

Grape Varieties	100% Tempranillo
Winemaker	María Barúa
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	13.5%
Acidity	5.4g/L
Wine pH	3.63
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Vegan

PRODUCER

Founded in 1972, Bodegas Lan lies in the heart of Rioja Alta and boasts one of the most spectacular single-vineyard sites in the region: Viña Lanciano. The name Lan comes from the initials of the three provinces of the Rioja Designation of Origin: Logroño, Álava and Navarra. María Barúa has been the head winemaker and technical director since 2002, and brings both scientific expertise (with an academic background in chemistry in addition to her oenology degree) and local knowledge (having been born and raised in Rioja). Together with her young and energetic team, María focuses on using the latest advances in winemaking to 'express the virtues of the land'.

VINEYARDS

The Tempranillo grapes for the 2021 D-12 were sourced from three specially selected vineyards: El Cementerio in Viñaspre, Los Valles in El Cortijo, and La Fonsagrada in San Vicente de la Sonsierra. The vines are a mixture of 30, 43, and 34 years old and each bring their own unique personality to the wine.

VINTAGE

The 2021 vintage in Rioja has been classed as a very good one. The winter brought well-timed rain, the spring was warm, and a dry summer created that much-needed drought pressure. There was some light rain in September which helped enhance and intensify the aromas and flavours.

VINIFICATION

The 'D-12' Crianza is a nod to the Rioja tradition of winemakers choosing the best wines to keep for themselves. In Bodegas Lan's case, this was always the wine in the 'D-12' tank. Each harvest, the most promising Tempranillo parcel, is singled out and destined for 'D-12'. Micro-oxygenation and lees stirring take place to give volume and stabilise the aromatic compounds of the Tempranillo, balance the tanning and display a silky mouthfeel. The wine was aged for 12 months in new American oak barrels (70%) and in new French oak barrels (30%). The final blend was then assembled and the wine was aged for a further 10 months in bottle before release.

TASTING NOTES

Intense cherry red in colour. On the nose, aromas of ripe red liqueur-like fruit and dairy dominate over a background of toffee, vanilla, cinnamon, and cocoa. On the palate, velvety tannins envelop toasty notes with a sweeter liquorice finish.