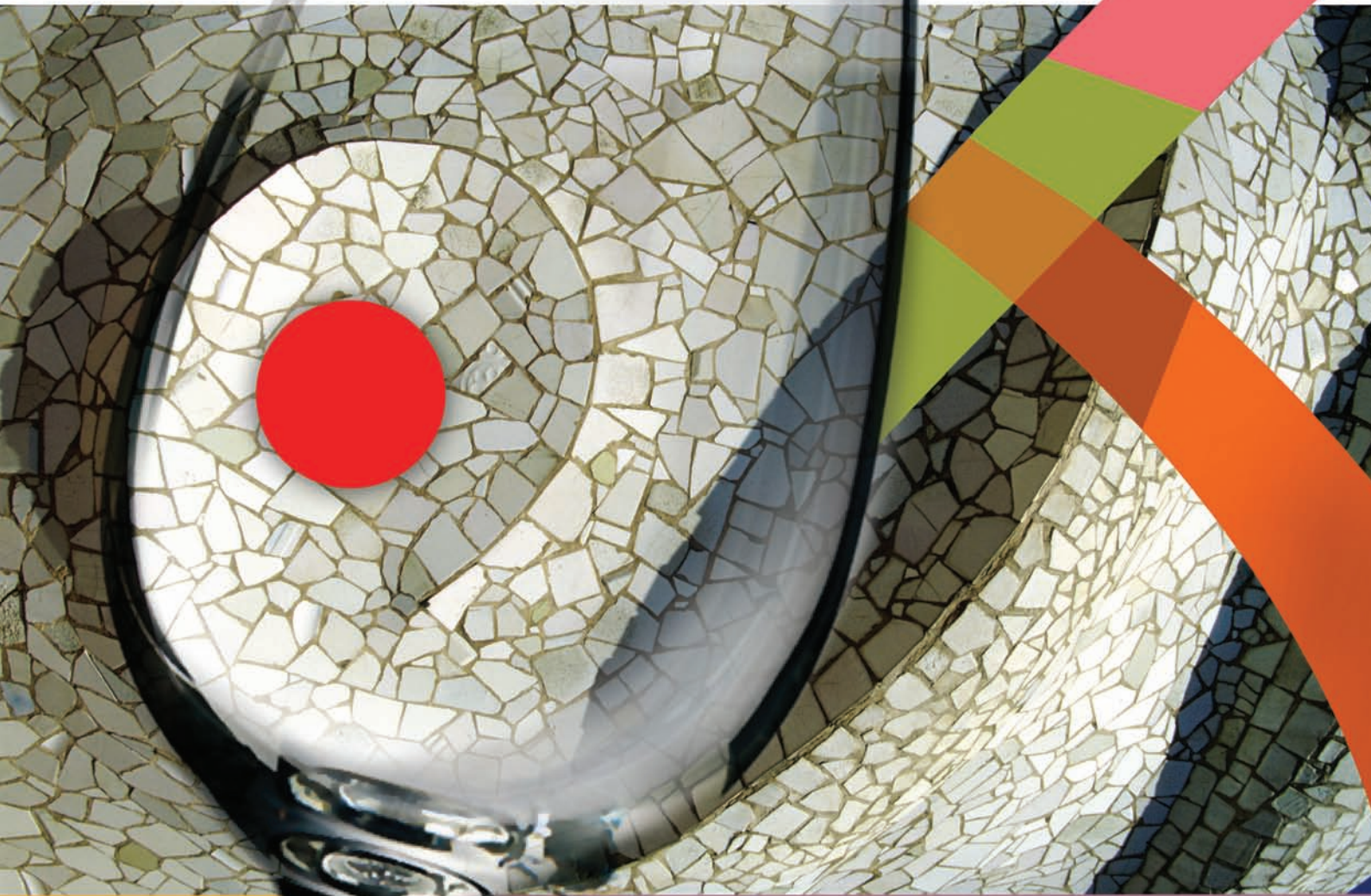


WINES FROM SPAIN AWARDS 2012



FEATURES

THE WINNING WINES

We bring you Spain's 'hottest' wines in the UK at the moment. Over 900 wines tasted 'blind' by our top team of professionals and whittled down to 110 with the 'wow' factor!

JUDGES POSTCARDS

So where do those 'in the know' go in Spain? Discover the gems inside!





Spain. As many wineries as landscapes.

In Spain there are almost as many wineries as there are landscapes. The diversity of viticulture in the country is reflected in more than 90 grape varieties from 69 denominations of origin. Our wines mirror our country's infinite beauty. Soil and climatic conditions ensure variety, personality and richness of style to please all discerning palates.



MARIA JOSE SEVILLA

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the first edition of the Wines from Spain Awards Guide. Within these pages you will discover some of the most exciting Spanish wines currently available in the UK.

These wines have been judged in a gruelling blind tasting of over 900 wines by a panel of judges consisting of some of the UK's leading wine tasters. Highly respected in their field and very well acquainted with Spanish wine, these judges set the bar very high, with awards only going to a fraction of the wines tasted.

We at Wines from Spain* are very excited by these awards. Wine is an integral part of Spanish culture and each wine is a reflection of its region, of the landscape, climate and cuisine. We believe that wine lovers need look no further than Spain for diverse, quality, unique and delicious wines - this guide will fast track you to the very best in the UK.

Take a look at the 'Postcards from the Judges' section for an insight into which area of Spain each judge is passionate about.

Happy browsing!

María José Sevilla
Director, Foods & Wines from Spain

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SCAN TO VIEW THE
CATALOGUE ONLINE

CREDITS

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*Wines from Spain is a generic promotional body and is the UK arm of ICEX Spain Trade and Investment. Our aim is to increase awareness of Spanish wines and promote a better understanding and appreciation of Spain's wonderfully diverse offer here in the UK.





CHAIR OF JUDGES

TIM ATKIN MW

A UK WINE JOURNALIST WITH
AN INTERNATIONAL FOLLOWING

After seven years as The New Wave Spanish Wine Awards, we changed our name, Prince-like, to the Wines from Spain Awards in 2012. The moniker may be different, but the professionalism, focus and enthusiasm that have defined the competition from the start are undiminished.

We had as many entries as ever (903, for the statistically minded), drawn from all over Spain. I won't list all of the DOPs and IGPs, but there were 60 of them in total. Alphabetically, they ranged from Alella to Yecla, geographically from Empordà to Jerez. This is a competition that truly reflects the breadth, diversity and complexity of the Spanish wine industry.

It's a tribute to the quality of the entries that I am never short of potential judges. Of the 17 people who selflessly sniffed, tasted and spat their way through all those bottles, only three (Joan Torrents, Noel Young and Joe Wadsack) were there for the first time. The others were long-term supporters of the awards, a talented blend of sommeliers, buyers, journalists, consultants and wine merchants. I judge a lot of wine competitions and this is one of the best panels I've ever worked with.

Our entries were dominated by red wines, which represented just over 60% of the total, equivalent to 550 wines. But that still left plenty of room for whites (204), sparkling wines (65), rosados (39), fortifieds (37) and sweet wines (5). Rioja was the biggest submitter of samples (225), which reflects the region's enduring popularity in the UK, way ahead of second placed Cava (64).

The categories that over-performed were the whites (33 out of 110 winners), rosados (9) and fortifieds (13), which is encouraging. Spanish whites are getting better with every vintage, pink wines are a growing category and Sherry is a traditional drink that is newly fashionable, thanks to some great bars and restaurants. With 13 wines in the winners' enclosure, Sherry was the second most successful region after Rioja (18), ahead of Ribera (9) and Cava (7).

There are wines to suit every occasion and pocket here, but the majority of the winners are eminently affordable. Two-thirds of them sell for less than £14.99, which is amazing for wines of this quality. Spain truly continues to offer some of the best value for money in the world.

There are some familiar names among the winners (Torres, Chivite, Berberana, CVNE, Lustau and González Byass, to cite only a few) but far more that will be unfamiliar to many wine drinkers. One of the strengths of these awards is that, as the wines are tasted blind, no judge is influenced by the sight of a famous label.

I'm proud of the wines we've chosen and our hope is that these 110 wines will help to highlight what is best about Spain.



@Timatkin
www.timatkin.com

“

THERE ARE
WINES TO SUIT
EVERY OCCASION
AND POCKET

”



UNDERSTANDING A SPANISH WINE LABEL

ARMED WITH A FEW KEY WORDS, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GLEAN MORE INFORMATION TO HELP YOU FIND THAT PERFECT BOTTLE OF SPANISH WINE

AGE

Most Spanish red wines willingly tell you their age, they're not shy! Here are the main terms so you can decide on which style you prefer:

Joven - this means 'young' in Spanish, so this wine is just a baby with no ageing at all. It will tend to be a light, fruity style best drunk young. Sometimes the term 'Sin Crianza' is also used – this means without maturation.

Crianza – definitely a teenager without the sulks! This wine has a little bit of ageing in small oak barrels to give it just that little extra 'oomph'. It should be aged at least 6 months in small oak barrels and a combined total of 24 months including the bottle ageing.

Reserva – has to be a 30 something! More age than the Crianza so a greater depth of flavour and complexity. At least 12 months in small oak barrels and a total of 36 months including the bottle ageing.

Gran Reserva – top of the range and aged the longest this is the wise old man, smooth, mellow and content. This wine must be aged for at least 18 months in oak and a combined total of 60 months including bottle ageing.

COLOUR

As you know wine comes in a choice of three colours – white (blanco), red (tinto) and pink (rosado).

REGION

Where the wine originates from will be on the label. If you get to know your main Spanish regions (visit www.winesfromspainuk.com) you can decide whether you're faced with a sultry southern stunner or a cool, elegant North coast head-turner. Browse through the wine section where you will find snippets on the type of wine you can expect to find from key regions across Spain.

QUALITY CATEGORY

There will always be an indication of exactly how classy your wine is. Is it just a simple 'Vino de Mesa' (table wine) a rustic Vino de la Tierra (a country wine with few pretensions) or maybe a D.O. (Denominacion de Origen) wine ('suited and booted' and adhering to the strict quality criteria laid down by the wine region it comes from) or the ultimate status symbol a D.O. Pago which means this wine comes from its own Estate with a capital E and doesn't rough it with the other categories!

GRAPE VARIETY

So many grapes so little time! Spain has a veritable treasure trove of native grape varieties. These lend a wine its individuality. Look out for Tempranillo, Garnacha, (red) Albariño, Verdejo (white) amongst others.

A comprehensive list of the most popular varieties can be found at www.winesfromspainuk.com. Some wines may use 'international' varieties such as Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Pinot Noir.



SPARKLING



1

**Segura Viudas
Vintage Reserva 2008**
12%

Region: D.O. Cava
Price: £11.99
Grapes: Macabeo,
Parellada
Stockists: Not yet available
at retail

2

**Castillo Perelada
Reserva NV**
11.5%

Region: D.O. Cava
Price: £8.00-£10.00
Grapes: Macabeo,
Parellada, Xarel.lo
Stockists: Amps Fine Wines,
The Oxford Wine Company

3

**Marqués de Monistrol
Rosado 2009**
11.5%

Region: D.O. Cava
Price: £12.00
Grapes: Monastrell, Pinot
Noir
Stockists: Tesco.com

4

**Pere Ventura
Tresor Reserva NV**
11.5%

Region: D.O. Cava
Price: £17.00
Grapes: Xarel.lo, Macabeo,
Parellada
Stockists: Not yet available
at retail

5

Best Cava

**Castillo Perelada
Gran Claustro 2008**
12%

Region: D.O. Cava
Price: £19.99
Grapes: Pinot Noir,
Chardonnay, Parellada
Stockists: Field & Fawcett,
The Oxford Wine Company,
Whitebridge Wines

REGION FOCUS - D.O. CAVA

The Spanish word cava means cellar and it was adopted in the early days of the EU to differentiate Spain's sparkling wines from Champagne. Most cava is made in the Penedés region of Catalonia and production centres on the town of Sant Sadurn d'Anoia near Barcelona. This explains the presence of elegant cafés and bars in and around the city where you can enjoy a glass of Spain's bubbly.



The Experts Say

"Ripe aromas of toasted hazelnut and melon. Attractive developed complexity with a broad creamy palate and rich finish."

WHITE



6

Llopart
Reserva Brut
Nature 2009
11.5%

Region: D.O. Cava
Price: £27.95
Grapes: Xarel.lo, Macabeo, Parellada, Chardonnay
Stockists: Not yet available at retail

7

Gramona
Gran Reserva Celler
Batlle 2002
12%

Region: D.O. Cava
Price: £50.00
Grapes: Xarel.lo, Macabeo
Stockists: Berry Brothers & Rudd

8

Best Value Sweet

Bodegas Murviedro
Estrella de Murviedro
Frizzante NV
7.5%

Region: D.O. Valencia
Price: £4.99
Grapes: Moscatel
Stockists: Not yet available at retail

The Experts Say

"Pale golden yellow in colour with an intense aroma reminiscent of orange peel and lychees. A gentle, sweet refreshing palate."

9

Bodegas San Valero
Finca Valero 2011
12.5%

Region: D.O. Cariñena
Price: £6.00
Grapes: Macabeo
Stockists: bibendumfinewine.com

10

Miguel Torres
Viña Esmeralda 2011
11.5%

Region: D.O. Cataluña
Price: £8.49-£9.00
Grapes: Muscat, Gewürztraminer
Stockists: George Hill, Majestic Wine, Noel Young Wines, Waitrose

Want to know more? 

Follow us on www.twitter.com/WinesfromSpainUK for up to date news and views on Spanish wine.

Visit us at www.winesfromspainuk.com to learn more about our 65+ different wine regions, where to buy Spanish wine and other useful information for wine lovers...

WHITE



11 12 13 14 15

Best White Under £10

Raimat
Castell de Raimat 2011
13%

Region: D.O. Costers del Segre
Price: £10.00
Grapes: Xarel.lo, Chardonnay
Stockists: Noel Young Wines

The Experts Say

"A superb, fragrant, limey and fresh banana driven white, delightfully juicy and moreish. Perfect re-vitalising aperitif."

Bodega Pazos del Rey
M&S Godello 2011
13%

Region: D.O. Monterrei
Price: £9.99
Grapes: Godello
Stockists: M&S

Parxet
Marqués de Alella 2011
12.5%

Region: D.O. Alella
Price: £8.00-£12.00
Grapes: Pansa Blanca
Stockists: Harrogate Fine Wines, The Wine Society

Bodegas La Val
Viña Ludy 2011
12.5%

Region: D.O. Rías Baixas
Price: £9.99
Grapes: Albariño
Stockists: Morrisons

Bodegas Terras Gauda
Abadía de San Campio 2011
12.5%

Region: D.O. Rías Baixas
Price: £13.50-£16.00
Grapes: Albariño
Stockists: Ellis Wharton Wines, George Hill, The Smiling Grape



REGION FOCUS - D.O. ALELLA

Since it gained DO status over 50 years ago Alella has been up against a fierce competitor: urbanization. The thriving city of Barcelona has invaded its space but this bijoux region is well worth exploring for both character and quality of its wines especially if you are looking for variety in your Spanish white wine repertoire.



**Bodegas La Val
Finca de Arantei 2011**
12.5%

Region: D.O. Rías Baixas
Price: £11.00-£12.00
Grapes: Albariño
Stockists: All About Wine,
Butlers Wine Cellar

**Valdamor
Namorio 2011**
12.5%

Region: D.O. Rías Baixas
Price: £12.99
Grapes: Albariño
Stockists: Corking Wines,
Forth Wines

**Fillaboa
Albariño 2011**
13%

Region: D.O. Rías Baixas
Price: £14.99
Grapes: Albariño
Stockists: Amps Fine Wines,
The General Wine Company,
The Ox House

The Experts Say

"This is an excellent Albariño with a great dose of minerality on the nose along with pear, lime, spice, nettles, straw and herbs. The palate follows suit with a surprising length for this style of wine. Beautiful."

**Palacio de Fefiñanes
Albariño de Fefiñanes
2011**
12.5%

Region: D.O. Rías Baixas
Price: £15.00-£18.00
Grapes: Albariño
Stockists: Alexander Wines,
Butlers Wine Cellar,
Handford Wines, The Wine
Society

**Maior de Mendoza
3 Crianzas 2010**
13%

Region: D.O. Rías Baixas
Price: £24.90
Grapes: Albariño
Stockists: Moreno Wines

REGION FOCUS - D.O. RIAS BAIXAS

The Atlantic Ocean, pine forests lining hills that overlook fjord-like inlets, vines trained on pergolas and light, fresh, aromatic wines to complement the finest array of seafood. Welcome to Galicia, green Spain and the home of one of the country's most sought-after quality wine: Albariño from the D.O. of coastal Rías Baixas.



WHITE



21

22

23

24

25

**Pazo de Señorans
Selección de Añada
2005**
13%

Region: D.O. Rías Baixas
Price: £30.00
Grapes: Albariño
Stockists: Georges Barbier
of London, The Wine Society

**Coto de Gomariz
Gomariz X 2011**
13.5%

Region: D.O. Ribeiro
Price: £14.00
Grapes: Albariño
Stockists: The Wine Tasting
Shop

**Diez Siglos de Verdejo
El Tesoro 2011**
13.5%

Region: VdlIT Castilla y León
Price: £6.25
Grapes: Verdejo
Stockists: Woodwinters
Wines & Whiskies

**Finca Constanza
Parcela 52 2011**
13%

Region: VdlIT Castilla y León
Price: £9.69
Grapes: Verdejo
Stockists: Hanslope Wines

**Avelino Vegas
Vega de Castilla 2011**
13%

Region: D.O. Rueda
Price: £6.99
Grapes: Verdejo
Stockists: Morrisons

REGION FOCUS - D.O. RUEDA

Rueda, which is located in the heart of Castilla y León to the north west of Madrid, emerged as a welcome addition to Spain's quality white wines when D.O. status was granted in 1980. The region's producers had demonstrated that the cooler climate here coupled with modern winemaking technology which avoided oxidation could result in fresh, fruity white wines based on Verdejo, Sauvignon Blanc and Viura grapes.





26

**Cillar de Silos
El Quintanal 2011**
13%

Region: D.O. Rueda
Price: £9.95
Grapes: Verdejo
Stockists: Berry Brothers & Rudd

27

Best Premium White £20 +

**Bodegas Terna
V3 Viñas Viejas 2010**
13%

Region: D.O. Rueda
Price: £24.50-£26.50
Grapes: Verdejo
Stockists: Dunnottar Wines & Spirits, The Wineman of Teddington

The Experts Say

"A bright and lively pale gold colour. Rich peach, apricot and citrus aromas with intense honeyed yet crisp, refreshing palate with an undercurrent of light spice."

28

**La Bóscula
Catalan Eagle 2011**
13.5%

Region: D.O. Terra Alta
Price: £11.00
Grapes: Garnacha Blanca, Viognier, Roussane
Stockists: George Hill, Highbury Vintners

29

**Bodegas Edetària
Vinya d'Irto 2011**
12.8%

Region: D.O. Terra Alta
Price: £11.50
Grapes: Garnacha Blanca
Stockists: Spirited Wines

30

**Bodegas Valdesil
Montenovo 2011**
13%

Region: D.O. Valdeorras
Price: £7.50-£9.99
Grapes: Godello
Stockists: Majestic Wine, The Wine Society

SPOTLIGHT ON THE GODELLO GRAPE

Godello is found in the region of Valdeorras (Galicia) for the main part and neighbouring Bierzo. It is capable of producing quite rich but fresh powerful wines with charming honey and citric flavours. Godello is now ranked as a high quality grape and its star is firmly in the ascendancy.

WHITE

ROSADO



31

**Adega a Coroa
A Coroa 2011**
13.5%

Region: D.O. Valdeorras
Price: £13.20
Grapes: Godello
Stockists: slurp.co.uk



32

**Miguel Torres
Fransola 2010**
13%

Region: D.O. Penedès
Price: £17.00-£18.50
Grapes: Sauvignon Blanc,
Parellada
Stockists: Ann et Vin,
George Hill, Mitchells
Vintners, Yorkshire Vintners



33

**Bodegas Chivite
Finca de Villatuerta
2010**
13%

Region: D.O. Navarra
Price: £13.00
Grapes: Chardonnay
Stockists: Not yet available
at retail



34

**Miguel Torres
Milmanda 2008**
13.5%

Region: D.O. Conca de
Barberà
Price: £28.49
Grapes: Chardonnay
Stockists: Hailsham Cellars,
Old Chapel Cellars



35

**Bodegas Borsao
Gran Vega 2011**
13.5%

Region: D.O. Campo de
Borja
Price: £4.99
Grapes: Garnacha
Stockists: Virgin Wines



FACT WHITE WINE

Traditionally outshone by their red counterparts Spanish white wines are coming into their own and are gradually notching up more recognition. 30% of the 2012 winners are white, which is higher than the overall percentage of whites entered into the competition.



36	37	38	39	40
Best Value Rosado Solar Viejo Rosado 2011 13% Region: D.O. Ca. Rioja Price: £5.99 Grapes: Tempranillo, Graciano Stockists: Not yet available at retail	Bodegas Coviñas Marqués de Verdellano 2011 12.5% Region: D.O. Utiel Requena Price: £6.20 Grapes: Bobal Stockists: A&A Wines	Vicente Gandía Marqués del Turia 2011 12% Region: D.O. Valencia Price: £6.60 Grapes: Bobal Stockists: Bowland Forest Vintners	Bodegas Gordonzello Peregrino 2011 13.5% Region: D.O. Tierra de León Price: £7.25 Grapes: Prieto Picudo Stockists: Bush Vines	Bodegas Lezcano-Lacalle Docetañidos 2011 13% Region: D.O. Cigales Price: £9.95 Grapes: Tempranillo, Sauvignon Blanc, Albillo, Verdejo Stockists: Great Western Wine

The Experts Say
 "Brilliant value. An enjoyable redcurrant and red cherry flavoured Rosado with an easy-drinking fruity finish."

Did you know...?

That to make 'pink' wine the skins of black grapes are left to 'macerate' in the grape juice for 2-3 days just long enough to extract the right amount of colour. The longer the 'maceration' the deeper the colour.

ROSADO



41

42

Celler Masroig
Les Sorts Rosat 2011
13.5%

Region: D.O. Montsant
Price: £9.95
Grapes: Garnacha,
Cariñena
Stockists: Indigo Wine

Macià Batle
Macià Batle Rosado
2011
13.5%

Region: D.O. Binissalem -
Mallorca
Price: £10.99
Grapes: Manto Negro,
Callet
Stockists: All About Wine

RED



43

44

45

Artiga Fustel
Mariona 2011
13.5%

Region: D.O. Alicante
Price: £8.00-£9.00
Grapes: Alicante Bouschet
Stockists: Blanco & Gomez
Wine Merchants, Great
Western Wine

Pazo das Tapias
Alma de Tinto 2011
13.5%

Region: D.O. Monterrei
Price: £10.25
Grapes: Mencía
Stockists: winedirect.co.uk

Descendientes de J. Palacios
Pétalos 2010
14%

Region: D.O. Bierzo
Price: £16.00-£17.00
Grapes: Mencía
Stockists: Highbury Vintners,
Majestic Wine



FACT MAJORCA

Majorca's Mediterranean climate and particularly its long, hot and dry summers make it ideal for vine growing just as the same conditions make the island a popular destination for holidays. Indeed much of the island's wine production is enjoyed by visitors to the island. Some of their lovely wines are making it off the island however!



46

**Bodegas Abanico
Manium 2008**
14.5%

Region: D.O. Bierzo
Price: £14.25
Grapes: Mencía
Stockists: Bijou Bottles

47

**Bodegas Borsao
Gran Vega 2011**
13.5%

Region: D.O. Campo de Borja
Price: £4.99
Grapes: Garnacha
Stockists: Virgin Wines

48

**Bodegas Borsao
Viña Borgia 2011**
13.5%

Region: D.O. Campo de Borja
Price: £7.20
Grapes: Garnacha
Stockists: John Hattersley Wines

49

**Bodegas Borsao
Borsao Selección Tinto 2011**
14.5%

Region: D.O. Campo de Borja
Price: £7.00-£8.00
Grapes: Garnacha, Syrah, Tempranillo
Stockists: Flourish & Prosper, Highbury Vintners

50

Best Red Under £10

**Bodegas Ateca
Honoro Vera 2011**
14.5%

Region: D.O. Calatayud
Price: £8.99
Grapes: Garnacha
Stockists: Booths

REGION FOCUS - THE THREE C'S!

Campo de Borja, Calatayud and Cariñena are three wine regions near the city of Zaragoza in the region of Aragon. Here the grape Garnacha dominates and all three areas not only produce well-priced everyday wines but are also growing in stature and attracting international attention for more sophisticated styles. Definitely 'watch this space'!



The Experts Say

"Rich, red colour. Meaty, spicy with explosive bright, sweet strawberry fruit. Impressive with its clean lines and hint of pepper and powerful yet soft textured structure."

RED



51

AXIAL
Marqués de Montañana
Selección Especial 2010
14.5%

Region: D.O. Calatayud
Price: £8.99
Grapes: Garnacha
Stockists: Adnams

52

Bodegas San Valero
Finca Valero 2011
12.5%

Region: D.O. Cariñena
Price: £6.05
Grapes: Tempranillo,
Garnacha
Stockists:
bibendumfinewine.com

53

Best Value Red

Covinca S. Coop.
Torrelongares 2011
13.5%

Region: D.O. Cariñena
Price: £4.99
Grapes: Garnacha
Stockists: Not yet available
at retail

The Experts Say

"Restrained savoury nose with hints of kirsch and liquorice. The palate has lovely texture with bright cherry and bramble fruit. Velvety, meaty finish."

54

Bodegas Esteban Martín
Vinem 2011
13.5%

Region: D.O. Cariñena
Price: £7.74
Grapes: Garnacha, Syrah,
Merlot
Stockists: George Hill of
Loughborough

55

Bodegas y Viñedos Monfil
Monfil 2011
13.5%

Region: D.O. Cariñena
Price: £7.50
Grapes: Garnacha
Stockists: Lea & Sandeman



**Bodegas Esteban Martín
Vinem Crianza 2008**
14%

Region: D.O. Cariñena
Price: £6.50-£8.00
Grapes: Garnacha,
Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah,
Merlot
Stockists: Frank Stainton,
Spirited Wines

**Bodegas Monte la Reina
Spanish Steps 2011**
13.5%

Region: D.O. Toro
Price: £6.99
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Sainsbury's

**Bodegas San Marcos
Toronegro 2011**
14%

Region: VdlIT Extremadura
Price: £6.99
Grapes: Mazuelo, Shiraz
Stockists: Co-op

**Bodega Sierra Norte
Fuenteseca 2011**
13.5%

Region: D.O. Utiel-Requena
Price: £7.25-£8.70
Grapes: Bobal, Cabernet
Sauvignon
Stockists: Bennetts Fine
Wine, Noble Green Wines

**Freixenet
Mia Signature Blend
No.1 2011**
14%

Region: VdlIT Castilla y León
Price: £8.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Tesco.com



REGION FOCUS - D.O. TORO

Named after the town of Toro this region has made great strides over the last 20 years based on the success of the powerful and impressive Tinta de Toro grape, a local take on Tempranillo.

RED



61

**Bodegas Viña Elena
Familia Pacheco
Organic 2010**
14.5%

Region: D.O. Jumilla
Price: £7.99
Grapes: Monastrell,
Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah
Stockists: Cambridge Wine
Merchants, Wild Ferment

62

**Bodegas Atalaya
Laya 2010**
14.5%

Region: D.O. Almansa
Price: £8.99
Grapes: Garnacha
Tintorera, Monastrell
Stockists: Not yet available
at retail

63

**Celler Masroig
Castell de Les Pinyeres
2008**
14.5%

Region: D.O. Montsant
Price: £12.75-£14.00
Grapes: Cariñena,
Garnacha, Tempranillo,
Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon
Stockists: Jeroboams,
Roberson Wine

64

**Vinyes d'Olivardots
Finca Olivardots 2011**
14.5%

Region: D.O. Empordà
Price: £14.00
Grapes: Syrah, Garnacha,
Cariñena
Stockists: No UK distributor

65

Best New Discovery

**Ponce
Pie Franco 2010**
14.5%

Region: D.O. Manchuela
Price: £17-£18.50
Grapes: Bobal
Stockists: Bottle Apostle,
Handford Wines, Roberson
Wine

REGION FOCUS - D.O. MANCHUELA

Manchuela is a relative newcomer to the Spanish wine scene having been made a D.O. in 2000 (the first D.O. of Rioja was formed in 1925). The principal grape here is Bobal, which is grown in traditional bush vines.



The Experts Say

"Intensely aromatic, very ripe forest fruits, with an underlying potency. The herbal notes of rosemary and thyme are also present. On the palate there is a surprising level of acidity and minerality, which adds freshness to the wine. Long, elegant and juicy."



4 Kilos
12 Volts 2010
14%

Region: VdIT Mallorca
Price: £19.50-£22.00
Grapes: Callet-Fogoneu, Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot
Stockists: Roberson Wine, The Sampler, Vagabond Wine

Miguel Torres
Mas la Plana 2007
14.5%

Region: D.O. Penedès
Price: £33.00
Grapes: Cabernet Sauvignon
Stockists: George Hill, Majestic Wine

Celler Pasanau
Ceps Nous 2010
14.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Priorat
Price: £14.00-£15.00
Grapes: Garnacha, Merlot, Cariñena, Syrah
Stockists: The Sampler, The Wine Tasting Shop

Miguel Torres
Salmos 2010
14.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Priorat
Price: £17.00-£20.00
Grapes: Garnacha, Cariñena, Syrah
Stockists: George Hill, Waitrose

Morlanda
Morlanda Crianza 2007
15%

Region: D.O.Ca. Priorat
Price: £22.50
Grapes: Garnacha, Cariñena
Stockists: Tesco.com



REGION FOCUS - D.O.Ca. PRIORAT

Priorat is located south of Barcelona in Tarragona and is one of Spain's most acclaimed D.O. regions. It has superior status of D.O.Ca. along with Rioja. Priorat shot to fame (and fortune) in the 1990's after a group of winemakers teamed up to make red wine around the remote high-lying village of Gratallops. They were particularly attracted by the slate and schist soil, which imparts distinctive flavours on the wine. At their best Priorat wines show incredible concentration and merit bottle ageing to reach their peak.



71

Bodegas Trus
Krel Crianza 2009
14%

Region: D.O. Ribera del Duero
Price: £11.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Georges Barbier of London

72

Best Red Over £10 / Best of Show (Joint winner)

Bodegas Trus
Trus Crianza 2009
14%

Region: D.O. Ribera del Duero
Price: £14.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Georges Barbier of London

The Experts Say

"Cherry red colour with purple hues. Multi-layered, intense nose with hints of ripe plum and cinnamon. The palate is elegant with layers of fruit and spices."

73

Best Premium Red £20+
Bodegas Hermanos Pérez Pascuas
Viña Pedrosa Crianza 2009
14%

Region: D.O. Ribera del Duero
Price: £22.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: The Wine Society

The Experts Say

"This has everything in spades and all in proportion. Cedary, brambly and crunchy palate with a long, long finish."

74

Hijos de Antonio Polo
Pagos de Peñafiel
Vendimia Seleccionada 2009
14.5%

Region: D.O. Ribera del Duero
Price: £32.99
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Ralph's Wines

75

Pago de los Capellanes
Crianza 2008
13.5%

Region: D.O. Ribera del Duero
Price: £20.00-£23.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Blanco & Gomez Wine Merchants, Great Western Wine, Harper Wells

SPOTLIGHT ON THE TEMPRANILLO GRAPE

Tempranillo is one of the best-known quality red grape and it excels in many regions but notably Rioja, Ribera del Duero where it is known as Tinto Fino, Toro where it is known as Tinta de Toro and many of the Catalan D.O.'s where it is known as Ull de Llebre. The variety is also widely planted in central and southern Spain where it is known as Cencibel.



**O. Fournier
Spiga 2008**
14.5%

Region: D.O. Ribera del Duero
Price: £22.00-£25.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: slurp.co.uk, Waitrose

**Valdubón
Valdubón Reserva 2007**
13%

Region: D.O. Ribera del Duero
Price: £22.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Not yet available at retail

**Cillar de Silos
Flor de Silos 2007**
14%

Region: D.O. Ribera del Duero
Price: £39.99
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Berry Brothers & Rudd

**O. Fournier
Alfa Spiga 2006**
15%

Region: D.O. Ribera del Duero
Price: £30.00-£35.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: slurp.co.uk, The Wine Centre

**Solar Viejo
Solar Viejo 2011**
14%

Region: D.O. Ca. Rioja
Price: £6.99
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Not yet available at retail



REGION FOCUS - D.O. RIBERA DEL DUERO

Ribera del Duero has grown to rival Rioja in terms of prestige and reputation. Its success is firmly based on Tempranillo (also known locally as Tinto Fino or Tinta del Pais). The variety is used almost exclusively by producers to make reds with various ageing credentials but oak aged reds of a high calibre and capable of many years of ageing are the main focus.

RED



81

**Pagos de Leza
Editor 2011**
14%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £7.99
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Partridges

82

**Bodegas Riojanas
Monte Real 2011**
13.4%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £11.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: EWGA Ltd

83

**Ramón Bilbao
Single Vineyard 2010**
14%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £9.99
Grapes: Tempranillo,
Garnacha
Stockists: Majestic Wine

84

**Bodegas Dunviro
Dunviro Crianza 2009**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £8.90
Grapes: Tempranillo,
Graciano
Stockists: A&A Wines Ltd

85

**Bodegas Artesa
Artesa Crianza 2009**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £8.50-£9.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Amps Fine Wine,
Great Grog, Noel Young
Wines



REGION FOCUS - D.O.Ca. RIOJA

Located partly within the Basque country, Rioja is best known for red wines and the Tempranillo grape. The versatile nature of this variety means that the region's red wines cover a variety of styles from young easy-drinking wines through to more sophisticated styles capable of many years of cellaring. Some producers also offer white wines, including some fine barrel-fermented and oak-aged styles and rosados.



86

**Pagos de Leza
Ángel Santamaría
Crianza 2009**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £13.49
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Partridges

87

**Bodegas del Medioevo
Tuerce Botas Crianza
2009**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £14.95
Grapes: Graciano
Stockists: Not yet available
at retail

88

Best Rioja

**Bodegas Bilbaínas
Viña Pomal Reserva
2008**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £12.99
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Majestic Wine,
The Sampler, Tesco.com,
Wine Rack

The Experts Say

"Bursting with blackberry and raspberry aromas, the palate is clean, intense and persistent. Perfectly balanced with soft velvety tannins it is delicious from start to finish."

89

**Berberana
Carta de Oro Reserva
2007**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £9.99
Grapes: Tempranillo,
Garnacha
Stockists: Sainsbury's

90

**Bodegas Lagunilla
Lagunilla Reserva 2007**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £12.49
Grapes: Tempranillo,
Garnacha
Stockists: Morrisons

RED



91

**Bodega Ostatu
Reserva 2007**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £17.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: H2Vin

92

**Bodegas Luis Cañas
Juan Luis Cañas
Amaren Reserva 2005**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £25.00
Grapes: Tempranillo
Stockists: Laithwaite's Wine

93

**La Rioja Alta
Viña Ardanza Reserva
Especial 2001**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £18.50-£25.00
Grapes: Tempranillo,
Garnacha
Stockists: Armit Wines, Berry
Bros & Rudd, The Wine
Society

94

**Bodegas Ugalde
Viña Cerrada Gran
Reserva 2005**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £18.30
Grapes: Tempranillo,
Graciano, Mazuelo
Stockists: Great Western
Wine

95

**Bodegas Ontañón
Gran Reserva 2001**
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £21.99
Grapes: Tempranillo,
Graciano
Stockists: Great Grog



Did you know...?

The first sherry bar in London was opened in 2010 by one of our judges Richard Bigg. Seen by many as a brave move it is one that was set to be repeated as the trend for sherry grew and now there are at least 10 places in London where you can enjoy sherry by the glass and in flights. A definite 'must-do' next time you're in the metropolis!

SWEET & FORTIFIED



96

C.V.N.E.
Imperial Gran Reserva
1999
13.5%

Region: D.O.Ca. Rioja
Price: £26.99

Grapes: Tempranillo,

Graciano, Mazuelo

Stockists: Majestic Wine,
Waitrose

97

Best Unfortified Sweet

Bodegas Bentomiz
Ariyanas Naturalmente
Dulce 2007
13.5%

Region: D.O. Málaga
Price: £18.50

Grapes: Moscatel

Stockists: Georges Barbier
of London, Theatre of Wine

The Experts Say

"Pale lemon, clean and bright colour. Aromas of peach, apricot, jasmine, fennel with hints of anise and nutmeg. Velvety, silky palate with a fresh acidity and long finish."

98

Lustau
Waitrose Solera
Jerezana Fino Lustau
16.5%

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry

Price: £8.99

Grapes: Palomino Fino

Stockists: Waitrose

99

Fernando de Castilla
Antique Fino
17%

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry

Price: £17.99

Grapes: Palomino Fino

Stockists: Corks of Cotham,
Hennings Wine Merchants,
The Sampler

100

González Byass
Viña AB Amontillado
Seco
16.5%

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry

Price: £11.50-£13.50

Grapes: Palomino Fino

Stockists: Adnams, General
Wine Company

SWEET & FORTIFIED



101

Maestro Sierra
Amontillado 12 Years Old
17.5%

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry
Price: £14.95
Grapes: Palomino Fino
Stockists: Indigo Wine

102

Delgado Zuleta
Amontillado Monteagudo
18.5%

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry
Price: £22.50
Grapes: Palomino Fino
Stockists: Borough wines

103

Best Dry Fortified / Best Of Show (Joint winner)

Fernando de Castilla
Antique Amontillado
19%

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry
Price: £24.00-£26.00
Grapes: Palomino Fino
Stockists: Corks of Cotham, Hennings Wine Merchants, Noel Young Wines, The Sampler

The Experts Say

"A very serious and austere sherry with a classic amber hue, typical of aged amontillados. There is a real tang to both nose and palate with orange peel, eucalyptus, varnished wood, fennel and a myriad of other flavours and sensations against a background of stark dryness and tense acidity interwoven with overwhelming complexities - a really sublime wine."

104

Lustau
Waitrose Solera Jerezana Palo Cortado Lustau
19%

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry
Price: £8.99
Grapes: Palomino Fino
Stockists: Waitrose

105

González Byass
Leonor Palo Cortado
20%

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry
Price: £12.00-£13.50
Grapes: Palomino Fino
Stockists: Adnams, Cambridge Wines



106

**Fernando de Castilla
Antique Palo Cortado
20%**

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry

Price: £28.00-£32.00

Grapes: Palomino Fino

Stockists: Corks of Cotham, Hennings Wine Merchants, Philglas & Swiggot

107

**Fernando de Castilla
Antique Oloroso
20%**

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry

Price: £24.00-£25.00

Grapes: Palomino Fino

Stockists: Great Grog, Hennings Wine Merchants, Noel Young Wines, Reserve Wines

108

**Lustau
Añada 97 Rich Oloroso
1997
20.5%**

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry

Price: £18.00-£25.00

Grapes: Palomino Fino

Stockists: Fortnum & Mason, slurp.co.uk

109

Best Own Label

**Lustau
Waitrose Solera
Jerezana Rich Cream
Lustau
20%**

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry

Price: £8.99

Grapes: Palomino Fino

Stockists: Waitrose

The Experts Say

"Beautifully aromatic and reminiscent of dried fruits and spices, full-bodied and luscious. A rich blend of matured oloroso sherry and Pedro Ximenez wine, this rich cream sherry is dark gold in colour. The rich dried fruit notes of this wine immediately suggest matching it with mince pies."

110

Best Sweet Fortified

**Fernando de Castilla
Antique Pedro Ximénez
15%**

Region: D.O. Jerez-Xérès-Sherry

Price: £24.00-£27.00

Grapes: Pedro Ximénez

Stockists: Corks of Cotham, Great Grog, Noel Young Wines, Reserve Wines, The Sampler

The Experts Say

"An old, elegant, sweet creamy, figgy sherry. Aromas of coffee, prunes, figs, walnuts and Christmas spices. Luscious and rich on the palate this is a sherry to linger over and savour!"

Did you know...?

There are 12 styles of sherry ranging from the crisp, dry Fino to the liquid Christmas pudding Pedro Ximénez. Here are the styles in order of sweetness:

Fino
Manzanilla
Amontillado
Palo Cortado

Oloroso
Dry
Pale Cream
Medium

Cream
Moscatel
Dulce / Sweet
Pedro Ximénez

LIST OF STOCKISTS

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

A&A Wines

Guildford
01483 274666
www.aawines.co.uk

Adnams

Southwold (stores across East Anglia)
01502 727200
www.adnams.co.uk

Alexander Wines

Glasgow
0141 882 0039
www.alexander-wines.co.uk

All About Wine

Online winemerchant
07876214144
www.allaboutwine.co.uk

Amps Fine Wine

Oundle
01832 273502
www.ampsfinewines.co.uk

Ann et Vin

Newark
01636 700900
www.annetvin.com

Armit Wines

London
020 7908 0660
www.armit.co.uk

Bennetts Fine Wine

Chipping Campden
01386 840392
www.bennettsfinewines.com

Berry Bros & Rudd

London
0800 280 2440
www.bbr.com

Bibendum

London
020 7722 5577
www.bibendumfinewine.com

Bijou Bottles

Norfolk
01603 784 990
www.bijoubottles.co.uk

Blanco & Gomez Wine Merchants

London
020 7352 8680
www.bgwm.blogspot.co.uk

Booths

Stores mainly in the North
www.booths.co.uk

Borough Wines

London
020 7923 2001
www.boroughwines.com

Bottle Apostle

London
020 8985 1549
www.bottleapostle.com

Bowland Forest Vintners

Near Clitheroe
01200 448222
sales@bowlandforestvintners.co.uk

Bush Vines

West Sussex
01243 378618
www.bushvines.co.uk

Butlers Wine Cellar

Brighton
01273 698 724
www.butlers-winecellar.co.uk

Cambridge Wine Merchants

Cambridge
01954 214528
www.cambridgewine.com

Co-op

Stores nationwide
www.co-operative.coop

Corking Wines

York
01904 636123
www.corkingwines.com

Corks of Cotham

Bristol
0117 973 1620
www.corksof.com

Dunnottar Wines & Spirits

Stonehaven
01569 760 060

Ellis Wharton Wines

Cornwall
01726 825255
www.ewwines.co.uk

EWGA Ltd

Carnforth
01524 737100
www.ewga.net

Field and Fawcett

York
01904 489073
www.fieldandfawcett.co.uk

Flourish & Prosper

Howden
01430 430006
www.flourish-and-prosper.com

Forth Wines

Kinross-shire
01577 866001
www.forthwines.com

Fortnum & Mason

London
020 7734 8040
www.fortnumandmason.com

Frank Stainton

Kendal
01539 731886
www.stainton-wines.co.uk

George Hill of Loughborough

Loughborough
01509 212 717
www.georgehill.co.uk

Georges Barbier of London

London
020 8852 5801
www.georgesbarbier.co.uk

Great Grog

Edinburgh
0131 667 2855
www.greatgrog.co.uk

Great Western Wine

Bath
01225 322810
www.greatwesternwine.co.uk

H2Vin

Online winemerchant
01737 355765
www.h2vin.co.uk

Hailsham Cellars

Hailsham
01323 846238
www.hailshamcellars.com

Handford Wines

London
020 7589 6113
www.handford.net

Hanslope Wines

Milton Keynes
01908 510 262
www.hanslopewines.co.uk

Harper Wells

Eaton
01603 451098
www.harperwells.com

Harrogate Fine Wines

Harrogate
01423 522270
www.harrogatefinewinecompany.com

Hennings Wine Merchants

Pulborough and Petworth
01798 872 485
www.henningswine.co.uk

Highbury Vintners

London
020 7226 1347
www.highburyvintners.co.uk

Indigo Wine

London
020 7733 8391
www.indigowine.com

Jeroboams

London
020 7288 8850
www.jeroboams.co.uk

John Hattersley Wines

Bakewell
01629 815 255
www.johnhwines.co.uk



N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Laithwaite's Wine

Online winemerchant
0845 194 7711
www.laithwaites.co.uk

Lea & Sandeman

London
020 7244 0522
www.leaandsandeman.co.uk

M&S

Stores nationwide
www.marksandspencer.com

Majestic Wine

Stores nationwide
www.majestic.co.uk

Mitchells Vintners

Sheffield
0114 274 5587
www.mitchellswine.co.uk

Moreno Wines

London
020 7286 0678
www.morenowinedirect.com

Morrisons

Stores nationwide
www.morrisons.co.uk

Noble Green Wines

Hampton Hill
020 8979 1113
www.noblegreenwines.co.uk

Noel Young Wines

Cambridge
01223 566744
www.nywines.co.uk

Old Chapel Cellars

Truro
01872 270545
www.oldchapelcellars.co.uk

Partridges

London
020 7730 0651
www.partridges.co.uk

Philglas & Swigot

London
020 7402 0002
www.philglas-swigot.com

Ralph's Wines

Online winemerchant
020 8568 9816
www.ralphswinesonline.com

Reserve Wines

Manchester
0161 438 0101
www.reservewines.co.uk

Roberson Wine

London
020 7381 7870
www.robersonwine.co.uk

Sainsbury's

Stores nationwide
www.sainsburys.co.uk

slurp.co.uk

Online winemerchant
020 8993 7722
www.slurp.co.uk

Spirited Wines

London
020 7935 4185
www.spiritedwines.co.uk

Tesco.com

Stores nationwide
www.tesco.com

The General Wine Company

Liphook
01428 727744
www.thegeneralwine.co.uk

The Ox House

Northleach
01451 860650
www.oxhousewines.com

The Oxford Wine Company

Oxford
01865 249500
www.oxfordwine.co.uk

The Sampler

London
020 7226 9500
www.thesampler.co.uk

The Smiling Grape

St Neots
01480 403100
www.smilinggrape.com

The Wine Centre

Great Horksey
01206 271 236
www.thewinecentre.co.uk

The Wine Society

Online winemerchant
01438 741177
www.thewinesociety.com

The Wine Tasting Shop

London
020 8616 8658
www.thewinetastingshop.co.uk

The Wineman of Teddington

London
07850 329111
www.winemanofteddington.co.uk

Theatre of Wine

London
020 8858 6363
www.theatreofwine.com

Vagabond Wine

London
020 7381 1717
www.vagabondwines.co.uk

Virgin Wines

Online winemerchant
0843 224 1001
www.virginwines.co.uk

Waitrose

Stores nationwide
www.waitrose.com

Whitebridge Wines

Stone
01785 817229
www.whitebridgewines.co.uk

Wild Ferment

Canterbury
01227 463527
www.wildferment.co.uk

Wine Direct

Online winemerchant
0845 6033717
www.winedirect.co.uk

Wine Rack

London and the South East
020 8801 0011
www.winerack.co.uk

Woodwinters, Wines & Whiskies

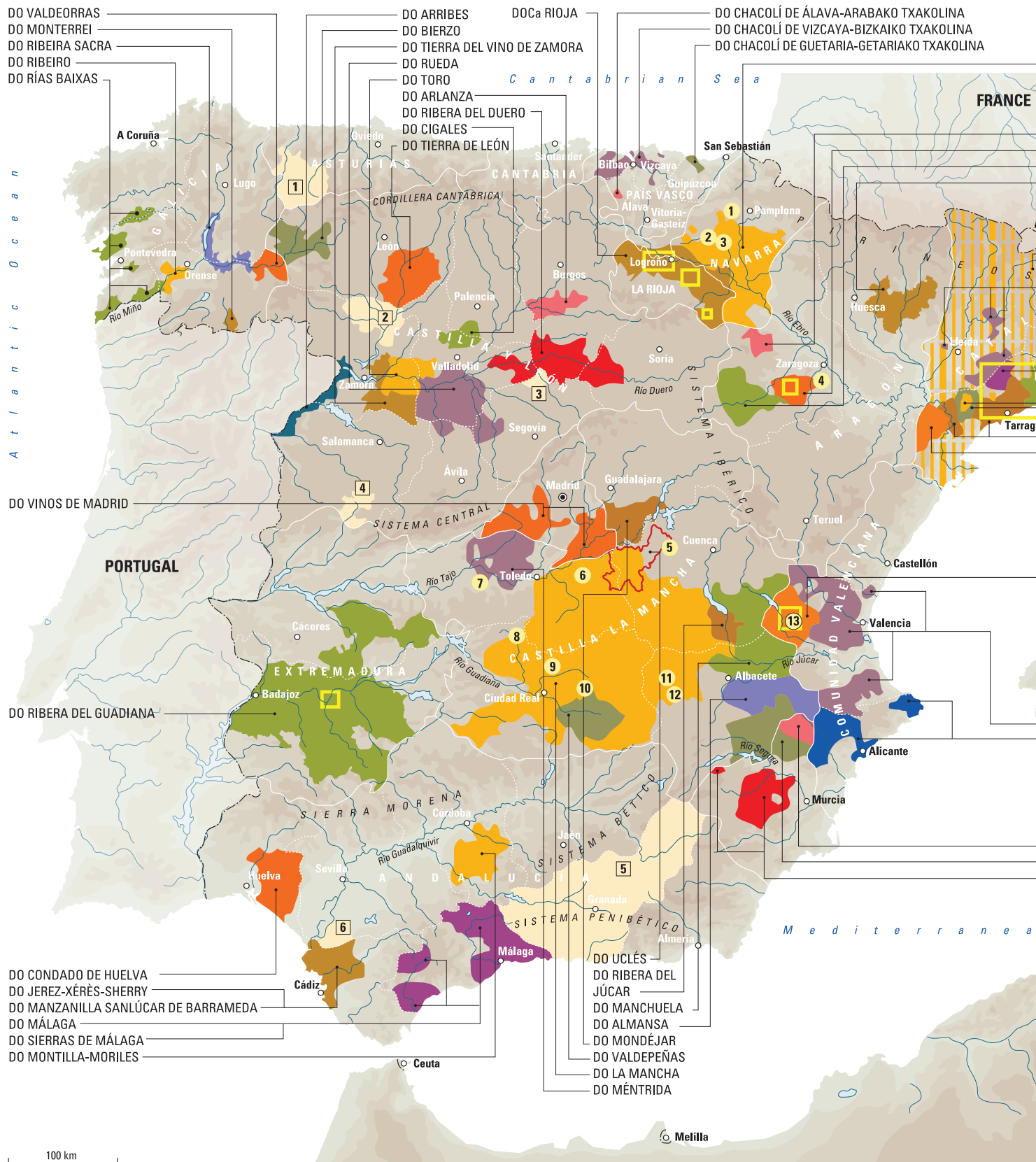
Bridge of Allan
01786 834894
www.woodwinters.com

Yorkshire Vintners

Ripon
01765 601701
www.yorkshirevintners.co.uk

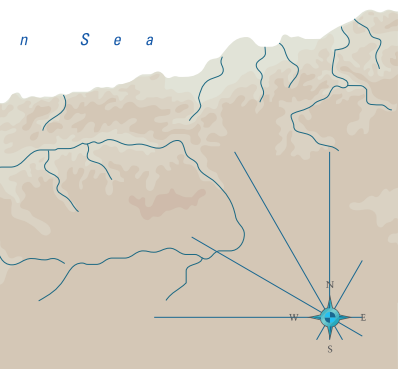
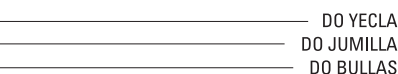
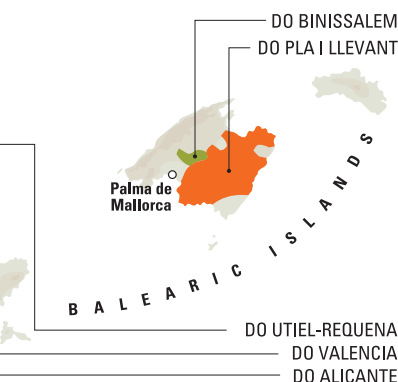
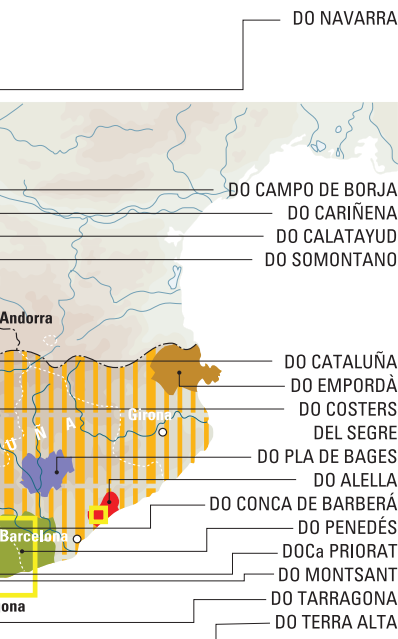
MAP OF SPAIN

THE SPANISH WINE REGIONS





69 DENOMINATIONS OF ORIGIN



DO ABONA
DO ALELLA
DO ALICANTE
DO ALMANZA
DO ARLANZA
DO ARIBES
DO BIERZO
DO BINISSALEM — MALLORCA
DO BULLAS
DO CALATAYUD
DO CAMPO DE BORJA
DO CARIÑENA
DO CATALUÑA
DO CAVA
DO CHACOLÍ DE ALAVA — ARABAKO TXAKOLINA
DO CHACOLÍ DE GETARIA — GETARIAKO TXAKOLINA
DO CHACOLÍ DE VIZCAYA — BIZKAINO TXAKOLINA
DO CIGALES

DO CONCA DE BARBERÀ
DO CONDADO DE HUELVA
DO COSTERS DEL SEGRE
DO EL HIERRO
DO EMPORDÀ
DO GRAN CANARIA
DO JEREZ — XERES — SHERRY
DO JUMILLA
DO LA GOMERA
DO LA MANCHA
DO LA PALMA
DO LANZAROTE
DO MÁLAGA
DO MANCHUELA
DO MANZANILLA SAN LÚCAR DE BARRAMEDA
DO MENTRIDA
DO MONDEJAR
DO MONTERREI

DO MONTELLA — MORILES
DO MONTSANT
DO NAVARRA
DO PENEDES
DO PLA DE BAGES
DOCA PRIORAT
DO RIAS BAIXAS
DO RIBEIRA SACRA
DO RIBERO
DO RIBERA DEL DUERO
DO RIBERA DEL GUADIANA
DO RIBERA DEL JÚCAR
DOCA RIOJA
DO RUEDA
DO SIERRAS DE MÁLAGA
DO SOMONTANO
DO TACORONTE — ACENTEJO

DO TARRAGONA
DO TERRA ALTA
DO TIERRA DE LEÓN
DO TIERRA DEL VINO DE ZAMORA
DO TORO
DO UCLÉS
DO UTIEL — REQUENA
DO VALDEORRAS
DO VALDEPEÑAS
DO VALENCIA
DO VALLE DE GÜIMAR
DO VALLE DE LA OROTAVA
DO VINOS DE MADRID
DO YCODEN — DAUTE — ISORA
DO YECLA

DOCA

Qualified denomination of origin

DO

Denomination of origin



D.O. Cava (multiregion)



D.O. Catalunya

Autonomous administrative area

Provincial administrative area

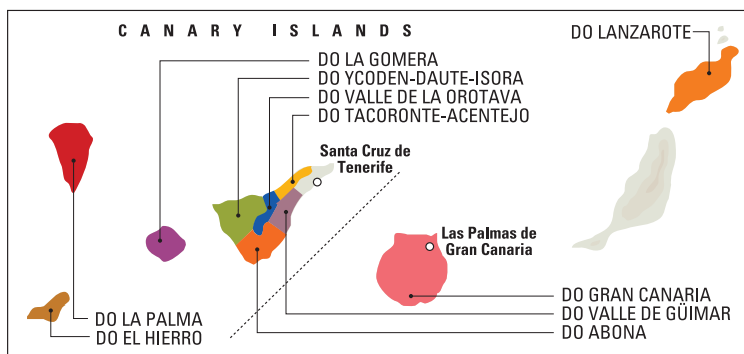
State borders

Quality Wine with Specific Geographical Indication

- 1 VC Cangas
- 2 VC Valles de Benavente
- 3 VC Valtendas
- 4 VC Sierra Salamanca
- 5 VC Granada
- 6 VC Lebrija

Single-Estate Wine

- 1 VP Pago de Otazu
- 2 VP Prado de Irache
- 3 VP Pago de Arinzano
- 4 VP Pago Aylés
- 5 VP Pago Calzadilla
- 6 VP Campo de la Guardia
- 7 VP Dominio de Valdepusa
- 8 VP Dehesa del Carrizal
- 9 VP Pago Florentino
- 10 VP Casa del Blanco
- 11 VP Guijoso
- 12 VP Finca Élez
- 13 VP Los Balagueres



ICEX

POSTCARDS FROM THE JUDGES



ALLAN CHEESMAN

Wine Consultant

Southern Andalusia around Jerez and the other "frontier" towns is one of my favourites with azure blue skies, sleepy white hill top towns and villages in the midday sun -- (ideally with a cool beer in the shade), long sandy beaches, wonderful fresh seafood and shellfish and of course sherry in all its guises- magic.



ANTHONY ROSE

Wine Writer

Greetings! I've just come from Sanlúcar beach where the horses kicked sand in my face as they thundered past me at a rate of knots. My horse in the Cajasol Trophy came in last but I don't care. I'm sitting in the Plaza de Toros in bright sunshine with an appetizing glass of fino in my hand. Wish you were here. Then again...



JOHN RADFORD

Wine Writer

I love the landscapes of Castilla y León - the rolling wheat fields, immaculate vineyards, majestic cities and sense of history from the border with Portugal northwards to Bierzo and east to Ribera del Duero and Rueda. Add to this the fabulous lechazo, empanada and cochinillo and the fruit of the Tinto Fino and you have a veritable paradise.



HELEN MCEVOY

Wine Manager Laithwaites

From the pedestrianised old village of La Guardia to the modern wineries of Alavesa, Rioja combines charm and elegance with style and excitement. Local restaurateurs proudly serve up some of the best food in the country, to compliment the delicious wines produced by their neighbours. Rioja is a region I always look forward to visiting – for work or on holiday!



CHRISTINE PARKINSON

Wine Buyer Hakkasan

Priorat is my favourite part of Spain. Swooping hairpin roads, ancient stone castles and churches, steep slopes of crumbling rock and eagles soaring above, make this a dramatic place to visit. The rich, spicy wines are delicious, and so are the tiny arbequina olives that grow close to the vines. Priorat feels ageless, remote, and a world away from modern Spain.



NOEL YOUNG

**Owner Noel Young
Fine Wines**

My favourite region in Spain, would be the one I know the best and have visited many, many times – the island of Mallorca. It's such a wonderful island, and so different, from the wonderful mountains of the North, with such great scenery leading to rolling citrus groves heading down towards Deia, to the fishing villages and glorious beaches of the South. Of course there is also the majestic city of Palma and it's amazing cathedral. It's an island with a growing reputation for great food, with delicious seafood, and organic, free range lamb, pork and such flavourful organic vegetables which can be bought from the many local markets. It's increasingly a great region for wine, from the large wineries to the smaller producer. I love it, for me Mallorca really has it all.





TIM ATKIN MW

Wine Writer

I could choose half a dozen Spanish regions, but if pushed I'd pick Empordà. I've been going on holiday to the region since the mid-1970s, as my family has a house in Empuries. The coastline is utterly beautiful and there are several good golf courses nearby. More recently, the area has become known for gastronomy (first El Bulli and now Can Roca, Compartir and Villa Mas) and the quality of the local wines. There are two great wine merchants (El Celler Petit in Empuries) and Els Barrils (La Escala) near the house, so I always drink local.



RICHARD BIGG

Owner of Camino and Bar Pepito

Navarra: this is a beautifully diverse region, ranging from the foothills of the Pyrenees to near desert. Astonishingly good wines are made here, including Bordeaux grapes, brought down 800 years ago when it used to be the Kingdom of Navarra. My favourite wines however are made from old vine Garnacha, complex, balanced and deeply rewarding.



NICK ROOM

Wine Buyer Waitrose

Priorat is an area steeped in monastic history, with fabulous soils of slate and quartz supporting some remarkable old vines. Since the 1990s inspirational wines have been made from Garnacha and Carignan by some of the Spanish trade's luminaries. Any visitor to the region cannot help but be captivated by the hauntingly wild, rugged terrain and the passion of numerous small producers".



JO AHEARNE MW

Wine Buyer Harrods

My favourite place in Spain is wherever I touch down on the plane....As soon as you put your feet on the ground and smell the change in the air (even with the jet engines) it's like a wave of happiness descending. My second favourite place is the first tapas bar with ice cold fino and waxy anchovies or finest jamon. My third favourite place is the first restaurant serving baby kid with a delicately extracted Tempranillo...



PETER MCCOMBIE MW

Wine Writer

I dream of the greenness of Asturias, with its stunning Picos de Europa and unspoiled Atlantic beaches. They are Celts with bagpipes, who eat and drink well, using fantastic raw ingredients, especially fish and seafood, not to mention cheeses, from the ubiquitous cows. I love the ritual of pouring and sharing cider, just one cup between friends.

How to Get There

Spain is incredibly accessible from the UK and the modes of transport varied and exciting. You can fly from all major airports, you can cruise from our south coast to Spain's north west coast, you can even set off from St Pancras International to 'snoodle' your way to Madrid via an overnighter from Paris. The journey is half the adventure and once you're there www.spain.info lays out the opportunities which await you.



JOAN TORRENTS

Head Wine Buyer Enotria

The Costa Brava in the North East of Catalonia brings me plenty of memories: passing most of my childhood school holidays in Llafranc, as a teenager discovering their diverse cuisine from the traditional fishermen's recipes in Palafrugell to the exquisite madness from El Bulli and as a grown up following the World Rally competition on the region's roads. All of this with also being exposed to great Catalan wines from the delicate Alella and Cava to the warmth of Emporda and Priorat wines.



JAMES GRISWOOD

Wine Buyer Tesco

My favourite region of Spain has to be Andalucía, especially Jerez and Sanlúcar. It has that magical quality of making it feel like the world has slowed its rotation and everything is running at half pace. I've spent many hours sitting in classic Andalucian courtyards or town squares, covered by the dappled shade of an ancient tree, sipping an ice cold Fino or Manzanilla Sherry, tucking into fresh prawns or clams, enjoying a conversation with friends, or simply listening to the sound of swifts hunting flies in the late afternoon sun. I never feel more relaxed as I do when I am there.



BEN CAHILL

Wine Buyer Co-op

If I could go back only once it would be to Madrid. I'd go back to revisit an ancient and atmospheric sherry bar where seemingly neither the prices nor the décor have changed since the nineteenth century. After a refreshing fino and a lunch of interminable length I'd head to the Prado and its extraordinary collection of art. I would meander respectfully past Velazquez and Picasso towards the mesmerizing 'Black Paintings' attributed to Goya. And then, selflessly, I'd head back to the sherry bar...



CHARLES METCALFE

Wine Writer

My favourite wine place in Spain is the stretch of bars and restaurants along the beach at Sanlúcar de Barrameda. It's not especially beautiful, but here you'll find the perfect marriages between a unique product, manzanilla, and food. Cruise from bar to bar, trying a different manzanilla in each, and sampling a tapa of freshest seafood or fish. Heaven!



PIERRE MANSOUR

Wine Buyer The Wine Society

My favourite place in Spain is the charming coastal town of Getaria in the Basque country. Life is so complete here: beautiful rolling vineyards, facing the dramatic Atlantic Ocean and long sandy beaches. And at the end of the day endless quantities of refreshing Txacoli on tap to revitalize you. Furthermore fans of great Spanish wine and seafood will find one of the country's best restaurants with a cellar of wine sold at great value historic prices.

HOW SPANISH FOOD & WINE CAME OF AGE...

In the 1980's the Spanish Government opened Wines from Spain and Foods from Spain. The task was challenging. They had to convince the British press and the market of the serious quality and originality of Spanish produce. Until then Spain, an amazing and diverse country already discovered by the tourist industry, was still suffering from having been ignored, historically, by travel and food writers. The country was stunning but the food and the wine enjoyed by the locals were another matter, they wrote.

From a British point of view, the food tasted too much of garlic and olive oil and the wines, with some great exceptions, were too 'rustic'. However Spanish bodegas were already investing. Furthermore the older generation was listening to the younger generation who were already in tune with the global changes that were putting Australia and the wines of the Americas on the map. At the same time a number of Basque chefs such as Juan Mari Arzak and Pedro Subijana had launched a new professional cooking movement called "La Nueva Cocina Vasca", their new dishes being lighter and simpler, having left behind the traditional French influence of cream and sauces that had dominated the kitchens of grand hotels and restaurants all over the country.

The real break for Spain came in the early 1990's with the Barcelona Olympics. By then Ferrán Adrià was already working at el Bulli and Basque chefs had already trained a new generation of young

professionals who, together with Adrià and other Catalan chefs such as Santi Santamaria were delighting the palates of the discerning traveller. Spanish innovation and creativity had started to revolutionize kitchens all over the world. The BBC also helped by broadcasting two television series about Spanish food. **Floyd in Spain** reflected a very individual point of view whilst another, **Spain on a Plate** (that I had the privilege to write and present) took a different and less flamboyant approach, being based on history and regional food.

In the UK the Spanish wine category was beginning to expand, importers were putting their weight behind the wines from areas such as Rioja, Navarra, Cava, La Mancha and Penedés. Philip Diment opened Mesón Don Felipe and Monika Linton (founder of Brindisa) was beginning to supply delicatessens and chefs with outstanding cheeses and olive oil, pimentón and even membrillo (quince paste).



It has taken another twenty years for the BBC to commission a new TV series in Spain, this time a personal view by the brilliantly popular Rick Stein. In July 2011 viewers enjoyed every second of it. But things now are different to how they were in 1982, people can relate to the food and the wine of a country that has achieved something I have been dreaming would happen for the last thirty years. All they have to do is to go to a Spanish restaurant, a tapas or a Sherry bar in London or beyond, visit a local delicatessen or supermarket where they can buy Bomba rice, Serrano or Ibérico Ham, Manchego or even Mahón cheeses. As to the wines, the list now available in the market is growing by the day and now includes wines from regions of Spain hitherto unknown in the UK.

To make even further headway, importers and distributors, the Press, our Caballeros del Vino and of course the team at Wines and Foods from Spain will have to carry on working with the same enthusiasm, commitment and more for years to come!

But for now I can proudly say that Spain is firmly on the 'world-class' map both gastronomically and vinously!

María José Sevilla
Director, Foods & Wines from Spain
October 2012



“
SPANISH
INNOVATION
AND CREATIVITY
HAD STARTED TO
REVOLUTIONIZE
KITCHENS ALL OVER
THE WORLD
”

Located in northern Spain along the banks of the River Ebro, and in the shadow of the Sierra Cantabria mountains, the region of Rioja is Spain's flagship wine region. Positioned in the gastronomic heart of Northern Spain, it is the number one choice for travellers seeking traditional living, Spanish cuisine and great wine.

Rioja's winemakers have a passion for their vines and combine the best of Old World expertise with a contemporary approach, producing wines that are particularly food-friendly. The Rioja seal guarantees quality and style - any bottle labeled as such will be a great partner to fine food and fun conversation.

Red wines account for the vast majority of production in Rioja. Tempranillo is the most widely planted grape, with Garnacha, Graciano, and Mazuelo also contributing to the blend. Rioja wines undergo extensive ageing, meaning that they leave the winery ready to drink, with the time in oak giving Rioja its trademark mellow character.

Although renowned for its red wines, Rioja also produces some excellent whites and rosés. Whites can be fresh and zesty, or more traditional – barrel-fermented with prolonged ageing, resulting in a rich, toasty wine - perfect for matching with food. Rosé styles, primarily from Tempranillo and Garnacha tend to be dry, with ripe berry fruit flavours.

Where there's great wine, great food must be nearby. Rioja boasts some of the best tapas restaurants in Spain. The streets of the Old Town of Logroño, the capital of the Rioja region, are lined with tapas bars. Every weekend, Calle Laurel in Logroño fills with people bouncing from bar to bar, enjoying a different tapa, or pincho as they are known locally, in each, accompanied by a glass of Rioja.

Despite being Spain's most celebrated wine region, producing millions of litres every year, Rioja remains rural and unspoilt. The culture of tradition and simplicity goes hand in hand with a way



of life rooted in land and livestock. Driving through the countryside, sweeps of vineyards stretch as far as the eye can see and are scattered with picturesque villages, historic castles and monasteries - many of which lie along the great pilgrims' road that leads to Santiago de Compostela.

There are a number of charming villages worth exploring in Rioja. The medieval hamlet of Laguardia, and the hilltop villages of Briones, San Vicente de la Sonsierra and Elciego to name but a few. The bustling town of Haro is also well worth a visit. Haro has been the centre of Rioja's viticultural activity for centuries. Some of the region's most historic wineries are clustered together in the Barrio de la Estación and the attractive Plaza Mayor is situated in the town centre along with an inviting collection of local wine shops.



Many of the wineries in Rioja welcome guests and organize winery tours and tastings. Whether it's a small, family run bodega or a large scale, state of the art estate, every winery has a story to tell and great wines to enjoy.




RIOJA

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