



Name of Wine: Viña Valoria Crianza Blanco

Producer: Bodegas Viña Valoria

Region: Rioja Alta, Spain

Vintage: 2004

Grape Varieties: 100% Viura (aka as Macabeo in Catalonia and used for blending to make CAVA, the main white grape of Rioja and Navarra, sometimes criticized for being on the neutral side, in the hands of a skilled winemaker it is capable of yielding wines with good aromatics and a herby, spicy nose)

Cases Produced: 500

Grape Source:

Vineyards: 25-hectare estate owned vineyards are located in Rioja Alta near the town of Logroño.

Vinification:

Harvest: Hand harvested

Maceration/Fermentation: Fermented in temperature controlled stainless steel tanks then transferred to neutral oak barrels. White Crianza's must age a minimum of 12 months before release with at least 6 months in cask though Valoria definitely goes above and beyond considering that 2004 is their latest white Crianza release.

Other:

Alcohol Volume: 12.5% **Ratings:** 100 Points Vinos Unico Staff

Tasting Notes:

Nose of marzipan, lemon zest, slight honey, nuts, and golden apple. The nose is slightly oxidized which is the style. Dry, medium bodied, lively acidity and very flavorful on the palate with ripe apples, pears, honeysuckle, and beautiful minerality. A long lingering finish with a touch of honey. This is definitely a food friendly wine that is well balanced and typical of the regions whites. The oak is well placed and integrated adding to the subtleness. I like that this white does not go through the malolactic fermentation process which I think sometimes mask the minerality of these wines. Though not a style in high demand I do find these oak age whites harder to come by in Spain, especially of this quality. This is classic Rioja Blanco which should be celebrated!

History:

Viña Valoria is a boutique winery and has been in existence since 1860. Located in the Rioja Alta region, the bodega is located in the rich winemaking historical town of Logroño. Owned by the Perez Foncea family, Viña Valoria's commitment to quality is evident in their exceptional wines.

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