CVNE

CVNE Real de Asúa 2020 is an exceptional Rioja crafted to honor the estate's founding family, delivering a pure, sophisticated expression of Tempranillo from Rioja Alta.

Real de Asúa 2020

Rioja, Spain

Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Tempranillo

Region and Vineyards

The wine comes from **Rioja Alta**, one of the three subregions of the **Rioja DOCa**, located in northern Spain. Rioja Alta is renowned for its **high-altitude vineyards** and the influence of the cool Atlantic climate, which allows for slow grape ripening, resulting in wines with remarkable elegance, freshness, and aging potential.

The grapes for **Real de Asúa 2020** are sourced from carefully selected **Tempranillo vineyards** situated in the heart of **Haro**, the historic epicenter of Rioja winemaking. The vines, planted on soils composed of **clay-limestone**, benefit from excellent drainage and low fertility, forcing the roots to grow deep into the ground. This encourages low yields of highly concentrated grapes, which are essential for producing wines of exceptional structure and complexity.

The 2020 vintage experienced ideal growing conditions, with balanced temperatures and a long, dry ripening period. This allowed the **Tempranillo grapes** to develop fully, achieving **optimal ripeness**, refined tannins, and vibrant natural acidity.

Winemaking

Real de Asúa 2020 is made exclusively from **100% Tempranillo**, a hallmark grape variety of Rioja. The winemaking process emphasizes precision, purity, and the expression of terroir.

The grapes are meticulously **hand-harvested** and undergo rigorous selection to ensure only the best fruit reaches the cellar. Fermentation takes place in **stainless steel tanks** at controlled temperatures to preserve the aromatic intensity and freshness of the grapes. Gentle extraction techniques are used to ensure fine tannins and a smooth texture.

Once fermentation is complete, the wine is aged in **new French oak barrels** for approximately **12 to 18 months**. This careful aging process enhances the wine's complexity, adding delicate layers of spice, vanilla, and toast without overpowering the purity of the fruit.

The result is a beautifully structured wine that combines **modern precision with traditional Rioja elegance**, showcasing the estate's meticulous attention to detail.

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep ruby red with violet hues, showing brightness and youth.
- **Aroma**: An expressive nose with intense aromas of **red cherries**, **blackberries**, and subtle floral notes of **violet**. Layers of **spices**, **vanilla**, and a hint of **toasted oak** add depth and complexity.
- **Palate**: Full-bodied and velvety, with flavors of **ripe black fruit** such as plums and blackberries, balanced by fresh acidity and well-integrated tannins. Subtle hints of **licorice**, **cedar**, and **dark chocolate** linger through a long, polished finish.

Did You Know?

Real de Asúa is named in honor of the **Asúa brothers**, who founded CVNE in **1879**. This wine represents the estate's modern interpretation of Rioja, showcasing the potential of Tempranillo to produce refined, world-class wines that combine tradition with innovation.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Filet mignon with red wine reduction**: The wine's rich fruit and structured tannins pair beautifully with the tender, savory flavors of the beef.
- **Lamb chops with rosemary and garlic**: The herbal notes complement the Tempranillo's layered spice and dark fruit profile.
- **Wild mushroom risotto**: The earthiness of the mushrooms highlights the wine's depth and subtle oak nuances.
- **Aged Manchego cheese**: The firm texture and nutty flavors of the cheese balance the wine's acidity and silky tannins.

Robert Parker (RP) : 97 Points (2020)

The 2020 Real de Asúa is a wine that changed in 2018 when it started being produced exclusively with Tempranillo from the lieu-dit Carromaza in the village of Villalba. 2020 was warm, and the grapes were picked two weeks earlier than in 2019. The grapes are harvested in 300-kilo palot containers and fermented after a cold soak in small oak vats with indigenous yeasts. Malolactic was in French oak barrels, and the aging was in new and second-use barriques and lasted 12 months. This feels quite classical, balanced and serious. The nose is subtle, elegant and quite impressive, with notes of herbs and a touch of mustard; it's fresh and well above the expectation from a year like 2020. Today, I prefer this to the 2021. 12,453 bottles were filled in March 2023.

Tim Atkin (TA) : 97 Points (2019)

María Larrea uses grapes from CVNE's 2.37-hectare Carromaza vineyard at 600 metres in the village of Villalba to make this superb wine. Scented, glossy and polished, with orange zest, blackcurrant and blackberry fruit, stylish 60% new French oak, some chalky freshness and layered, fine-grained tannins

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James Suckling (JS) : 97 Points (2019)

A full-bodied, ripe and delicious red with firm, lightly chewy tannins. Lots of cherries, dried flowers, coconut and rosemary. Lavender and white roses, too. Firm and very well structured. Tight and fresh at the end. First year with single vineyard on the label.

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