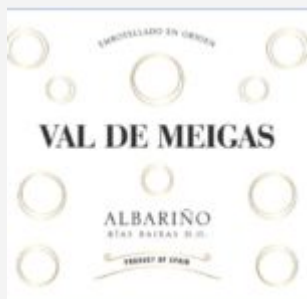


Val de Meigas Albariño Rías Baixas Spain 2022

Selected by: MTW Tasting Panel



Final Deductions

VINTAGE 2022

GRAPE Albariño/Alvarinho

GEOGRAPHY Europe

COUNTRY Spain

LARGER REGION Galicia

SMALLER REGION Rías Baixas

Rationale

Albariño's rise to wine stardom is well noted and helped bring gravitas to Spanish white wine. Once thought to emanate from Germany as a relative of Riesling ('alba' = 'place,' and 'riño' = 'Rhein'), we now know that this variety is indigenous to the Galicia region of northwestern Spain, a DO established in 1988.

Albariño is the white flagship of the coastal region (Rías Baixas). It shares the same mineral-rich soils and cool climate as other distinguished white wine-producing regions, including France's Loire Valley, New Zealand, and Germany's Rhein. While Spain's northwest is most synonymous with Albariño, the grape thrives in neighboring Portugal (as 'Alvarinho') and even in California, Chile, Uruguay, and beyond. Indeed, as of 2020, it can be legally planted in Bordeaux!

Albariño is prized for its freshness and is rarely aged in wood, although a few producers make rich oak-aged styles. In Spain, signature aromas and flavors are stone fruit (nectarine, peach, and in riper vintages, apricot) framed with occasional tropicality (melon, kiwi, mango) and the presence of saline minerality – often depending on how close to the coast the fruit is grown.

Val de Meigas is a passion project of Rebeca Barral, whose family has been making wines for generations. Rebeca has been making wine since the early 1980s in the family in the town of Ribadumia in the heart of the Salnés valley. The Salnés is the oldest and most coastal of the Rías Baixas appellation's recognized subzones and is generally believed to be the genetic birthplace of the Albariño variety.

Sight

BRIGHTNESS Star Bright

CLARITY Clear

COLOR DEPTH Medium

COLOR Straw

HIGHLIGHTS Green

BUBBLES No

Structure

RESIDUAL SUGAR Dry

ACID Med+

ALCOHOL Medium

PHENOLS Low

TEXTURE Lean / Tart

FINISH Med+

COMPLEXITY Med+

Aroma & Taste

CITRUS FRUIT Lemon • Lime • Grapefruit (Pink) • Grapefruit (W/Y) *Condition: Fresh*
Part: Peel / Zest, Flesh

TREE/VINE FRUIT Pear (Green) • Quince • Pear (Asian) *Condition: Fresh*

STONE FRUIT Peach (Yellow) • Nectarine (White) • Nectarine (Yellow) • Peach (White)
Condition: Fresh, Under Ripe / Tart

TROPICAL FRUIT Starfruit • Pineapple • Melon (Green) • Melon (Orange)
Condition: Ripe, Fresh, Under Ripe / Tart

FLORAL Apple Blossom • Elderflower • Lemon / Lime Blossom *Condition: Fresh*

GREEN VEGETABLE Olive (Green) • Salad Greens • Cucumbers

OTHER VEGETABLE Mushrooms (White) • Radishes • Ginger / Root

HERBAL Chive • Lemon Grass • Chamomile • Verbena

OTHER SPICES Sesame / Candy • Ginger Powder

INORGANIC EARTH Salinity / Seashell • Mineral / Rock

OAK AGING No

OXIDATION/NUTTINESS Peanut / Shell

PERCEIVED WINEMAKING CHOICES Skin Contact • Lees Contact