

Izadi,
Rioja Reserva 2019
Rioja Alavesa, Rioja, Spain



Grape Varieties	100% Tempranillo
Winemaker	Roberto Vicente
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	14%
Residual Sugar	1.6g/L
Acidity	5.47g/L
Wine pH	3.5
Bottle Sizes	37.5cl, 75cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Practising Organic, Vegan

PRODUCER

Izadi is based in Villabuena in Rioja Alavesa, the highest part of Rioja. The hillside winery (whose precipitous slope allows for gravity assisted production) was founded in 1987 by Gonzalo Antón as a modern breakaway from the traditional style of wine produced by other members of his family. As his son Lalo, who now runs the estate, says: "the whole concept of Izadi really started around wanting to produce wine to satisfy the needs of our friends over a meal". Izadi produces modern, international wines that are true to their roots and a natural expression of the area.

VINEYARDS

Izadi owns 178 hectares and sources fruit from selected growers from another 108 hectares of old vines with an average age of 45 years. All located within the triangle formed by three villages: Villabuena, Samaniego and Ábalos. The vines are traditionally trained bush vines, a method which Izadi believes gives better exposure of the grapes, something which in turn leads to better ripeness and softer, fuller wines. The vineyards are 450-550 metres above sea level so warm days give way to cool nights, encouraging the aromatic qualities in the grapes to develop whilst retaining fresh acidity. The vineyards are planted in clay-chalk soils.

VINTAGE

2019 is regarded as one of the top vintages in Rioja, largely due to the excellent weather conditions throughout the year. The average temperature was 11.89°C and the area experienced lower rainfall than usual, yet enough to maintain healthy vines which produced high-quality fruit.

VINIFICATION

Grapes were destemmed and gently pressed, followed by fermentation in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks at 28° C with regular pump overs to extract the right amount of colour and tannins. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation in stainless steel tanks, before being aged in a combination of French (27%) and American (73%) oak barrel, 20% of which were new, for a period of 16 months. The wine then spent more than two years ageing in bottle before release.

TASTING NOTES

This wine has a fresh and fragrant nose, with aromas of blackberry and redcurrant and notes of tobacco, liquorice and earthy undertones. The palate is pure and concentrated, with a long, fruit -forward finish.