTTLING

We filled 22,500 bottles.