

Viña Ijalba 2022 Graciano

WineWise Code	SIJ-GRA22
Country	Spain
Region	Rioja
Color/Style	Red
Destemming	Complete
Fermentation Vessel	Vat Upright
Additional Fermentation Notes	Punchdowns and pumpovers Fermentation duration- 15 days
Aging Vessel	New Barrique 50%, Used Barrique 50%
Aging Duration (months)	10 months
Filtered?	No
Fining Agents	None
Yeast Protocol	Native
Malolactic Conversion	Yes
Additional Maturation Details:	Lees contact- 10 months
Added Sulfur	Yes, 48 mg/L
Varieties	100% Graciano
Residual Sugar	1.2
ABV	14.05
Acidity	5
pH	3.63
Closure	Natural Cork
Annual Production	2000
Certified Vegan	Yes
Primary Vineyard Name	Matamala
Soil Types	Alluvial
Elevation (meters)	400
Vine Age	33
Yields (hl/ha)	35
Farming Practices	Certified Organic
Harvest Method	Hand-harvested
Additional Harvest Notes	First winery to produce a single varietal Graciano wine. Largest Graciano vineyard in the world.
Other Vineyard Details	South

WineWise Notes:

Ijalba's mission statement is to resurrect the traditional grapes of Rioja, and this wine from their 20 hectares of Graciano (the largest holding in the world) has been the flagship since they premiered the varietal bottling in 1995. Growers moved away from Graciano because of its inconveniently low yields, but the high acidity and intoxicating perfume of the grape are a huge part of what makes Rioja blends distinctive, and are more valuable than ever in these warmer times. One cannot help but notice how many imitators this forerunner now has.

WineWise Notes on Producer:

At first glance this rather modern producer might seem to have little in common with its illustrious neighbor (Lopez de Heredia), but in fact María José was pleased to hear we would be representing the property. Ijalba has set the standard for environmental awareness in the region, from its organic production to its extensive re-cycling and environmental certification for the winery. The vineyards were all planted in disused quarries, which perhaps explains the remarkable minerality they are endowed with, especially the bigger reds with bottle age. The estate's other distinction is the championing of the less-known varieties of Rioja such as the two Maturanas and Graciano. They have now unveiled some attractive new packaging to go with their never-ending efforts at improvement, spearheaded by long-time talented cellar master, Pepe, who absolutely excelled with his red wines in 2016.

