



# Vega Sicilia

Macán 2019 is a bold and polished expression of Tempranillo from Rioja DOCa, uniting structure, depth, and precision in a compelling flagship cuvée.



## Macan 2019

Rioja, Spain

### Region and Vineyards

Macán is produced in the **Sonsierra subregion of Rioja Alta**, an area renowned for its elevated vineyards and complex soils. Situated at around **500 metres altitude**, the vines benefit from a cooler mesoclimate and significant diurnal temperature shifts. These conditions preserve acidity and ensure even ripening, ideal for producing structured, age-worthy Tempranillo.

The grapes are drawn from **100 hectares** of vineyard spread across key villages such as **San Vicente de la Sonsierra, Labastida, Ábalos, Navaridas, and Elvillar**. With an average vine age of **40 years**, planted at **3,333 vines/ha**, and yields restricted to **28 hl/ha**, the vineyards deliver concentrated fruit with refined tannins and a clear sense of origin.

### Winemaking

The **2019 vintage** was one of the warmest of the decade, with sustained drought through spring and summer. However, a well-timed rainfall of **80 mm in early September** helped the vines recover and allowed the fruit to gain volume without sacrificing structure. Harvest took place manually between **26 September and 9 October**, with a sharp focus on selecting grapes at optimal ripeness.

Fermentation was conducted with a **gentle, infusion-like approach**, limiting extraction to preserve finesse and avoid excessive tannic weight. Press wines were incorporated with restraint and polished before blending. A greater proportion of **large oak foudres** was used in place of barriques to soften the wine's frame and highlight freshness. The result is a wine of depth, balance, and excellent ageing potential.

Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Tempranillo



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### Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby with garnet reflections, suggesting both richness and early development.
- **Aroma:** Intense and layered, with notes of blackcurrant, ripe plum, graphite, wild herbs, and subtle floral hints, framed by touches of sweet spice and toasted earth.
- **Palate:** Full-bodied and structured, with firm yet refined tannins, a juicy core of black fruit, and a long, brooding finish. The wine displays depth and freshness, with remarkable potential for ageing.

### Did you know?

Macán is not only the **flagship wine of the Rothschild-Vega Sicilia partnership**, but also the product of a meticulous vision begun in 2004. The name "Macán" is inspired by a traditional nickname for the people of San Vicente de la Sonsierra, underlining the wine's deep local roots. The blend of **French winemaking precision and Spanish terroir expression** makes this cuvée a unique ambassador for the evolution of Rioja.

### Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Venison loin with blackcurrant reduction:** The bold structure and dark fruit character complement gamey flavours and sweet-savory sauces.
- **Beef Wellington:** Macán's firm tannins and elegant profile provide balance to the richness of the pastry and beef.
- **Mature Comté or aged Manchego:** The wine's density and subtle oak spice are an ideal match for umami-rich cheeses.
- **Braised oxtail with Rioja sauce:** A regional pairing that enhances the wine's complexity and supports its ample structure.



#### Robert Parker (RP) : 94 Points (2019)

2019 was a more concentrated and powerful year that was warmer and drier; it was saved by the 80 liters of rain in the first half of September, and they tried to select the higher-altitude vineyards to have more freshness. They reduced the amount of new barrique (55%) and increased the use of foudre (45%) for the élevage of the 2019 Macán. It fermented in stainless steel with 10% of their own yeasts. It has a moderate 14% alcohol, mellow acidity and good freshness and balance. 2019 was a dry and warm year when they did a soft vinification to avoid harsh tannins. The wine is very powerful and dense, with a big structure and plenty of tannins. The oak is still noticeable in the aromatics. Give it some more time in bottle, and enjoy with powerful food. 87,377 bottles, 2,583 magnums and some larger formats produced. It was bottled in August 2021.



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### **Decanter (DCT) : 96 Points (2016)**

*Okay, now they're really starting to turn out the hits with regularity. Feels poised and confident, while pointing down the barrel of black chocolate, black cherry, olive paste, liquorice and rosemary spice. I love where this wine is going, but it's going to take its own sweet time to get there. First vintage entirely in the new winery, and the first year where they stopped the malolactic in barrel, concentrating just on the 225l then the 4,000l vats. They also began incorporating the press wine at an earlier stage to give it more time to integrate (only the first press is ever used). Not easy for a new estate to stand out even with the Rothschild and Alvarez names attached, but this is starting to feel like an extremely serious wine to get to know. (JA)*



### **Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 95 Points (2016)**

*Opaque ruby. A highly perfumed bouquet evokes black raspberry, cherry cola, potpourri and exotic spices, and smoky mineral and vanilla nuances build in the glass. Appealingly sweet, palate-coating red and blue fruit preserve, spicecake, mocha and candied lavender flavors show excellent depth as well as energy and back-end lift. Finishes impressively long, smoky and precise, with polished tannins adding framework and closing grip. (JR)*



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