

EL SACRAMENTO 2017

Single Vineyard · Viñas Leizaola

PRODUCTION AREA

Own Vineyards in Laguardia. Rioja Alavesa

FINAL BLEND

Tempranillo 90% · Graciano 10%

PRODUCTION / VINIFICATION

Harvest in 12kg crates with manual selection of bunches and mechanical selection of individual grapes. Plot-by-plot vinification. Malolactic fermentation in barrels, 15 months of maturation in French oak.

A SINGULAR GRAN VINTAGE

The winter was very dry this year, with the first significant rains falling at the end of March. The rains then became recurrent throughout the season: it rained five times in May and twice in June, July, and August.

A cold spell in April combined with high humidity caused significant frost damage in the westernmost part of the designation, but Laguardia was spared. In our vineyard, flowering began on 26 May with small amounts of rain and mild temperatures and lasted one full week. It was followed by a heat wave during which vegetative growth was fast, causing some irregular grape formation. The vineyard was healthy throughout the summer; the vine stocks did not suffer from any hydrological stress but were somewhat weak, naturally limiting their load. Véraison began on 20 July.

The vineyard remained healthy throughout the harvest, which started extremely early on 13 September, with the majority of plots harvested between 18 and 22 September. We had to select out some shot berries, although they do contribute a certain freshness.

TASTING NOTE 24 NOVEMBER 2020

COLOUR

Intense dark red, with cardinal rim.

NOSE

On first impression one smells black fruit like plum and blackberry mixed with a pleasant hint of lactic notes.

Swirling the glass the fruit aromas intensify and are mixed with sandalwood, clove, coffee and tobacco box.

PALATE

On the palate the wine is complex with vivid tannins well integrated with the ripe fruit and a hint of elegant oak.

The wine is very tasty and full of juicy fruit flavours like dark cherry and blackberry mixed with mineral notes and fresh ground coffee.

The finish is elegant, long and lingering with good balance.

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