



La Rioja Wine Region of Spain

Climate: La Rioja has a very mild Mediterranean climate. The Rioja Alta is at a higher elevation and further north and experiences a cooler climate. Rioja Baja is drier, lower elevation, and warmer.

La Rioja is the most famous wine region in Spain and is renowned for its red wines made from the tempranillo grape. Rioja is closely tied to France both geographically, and in wine making. Rioja wines age longer than any other wine in the world, and is the only region in Spain to carry the DOC title. Rioja wines are aged in oak barrels, and the region itself is referred to as "Spain's Bordeaux".

Tempranillo grapes are used in all Rioja red wines, other grapes used are Garnacha, Graciano, and Mazuelo. Viura is the most common grape in Rioja white wines as well as Garnacha Blanca, and Malvasia.

Rioja red wines are generally earthy, delicate, and elegant with spice & vanilla notes. Rioja whites tend to be acidic and mildly fruity. Rioja wines have a law that dictates their aging requirements. In order for a wine to be considered "Crianza" it must be aged two years (one year in oak). For "Reserva" it must be aged three years (one year in oak). And for "Gran Reserva" it must be aged at least five years (two in oak, and three in bottles).

Bodegas Isidro Milagro 5 Oros Rioja DOC

LA RIOJA (SPAIN)

Since 2001 this family winery has been producing top quality wines. Located in the southeast part of Rioja, the vines from their 75 hectare estate average 20-50 years old.

Website: www.bodegasisidromilagro.com

Grapes: 100% Garnacha

Viniculture:

Alcohol: 14% vol.

Tasting Notes

Appearance: Violet-red

Nose: Cedar, ripe blackberry.

Palate: Bold, dark cherry flavors with spicy tannins and hints of chocolate.

Suggested Pairing: Rib-eye steak, valdeón blue cheese and chili.

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