



Name of Wine: Viña Albina Blanco Semidulce

Producer: Bodegas Riojanas

Region: Rioja, Spain

Vintage: 2009

Grape Varieties: 90% Viura aka 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 skilled winemaker it is capable of yielding wines with good

aromatics and a herby, spicy nose and 10% Malvasía de Rioja. One of the oldest varietals in the Mediterranean originating from Greece, it produces very aromatic whites with a very unique taste that is somewhat musky and bitter.

Grape Source:

Vineyards: Bodegas Riojanas has around 200 hectares of sustainably dry-farmed estate owned vineyards planted in the towns of Cenicero, San Vicente, Ábalos, Uruñuela, Villalba de Rioja, Haro, San Asensio and towns from Rioja Alavesa.

Vinification:

Harvest: By hand with a small proportion being late harvested.

Maceration/Fermentation: Fermentation done in stainless steel tanks without oak aging.

Other:

Alcohol Volume: 12.5%

Tasting Notes:

Blanco semidulce or off-dry white is a style of Rioja rarely seen outside of Spain. Made in a beautifully lush, generous, lightly sweet yet balanced style, think of this lovely wine as you would a demi-sec vouvray. With its honeyed citrus fruit notes, balanced by fresh acidity, the wine is ideal with flakey white fish or with a mixed cheese course.

History:

Bodegas Riojanas, S.A. was founded in 1890 by several of Cenicero's old families who possessed a long-standing wine-making tradition and a large number of vineyards in the township. The proprietors have been winegrowers, producers and exporters from the beginning and some of the best vineyards in Rioja Alta and Alavesa. Although their most prized grape is the Tempranillo, a high quality red varietal which is the undisputed king of Spanish wine production. Mazuelo and Graciano is used to blend with the Tempranillo to create classically styled reds and Viura and Malvasía are used for the white wine production. Since its foundation, the elegant bodega located on the main street in Cenicero has undergone eight extensions to keep up with production and modernization over the years.

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