# Rioja 2019

## Rioja Alavesa, Rioja, Spain





Grape Varieties	100% Tempranillo
Winemaker	Roberto Vicente
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	14.5%
Residual Sugar	1.7g/L
Acidity	5.36g/L
Wine pH	3.55
Notes	Vegetarian, Practising Organic, Vegan

#### **PRODUCER**

Orben is an exciting estate in Rioja Alavesa from the same team behind Izadi, established with the aim of producing a single estate Rioja that rivals the best of the region. The Antón family owns 75% of the property, with the remaining 25% being split between 50 of Spain's top restaurants - all friends of the family who share a common passion for fine food and wine.

#### **VINEYARDS**

The vineyards benefit from the mitigating influence of the Atlantic Ocean giving the resulting wines fresh acidity, which is important in a very warm climate. This area has the highest percentage of old vines in Rioja. The grapes for this wine come from a selection of 79 plots of an average size of 0.30 hectares, located in Laguardia. The vineyards were planted between 1945 and 1954 and have an average yield of four tonnes per hectare. The bush vine vineyards are planted on sandy soil at an altitude of around 520 metres above sea level.

### **VINTAGE**

2019 was one of the driest years in Rioja. The spring was warm with very little rainfall, and as a result the water reserves in the soil were not well replenished. As a result, the crop was less than usual, with smaller bunches, however the grapes were very healthy, with good levels of sugar and phenolic ripeness.

#### **VINIFICATION**

Harvest began in mid-October. The grapes were hand picked into 15 kilogram boxes and manually selected on the sorting table. After fermentation in temperature controlled stainless-steel tanks, malolactic fermentation took place in oak and stainless steel. The wine was then aged for 12 months in fine grain French oak (50% new, 50% two year old).

#### **TASTING NOTES**

This wine is a deep, garnet red in colour. It is very intense on the nose, with aromas of cherry, blackberry, toffee, toasty oak and a hint of leather. It has a complex and impeccable balance, with a long and aromatic finish.