

Bodegas Vatan 'NISIA' Old Vines Verdejo Rueda DO Castilla y León Spain 2023

Selected by: MTW Tasting Panel



Final Deductions

VINTAGE 2023

GRAPE Verdejo

GEOGRAPHY Europe

COUNTRY Spain

LARGER REGION Castilla Y León

SMALLER REGION Rueda

Rationale

Quietly, Verdejo makes up a huge 40% of all white wine sold in Spain, and yet the most important producing region, Rueda, sends less than 15% of its wines to overseas markets. So, what do the Spanish see in this variety that others are missing? Verdejo is an outstanding alternative to wines like Sauvignon Blanc and Pinot Grigio, with surprising changes in flavors coming with age.

While grown throughout Spain, it is in the expansive region of Castilla y León where the Verdejo grape reigns. High on the windy and sparsely populated plains of the Meseta Central, north of Madrid, the variety fully develops its showy lime and tropical aromas. Held in high regard, displaying herbaceous, nutty characters with balanced acidity and having some cellaring potential, Verdejo's prominence in Rueda is being challenged by Sauvignon Blanc. Furthermore, Chardonnay and Viognier were added to DO regulations in 2020.

Situated in the from the town of Santiuste de San Juan Bautista, located in the province of Segovia, from the town of Santiuste de San Juan Bautista, Bodegas Vatan works with exclusively ungrafted vineyards of Verdejo planted in the southeastern subzone of D.O. Rueda, the only part of the appellation that completely resisted phylloxera due to the sandy quality of the soils. The philosophy of the winery is to produce authentic Verdejo the old-fashioned way, by working with traditional vineyards and using old school winemaking techniques.

Sight

BRIGHTNESS Day Bright

CLARITY Clear

COLOR DEPTH Medium

COLOR Yellow

HIGHLIGHTS Green

BUBBLES No

Structure

RESIDUAL SUGAR Dry

ACID Med+

ALCOHOL Med+

PHENOLS Medium

TEXTURE Round / Smooth

FINISH Med+

COMPLEXITY Medium

Aroma & Taste

CITRUS FRUIT Meyer Lemon • Yuzu • Lemon *Condition: Under Ripe / Tart, Fresh, Ripe* *Part: Flesh*

TREE/VINE FRUIT Pear (Yellow/Brown) • Apple (Green) • Apple (Yellow) • Pear (Green)
Condition: Under Ripe / Tart, Ripe

STONE FRUIT Nectarine (White) *Condition: Fresh, Ripe, Under Ripe / Tart*

FLORAL Lily • Lemon / Lime Blossom *Condition: Fresh*

GREEN VEGETABLE Grass / Alfalfa

HERBAL Chervil • Verbena • Lemon Grass

INORGANIC EARTH Mineral / Rock • Chalk / Limestone

OAK AGING Yes *Oak Intensity: Low*

OAK INFLUENCE Neutral / Large Oak

PERCEIVED WINEMAKING CHOICES Lees Contact