



VAZA CRIANZA

2008



Spain has over 60 Denominaciones de Origen. Rioja is located along the Ebro River in northern Spain. Other notable producers from Rioja include Marques Riscal and Finca Allende.

THE REGION

Stretching 75 miles along the Ebro River in northern Spain, Rioja (RE-O-HA) is divided into three growing regions. The higher altitude regions to the north, Rioja Alta and Rioja Alavesa, have moderate weather and a fair amount of moisture, while Rioja Baja to the east experiences hot, dry weather. Most of the wines comprise a blend of the zones, and exhibit both fully ripe fruit alongside elegance and balance.

THE GRAPE

The majority of the grape varieties in the Rioja regions are red, led by Tempranillo, followed by Garnacha, Mazuelo and Graciano. A handful of wineries, known in Spain as Bodegas, have also planted Cabernet Sauvignon. The sole source of grapes for our wines is the Alavesa region, the most prestigious of Spain's Rioja regions and home of the Vaza winery – Solar Viejo. Rioja Alavesa is higher in altitude with low levels of rainfall.

THE ESTATE

Originating from the word “Baza” which in Spanish means “trump card” or “new beginning” Vaza represents a fusion of Spain's winemaking vanguard and the country's rich wine history. The wines are produced at Solar Viejo, a winery situated on the shoulder of the medieval village of Laguardia in Rioja Alavesa.

WINEMAKING

At once fruit-driven and approachable, the wines of Vaza convey a deep sense of their origin. Meticulous attention to detail in the vineyards has resulted in smaller yields and ideal flavor potential of the grapes. With a close eye on harvest, the grapes attain true physical maturity and the resultant wines have bright and complex spice and earth elements typical of Rioja. Modern winemaking techniques,

such as hand picking and hand sorting of grapes, temperature controlled fermentations and the use of small American and French oak barrels, preserve intrinsic terroir, bringing the wine's true essence to the forefront.

HARVEST

The 2008 growing season in Rioja began with heavy spring rains followed by a moderate summer. Warm weather leading up to harvest allowed the grapes a longer hang time to achieve a balance between acid, alcohol and sugar levels.

TASTING NOTES

Made entirely of Tempranillo, the 2008 Crianza is a wine that displays cherries, red currants, light touches of plum and white pepper notes derived from oak aging. The palate is elegant and soft with rounded tannins, showing opening touches of vanilla, coconut and cinnamon. As the wine opens up, the fine, strong, fruity Tempranillo aromas, typical of the modern reds from Rioja Alavesa, are present on the palate. Aged 14 months in American and French oak barrels.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Winemaker: Jose Antonio Montilla

Vintage: 2008

Origin: Rioja

Grape: 100% Tempranillo

Alcohol: 13.6%

Acidity: 5.1g/l



VAZA

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Vaza Crianza is part of the Heredad Collection of ultra-premium wines, selected to showcase the finest vineyards and leading DOs (Denominaciones de Origen) of Spain.