

IRAUN 2020

DOCa Rioja

Varieties: 80% Viura, 9% Calagraño, 4% Garnacha Blanca, 3% Maturana Blanca and 3% Malvasia Riojana.

Production: 1000 bottles

IRAUN sprang from the idea to create an oak aged Viura defined by its freshness and subtleness. An aged white Rioja that is not overpowered by oak and creaminess, but very well expresses its terroir.

Vineyards

A 101-year (1919) old vineyard of 1 ha located in Elvillar (Rioja Alavesa) at 600 metres altitude with calcareous clay composition. A mixed plot of Tempranillo, Viura and Garnacha Blanca that only yields 3000 kg per hectare.

Winemaking

The alcoholic fermentation starts in stainless steel tanks, using only indigenous yeast, and finishes in amphoras and used French oak barrels of 600 litres. The wine ages for another 12 months in French oak and is bottled unfiltered.

Character

Iraun shows concentrated aromas of ripe white peach and yellow plum, sweet spices, almonds, fennel and some yellow flower notes. On the palate the wine is crunchy and silky. The finish is long and shows a stoney minerality and some smokey notes.

What's in a name

Iraun is Oxe's tribute to his people and language (Euskera). The word means 'to endure'. Despite all obstacles and challenges, the Basque people persevered and they kept the oldest language in the world alive. In the label this is depicted as a Uroborus, a snake eating its own tail. The emblem of eternity. "*In my beginning is my end,*" T.S. Eliot.

Analysis

Alcohol 14,5%

Total acidity (in tartaric acid) 4,29 g/l

PH 3,40

Acknowledgements

Iraun 2018: 94 points - Robert Parker 2020

Iraun 2017: 92 points - Tim Atkin MW Rioja 2019 Special Report

Iraun 2016: 91 points - Robert Parker 2019

Iraun 2016: 93 points - Tim Atkin MW Rioja 2018 Special Report

