



## La Rioja Alta



*La Rioja Alta, S.A.*

### Gran Reserva 904 2015

Rioja, Spain

Enticing scents of balsam, spice, leather and coconut lead onto a silky smooth, medium-bodied palate with more notes of leather, spice, coconut and chocolate.

A **very elegant mouthfeel with layered complexity**, a well-rounded palate, good grainy tannins and linear acidity running through the core. Incredible length on the finish with lingering notes of spice and roasted coffee.

**Structured, extremely elegant and refined, this is drinking beautifully now but will certainly benefit from extended cellaring.**

98  
James  
Suckling



Alcohol :13,00 %

Composition: 90% Tempranillo,  
10% Graciano



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### **James Suckling (JS) : 98 Points (2015)**



Very impressive complexity and width on the nose, showing lots of savoriness with mushrooms, sandalwood, cedar, sweet spices, dried oranges and tobacco. Really even and juicy on the palate with fine and very present tannins. Juicy, creamy finish lasting a minute. Really elegant and layered. It goes on and on. A real Rioja Gran Reserva and I recommend buying a case! The first vintage that La Rioja Alta labelled 'Selección Especial'.&nbsp;

### **Robert Parker (RP) : 95 Points (2015)**



They used the words subtlety, elegance, finesse, delicacy and silk to define the 2015 Gran Reserva 904 Selección Especial, a blend of 90% Tempranillo from their vineyards in Villalba, Briñas and Rodezno with 10% Graciano from the Montecillo vineyard in Fuenmayor that was picked 23 days later than the Tempranillo. The grapes were sorted optically for the first time, and they fermented in stainless steel where the wine went through malolactic too. The wine was put in barrel in January 2016—used American oak barrels built by their own coopers—where it matured for four years, during which time it was racked every six months. 2015 was a healthy vintage with balanced ripeness that delivered wines with good aging potential. They thought the wine needed a little more time in bottle to polish those tannins and have decided to hold it and release the wine around March 2023; it will be marked Selección Especial, the first 904 to do so, as they have very high hopes for this year and believe it's one of the finest vintages. They think it will develop the sophistication in the palate with a little more time and that is should achieve the silkiness that is the signature of 904. This is very 2015; I saw quite strong tannins in all the 2015 wines I tasted from Rioja Alta.

### **Wine Spectator (WS) : 93 Points (2015)**



Rich and velvety, with a lovely range of mulled cherry, dark chocolate, herbed olive, eucalyptus, iron and milled pepper notes gliding across the palate in a supple, medium- to full-bodied frame. Reveals fine-grained, chalky tannins that are well-meshed with the dark, aromatic profile, while hints of forest floor and sandalwood linger on the finish. Tempranillo and Graciano. Better than previously reviewed. Drink now through 2035.



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