

Viña Ijalba 2021 "Cuvee" (Rioja) ORGANIC

WineWise Code	SIJ-CUV21
Country	Spain
Region	Rioja
Color/Style	Red
Destemming	Complete
Fermentation Vessel	Barrel
Additional Fermentation Notes	Fermentation in vats of French oak with indigenous yeasts for 16 days Punchdown every day, and two delestages.
Aging Vessel	New Barrique 100%
Aging Duration (months)	10 months
Filtered?	Yes
Yeast Protocol	Native
Malolactic Conversion	Yes
Additional Maturation Details:	Yes
Added Sulfur	Yes, 30 mg/L
Varieties	70% Tempranillo, 20% Graciano, 10% Maturana Tinta
Residual Sugar	0.3
ABV	14.45
Acidity	6.1
pH	3.8
Closure	Natural Cork
Annual Production	14000 bottles
Certified Vegan	Yes
Primary Vineyard Name	Liende, Bosque, La Plana
Soil Types	Alluvial, Sedimentary, Gravel
Elevation (meters)	530
Vine Age	40
Yields (hl/ha)	39
Farming Practices	Certified Organic
Harvest Method	Hand-harvested
Additional Harvest Notes	bushvines, 3500 vines per HA
Other Vineyard Details	North

WineWise Notes:

Thinking outside the box, Pepe has crafted this compelling blend with a heavy seasoning of Ijalba's "outsider" varieties. Aged for ten months in first and second-year American barrels, it realizes a Platonic ideal of classic Rioja oak-aged style, a beguilingly plush texture and an absolutely startling mineral charge.

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.

Notes from the Producer:

Balanced wine with our main three red grapes trying to find the right % so that none of them shows off among the three. It is categorized as a young with for the DOCa since we don't want it to be compared against Crianzas or Reservas, so it only gets 10 months in barrels.

