



DIRECT WINE SHIPMENTS



RIOJA SELECTION

Autumn 2019

RIOJA



The famous Rioja region is situated in northern Spain around the city of Logroño. It is made up of 3 sub-regions;

Rioja Alavesa, Rioja Alta & Rioja Baja.

The river Ebro and the Cantabrian Mountains help to moderate the climate. The key grape varieties are Tempranillo and Garnacha for reds and Viura for whites.

It is best known for its smooth, oak aged red, however, Rioja also produces elegant white and rosé styles.

Rioja's winemakers have a passion for their vines and combine the best of Old World expertise with a contemporary approach, producing wines that are particularly food-friendly, complementing a wide range of dishes. The Rioja seal is your guarantee of quality and style – you can be confident that whatever bottle you choose it will be a great partner to fine food and fun conversation.
(uk.riojawine.com)

Join us this October as we celebrate the wines of Rioja.

#DrinkRioja2019

LA RIOJA ALTA

Established 1890. Own 425 hectares situated in the most favoured parts of Rioja. They insist on low yields of a maximum 5 tonnes per hectare to ensure high grape quality. In the winery, they combine traditional techniques - hand racking by candlelight, American oak, long periods of cask ageing - with modern methods - long macerations, new barrels, more extract and concentration. The results are wines of complexity and great style, "new classics".

Red

La Rioja Alta Viña Alberdi Reserva 2014

£18.99

100% Tempranillo

Lively, medium depth, garnet-red with an intense pink rim. High aromatic intensity with dominating ripe fruit: raspberries, red cherries, wild strawberries and red currants set out against a balsamic background of vanilla, toasted caramel, biscuits, coffee and sweet mints. In the mouth, you can enjoy good acidity, great freshness and balance and mild, friendly tannins. Aromatic harmony persists through the aftertaste, with notes of red fruit jam, prunes, coffee, vanilla and caramel.

93/100 Guía Peñín

(13.5% alc vol)

La Rioja Alta Viña Ardanza 2009

£28.99

80% Tempranillo and 20% Garnacha.

The nose has a fresh, spicy character, with hints of sweet cherries and blackcurrant chocolate, with notes of black pepper, tobacco, nutmeg, coffee, mocha and cinnamon. Tasty, with a soft freshness, nice structure, and delicately elegant tannins. Silky finish, with a lovely aftertaste, where liqueur-like notes of cherries and blackcurrants intermingle with toasty notes and sweet spices, turning this special edition of Viña Ardanza into a fine, elegant wine.

95/100 Tim Atkin

93+/100 Parker

(13.5% alc vol)



La Rioja Alta Viña Gran Reserva Arana 2012

£32.99

95% Tempranillo & 5% Graciano.

First ever Viña Arana Gran Reserva.

Dark-cherry red with a garnet-red rim. High aromatic intensity, with outstanding notes of ripe red fruit, red berries, wild strawberries and plum jam, leading to tertiary aromas from meticulous aging in oak: vanilla, cedar, tobacco, coffee, caramel and sweet patisserie notes. In the mouth, its initial freshness and structure, typical of this brand, predominate. Balanced, with soft, flavoursome tannins. Elegant, complex finish, where the ripe red fruit and balsamic notes provide a splendid end. A wine with great potential to continue improving in the bottle.

97/100 Decanter, 96/100 Guía Peñín, 95/100 James Suckling,

91+/100 Robert Parker

(13.5% alc vol)

La Rioja Alta Gran Reserva 904 2010

£49.99

90% Tempranillo & 10% Graciano.

Medium-high depth, cherry-red with a garnet rim. Very intense in aromas. Complex, with notes of plums and ripe grapes, jam of blackberries and red raspberries that give way to spicy and balsamic notes of tobacco leaves, cedar, liquorice, vanilla, chocolate and ground coffee. Good entry. Fresh and balanced in the mouth, with polished, silky tannins and a gentle, delicate finish. Very long aftertaste, with balsamic notes of coffee and toasted caramel, candied fruits and liquorice dominating these pleasant sensations.

97/100 Tim Atkin

(13.5% alc vol)

La Rioja Alta Gran Reserva Selección Especial 890 2005

£119.00

95% Tempranillo, 3% Graciano & 2% Mazuelo.

Classic aroma, intense, with notes of cured leather, stewed plums and raisins, tobacco and sweet spices, vanilla and dark chocolate. Elegant, mature, complex mouthfeel. Outstanding structure and well-balanced acidity with silky tannins. Its classic Rioja bouquet stands out, big, complex and round, with an elegant finish.

98/100 "One of the greatest ever? The new 1964?" JamesSuckling.com

98/100 Tim Atkin, 98/100 Guía Peñín

(13.5% alc vol)



RIOJA VEGA

The origins of Rioja Vega go back to 1882 when Don Felipe Ugalde established a bodega bearing his name in Haro. In 1948 the bodega joined with Bodegas Muerza through marriage & the name disappeared. In 1983 it was acquired by the Group Principe de Viana and construction of a new winery & a new brand, Rioja Vega, started in January 2001. The winery is located in the town of Viana, 10 km south-east of Logroño. There are also 51 hectares of Tempranillo & 9 hectares of Graciano planted around the winery, & a total of 70 hectares of vineyards is planned. The goal is to produce high quality grapes from low yields in modern surroundings.

Red

Rioja Vega Tinto 2017

£8.49

90% Tempranillo with some Garnacha. Modern and exuberant "86/100" (Josh Raynolds, Vinous) "Black cherry & fresh herb flavours mingle in this juicy red. It has lively acidity and gentle tannins. Fruity and fresh." (Wine Spectator).
(13.5% alc vol)

Rioja Vega Semi Crianza 2017

£8.99

Complex array of aromas on the nose, with notes of red fruits and liquorice and subtle hints of toast, spices and cinnamon.

Rioja Vega Crianza 2016

£10.99

50cl **£7.49**

80% Tempranillo, 15% Garnacha, 5% Mazuelo.

Complex array of aromas on the nose, with notes of red fruits and liquorice and subtle hints of toast, spices and cinnamon.

Gold - Challenge International du Vin.

Gold - Mundus Vini, Germany 2019

(13.5% alc vol)

Rioja Vega Crianza Edición Limitada 2016

£13.99

95% Tempranillo, 5% Graciano.

Complex aromas of ripe black fruits with hints of spices and eucalyptus and subtle toasty notes. Subtle hints of minerality and black fruits, with a warm velvety finish.

90/100 Guía Peñín

(13.5% alc vol)



Rioja Vega Reserva 2014

£15.99

85% Tempranillo, 10% Graciano, 5% Mazuelo

Rioja Vega Reserva set the foundation of the classic Rioja Vega style, having become, over the years, one of its most emblematic wines.

Intense aromas of very ripe fruit, toast, toffee and spices. Unctuous, velvety and balanced on the palate, with a good, high-quality tannic structure.

Trophy for Best Rioja as well as a Gold Medal from the International Wine & Spirits Competition.

90/100 Guía Peñín

(13.5% alc vol)

Rioja Vega Gran Reserva 2012

£19.99

Aged for 29 months in American oak and 36 months in bottle before

release. Aromas of very mature fruit (raisins, compote) are accompanied by cinnamon, vanilla & toasted bread. In the background hints of anise and

liquorice are also found. Incredibly long palate with intense flavours of fruit oak and spice. Heavenly!

(14% alc vol)

White

Rioja Vega Blanco 2018

£8.49

Made from Viura & Tempranillo Blanco! Youthful fruity citrus flavours with a fresh clean palate & hints of herbs on the finish. Un-oaked & juicy. A must try!

£8.49

(13% alc vol)

Rioja Vega Tempranillo Blanco 2017

£13.99

Exceptionally rare barrel fermented white made from Tempranillo Blanco.

Fermented and aged on its lees in French oak for six months. Intense aromas of tropical fruit & white flowers over delicate notes of herbs. Silky texture due to the oak ageing. Has some 'Burgundian style' finesse.

90/100 Wine Enthusiast

91/100 Guía Peñín

(13% alc vol)



OSTATU

Ostatu is a family winery from the Alavesa zone of Rioja, created in 1960 by the Saenz de Samaniego family, who have a long tradition as grape growers dating back to the 16th century.

The family practice sustainable viticulture. Their 34 ha of vineyards are divided into more than 50 plots. Over 95% of the vines grow on an ochre coloured, chalk & clay soil and are protected from the cold northern winds by the Sierra de Cantabria mountain range.

They make stylish, flavoursome wines blending passion, tradition and innovation.

Red

Ostatu Crianza 2016

£13.99

A Crianza with body and character that is made from 90% Tempranillo with 10% Graciano, Mazuelo and Garnacha grapes, which come from vineyards that are around 35 years old. A faithful reflection of the spicy character of the Tempranillo from Samaniego.

92/100 Tim Atkin
(14% alc vol)

White

Ostatu Blanco 2018

£11.99

85% Viura and 15% Malvasía. A fresh and fruity wine with a noticeable personality of pear, peach and melon. This is an elegant wine with excellent length.

(13.5% alc vol)

Rosé

Ostatu Rosado 2018

£10.99

A young rosé made from 70% Tempranillo and 30% Garnacha grapes which come from the highest parts of the vineyards, in the district of Samaniego. The result is a special rosé that won't leave you feeling indifferent.

(13% alc vol)



PALACIOS REMONDO



Bodegas Palacios Remondo is based in Alfaro in Rioja Oriental (formally Rioja Baja). This old family firm has been revitalised by the arrival of Alvaro Palacios who had already made his name, starting from scratch, with his extraordinary Priorat wines. He is now bringing his family Rioja winery to the attention of the wine world. The wines are made from their own vineyards, a rarity in Rioja.

After more than proving himself in Priorat, he took over the home ranch following the death of his father in 2000 and slowly, surely, year on year, things in Rioja keep getting better. Vineyards are now farmed organically and many biodynamic principles are being followed. Here, Garnacha, more than Tempranillo, reigns supreme and it is from here that Spanish rusticity and spice is contributed to blends.

Red

Palacios Remondo La Vendimia 2018

£12.99

From Alvaro Palacios, Decanter Man of the Year 2015! 50/50 blend of Tempranillo and Grenache. Flavours of red cherries, blackberry and plum jam with hints of wild herbs come together in this harmonious wine. Aged in new French oak for over four months.

(14% alc vol)

Palacios Remondo La Montesa 2016

£16.99

37.5cl **£8.99**

Magnum **£34.99**

5L **£150.00**

65% Garnacha, 30% Tempranillo & 5% Mazuelo

Reserva quality from one of Spain's finest growers. Aged for 12 months in 85% French oak & 15% American oak. Sumptuous, elegant, heavenly!

92/100. (Parker)

(14% alc vol)



Palacios Remondo Propiedad 2015

£28.99

This exceptional wine is a blend of 60% Garnacha and 40% Tempranillo. Made from 20, 40 and 90 years old vines. It is concentrated, complex, full bodied and smooth. It shows rich dark berry fruits and herbs such as, rosemary and mint. It also has hints of balsamic vinegar and cigar boxes. This is a stunning wine which is balanced and has excellent length. The wine is drinking now but will also age well for the next 10 years. Perfect with lamb & rosemary.

(14.5% alc vol)

White

Palacios Remondo Placet Valtomelloso 2014

£22.99

From the area of Valtomelloso at the foothills of Sierra de Yerga. 100% Viura. 21-year-old vines from 8 hectares. Very low yields. Fermented in traditional oak vats at low temperatures. Aged for 9 months in French oak barriques. Deliciously organic!

(13.5% alc vol)



MACÁN

Bodegas Benjamin de Rothschild & Vega Sicilia was born in 2004 as the result of a joint venture between Tempos Vega Sicilia and the Compagnie Vinicole Baron Edmond de Rothschild. Both firms share the idea of making great wines in La Rioja, a unique, singular, inimitable winegrowing region. After five years of terroir evaluation and acquisition of 92 ha of vineyard, the project takes shape in 2009 with the first vintage of their two wines: Macán and Macán Clásico. To offer a modern and unique vision of Rioja is our philosophy, following the Bordeaux model of a first and second wine.

Red

Macán Clásico 2014

£39.99

100% Tempranillo.

Macán Clásico is the pure expression of Rioja Tempranillo grapes with a modern production reinforcing its elegance and a careful ageing to enhance its finesse. These wines are ready for drinking now but may potentially be stored for approximately 15-20 years if kept in optimum conditions (12-15 °C) at 60% relative humidity, and constant temperature, protected from direct light.

Optimum drinking temperature is 17 °C.

(14.5% alc vol)

Macán 2014

£59.99

Tempranillo

Macán is the winery's flagship. It is fineness, delicacy and elegance, produced by reason of a meticulous grape selection harvested from our best plots. Ferments 10-15 days in French oak barrels ages in extra fine grain oak barrels for 16 to 18 months and sits in bottle for at least three years before its release.

Macán 2014 projects an attractive expression. It's a fleshy pleasurable wine, intense and pensive.

This wine is ready to drink now holding a potential ageing window of approximately 15-20 years if kept in ideal conditions: constant temperature of 12-14 °C and 60% relative humidity.

Optimum drinking temperature is 18 °C

(14.5% alc vol)



MORE RIOJA

Red

Austral Tempranillo & Garnacha Semi Crianza 2017

£8.99

Tempranillo and Garnacha aged in American oak so expect wild strawberry notes with raspberry & vanilla. Medium to full bodied and very sumptuous. (13.5% alc vol)

Martín Códax Música en el Camino 2016

£10.99

100% Tempranillo. "El Camino" is an elegant, complex wine with decadent aromas of ripe fruit and a floral bouquet, that is integrated with nuances of cedar and toasty oak. The wine is vibrant, expressive & medium bodied with hints of vanilla from the oak aging. Flavours of cherries, currants, coconut and fresh raspberries capture the palate leading to a long, lingering finish. Aged for 8 months in one-year old oak. (14% alc vol)

Bodegas Ugalde Crianza 2015

£10.99

Ugalde Crianza is a blend of Tempranillo, Mazuelo and Garnacha grapes that rested in American oak barrels for twelve months and further six months in the bottle. The result is a bright-coloured wine of medium intensity which shows aromas of ripe fruits, blackberries, currants, very well integrated with hints of toast, cinnamon, caramel and toffee. The palate is velvety, pleasant, fruity, long and with high-quality tannins.

GOLD MEDAL (Challenge International du Vin 2019 and Berliner Wein Trophy 2019)

Finca San Martin Crianza 2016

£13.99

100% Tempranillo.

Medium depth, cherry-red with a ruby rim. The nose stands out for its strong expression of red fruit: raspberries, cranberries, red plums and mint underscored with notes of vanilla, caramel, cinnamon, liquorice and white pepper. Impressively fresh entry. Balanced, with good acidity, soft tannins and marked notes of red fruit. Good fruit expression and balsamic notes from the oak ensure a long, pleasant finish.

(14% alc vol)





DIRECT WINE SHIPMENTS

Throughout October we will have a selection of Rioja open for tasting, as well as competitions, offers, & food & wine pairing suggestions.

Visit our shop, website, Facebook, Twitter or Instagram pages to find out more.

#drinkrioja2019



For more information on Rioja visit
uk.riojawine.com

5-7 Corporation Square, Belfast BT1 3AJ
www.directwineshipments.com
info@directwine.co.uk
02890508000