

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 Lemon • Yuzu • Meyer Lemon *Condition: Under Ripe / Tart, Fresh, Ripe Part: Flesh*
TREE/VINE FRUIT Pear (Yellow/Brown) • Apple (Green) • Apple (Yellow) • Pear (Green)
Condition: Ripe, Under Ripe / Tart
STONE FRUIT Nectarine (White) *Condition: Ripe, Fresh, 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