

Viña Ijalba 2016 Maturana Tinta (Rioja) [6/750]

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| WineWise Code | SIJ-MTT16 |
| Country | Spain |
| Region | Rioja |
| Subregion | Logroño |
| Color | Red |
| Alcohol by Volume | 13.72 |
| Acidity | 5.8 |
| Residual Sugar | 2 |
| Closure | Natural Cork |
| Annual cases produced | 375 |
| Varieties | 100% Maturana Tinta |
| Pumpover or Punchdown? | pumpovers and punchdowns |
| Destemming | Complete |
| Fermentation vessel | Oak Upright |
| Fermentation duration | 15 days |
| Aging method | New Barrique 100% |
| Aging duration (months) | 10 |
| Filtered? | No |
| Fining agents | None |
| Yeast | Spontaneous |
| Malolactic | Yes |
| Added Sulfur | Yes, 52 mg/L |
| Vineyard Name | La Plana de Villamediana |
| Soil Type(s) | Alluvial |
| Elevation (meters) | 550 |
| Vineyard Aspect | South |
| Vine age (years) | 20 |
| Vine Yields hl/ha | 3850 |
| Farming practices | Certified Organic |
| Grape Picking | Hand-harvested |

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:

It is safe to say, despite some seemingly authoritative claims to the contrary, that this rare autochthonous Rioja variety is NOT the same grape as the Trousseau of the Jura or the Bastardo of the Douro, with which pale, some would say effete, varieties this strapping, brooding beast of a wine has nothing in common. To the best of our knowledge, this is the only mono-varietal version of this grape on the market. It miraculously combines improbably dark colour and biting peppery nose with a fruit expression that is unmistakably Riojan, suggesting that the terroir of this fabled land really does in the end conquer all. This is as singular and compelling a wine as Spain offers in its vein, named after the estate's founder (at least until the great 2016).

