



Alvaro Palacios

The L'Ermita vineyard is a landscape of harmony, privacy and grandeur: a shady amphitheatre at the foot of the chapel of La Consolació, in the very heart of the historical Priorat.

L'Ermita 2021

Priorat, Spain

Its steep, north-east facing slopes cover **1,45 hectares**, planted some **73 years ago** with the region's queen variety, the distinguished and fickle **Grenache**.

The vines grow out of a greenish, cold, beautiful slate rock, or else they emerge over granite and sandstone projections, convex elevations that stand out on the slope.

The grapevines develop naturally under a mild, balanced climate. Cared for to the last detail, perfumed by the gentle Mediterranean breezes, they produce **a wine abounding in mystery, exclusivity and inexplicable strength**.

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GRATALLOPS



Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 91% Grenache, 9%
Cariñena



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L'Ermita 2021



Robert Parker (RP) : 99 Points (2018)

The flagship 2018 L'Ermita is already classified as Gran Vinya Classificada, the new category of grand cru vineyards from the Priorat appellation of origin. Like the 2017, the blend here is mostly Garnacha with about 20% Cariñena (the highest for this wine) and 2% of white grapes. It fermented with indigenous yeasts in oak vats with a maceration of 56 days and matured in oak barrels of different sizes for 14 months. The grapes were picked quite late but on the same date as the previous year, the 17th of October, because the vineyard is so regular. The wine is aromatic, intense and elegant, with a lifted nose and a high-pitched note of violet pastille, more refined than the Aubaguets and Baixada. It is classical and proportioned, with contained and complex aromas and flavors and lots of energy, light in its feel but with inner power and strength. As with most great wines, it should develop nicely and for a long time in bottle but will drink well throughout its life. Grand vin, yes. 2,440 bottles were filled in April 2020.



Decanter (DCT) : 95 Points (2015)

Alvaro Palacios said at the London en primeur tasting: 'L'Ermita is the caprichosa, the spoiled baby. L'Ermita's soil is cold, and it's harvested late: on 5 November in 2013 and 28 October in 2015. We harvest late because of the temperature of the soil, which has 2 diagonal areas of granite running through it. And we have 200 different vineyard plots. Like La Faraona [Bierzo] and Valmira [Rioja], it is grown at the limit – which means it is a spellbinding wine, a fresh wine out of one of the warmest places.' Alvaro Palacios L'Ermita 2015 has a dense dark purple core with pinkish edge in colour. Generous brambly aromas. The palate arrives silky and smooth with bright acidity and dancing freshness. Strikingly cool and elegant, with a very fine texture. Superb finish, full of promise for a terrific future ahead of it. There were 2,400 bottles made.



James Suckling (JS) : 98 Points (2014)

A pretty nose of red flowers and fresh red berries with hints of soft spices. Medium body, a captivating texture of ripe fruit and fresh acidity. So refined and fresh. Finish is gorgeous with pure red-fruit character. Ethereal. Made from 91% garnacha, 8% samsó (a local red grape), 1% of garnacha blanca and 1% macabeo. Drink now or hold. (10/2016)

