

Viña Ijalba 2017 Genoli - Viura (Rioja Joven)

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| WineWise Code | SIJ-GEN17 |
| Country | Spain |
| Region | Rioja |
| Subregion | Logroño |
| Color | White |
| Alcohol by Volume | 12.8 |
| Acidity | 5.3 |
| Residual Sugar | 1.7 |
| Closure | DIAM |
| Annual cases produced | 6000 |
| Varieties | 90% viura; 5% tempranillo blanco; 5% maturan blanca |
| Destemming | Complete |
| Fermentation vessel | Stainless Steel |
| Fermentation duration | 25 days |
| Aging method | Stainless Steel 100% |
| Aging duration (months) | 3 |
| Filtered? | Yes |
| Fining agents | Bentonite |
| Yeast | Native |
| Lees Contact or Stirring | 3 months |
| Malolactic | No |
| Added Sulfur | Yes, 80mg/L |
| Vineyard Name | Sacristana |
| Soil Type(s) | Alluvial |
| Elevation (meters) | 550 |
| Vineyard Aspect | Northwest |
| Vine age (years) | 25 |
| Vine Yields hl/ha | 50 |
| Farming practices | Organic |
| Grape Picking | Machine |

Notes from the producer:

Viña Ijalba is the history of a family, as well as a commitment to the evolution of Rioja, from the day that Dionisio Ruiz planted his first vine in 1975 on an old gravel pit, which reproduced the natural conditions in which vines grow in La Rioja. And so began the pioneering road, innovative and clear, that Viña Ijalba has been travelling since then. Viña Ijalba has its own stories involving the transformation of gravel pits and open cast mines into new vineyards, and the recovery of rare indigenous varieties of Rioja vines that had almost disappeared.



WineWise Notes:

We have become impassioned devotees of Macabeo – Viura’s other name in Spain. López de Heredia alerted us to the variety’s innate class and age-worthiness, and we now find more and more examples of it – including this fresh, leesy beauty, so full of fruit and lift, perhaps deriving partly from its deft seasoning of Maturana Blanca and Sauvignon Blanc.

At first glance this rather modern producer might seem to have little in common with its illustrious companion above, but in fact María José was pleased to hear we would be representing the property. Ijalba has set the standard for environmental awareness in the region, from its organic production to its extensive re-cycling and environmental certification for the winery. The vineyards were all planted in disused quarries, which perhaps explains the remarkable minerality they are endowed with, especially the bigger reds with bottle age. The estate’s other distinction is the championing of the less-known varieties of Rioja such as the two Maturanas and Graciano. They have now unveiled some attractive new packaging to go with their never- ending efforts at improvement, spearheaded by long-time talented cellar master, Pepe, who absolutely excelled with his red wines in 2016.

