

Michelini i Mufatto

Michelini i Mufatto En El Camino is a vibrant village wine from D.O. Bierzo, showcasing the region's diversity through a blend of old-vine Mencía and other native varieties, offering freshness, purity, and expressive character.

## En El Camino 2022

MICHELINI i MUFATTO

Bierzo, Spain

## Region and Vineyards

The wine is sourced from vineyards across Magaz de Abajo, Cacabelos, Arganza, and Villafranca del Bierzo in the D.O. Bierzo appellation, located in northwest Spain. These areas are characterized by varied altitudes, ranging from 200 to 500 meters above sea level, and diverse soil compositions, including clay and quartz.

The vines, averaging **80 years old**, are free-standing and head-trained. They are cultivated using **organic farming practices** and dry-farmed, relying solely on natural rainfall. The vineyards span **10 hectares**, with orientations to the north, east, and west, ensuring optimal exposure and balance in grape ripening.

## Winemaking

The **2022 vintage** was marked by a **mild spring** and a **dry summer**, leading to early ripening and highly expressive fruit. The harvest took place in **September**, ensuring optimal maturity for the blend.

Winemaking involved **spontaneous fermentation**, with **30% whole clusters** to preserve freshness and enhance complexity. A short post-fermentation maceration ensured a delicate extraction of tannins and color. The wine was then aged for **1 year**, with **50% in wooden vats** and **50% in stainless steel vats**, striking a balance between structure and vibrancy. Bottling occurred in **October 2022**, yielding a production of **30,000 bottles**.

## **Tasting Notes**

- Color: Bright ruby red with youthful brilliance.
- **Aromas**: A bouquet of **red cherries**, **cranberries**, and subtle floral notes, with hints of **wet stone** and **herbs**.
- **Palate**: Fresh and lively, featuring flavors of **raspberry**, **pomegranate**, and a touch of minerality. The wine's crisp acidity and gentle tannins create a balanced, approachable finish.



Alcohol:12,50 %

Composition: 90% Mencia, 3%

Alicante Bouschet





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## Did you know?

**En El Camino**, meaning "On the Way," symbolizes the journey of Michelini i Mufatto through Bierzo's vineyards, integrating the diversity of the region's terroir into a unified and expressive wine.

## Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled chicken with Mediterranean herbs**: Enhances the wine's herbal and floral nuances.
- Roasted red peppers stuffed with rice and pine nuts: Complements the wine's acidity and red fruit profile.
- Manchego cheese with quince paste: Balances the wine's bright fruit flavors.
- **Mushroom and goat cheese tart**: Highlights the wine's earthy and vibrant qualities.

# 93

#### Robert Parker (RP): 93 Points (2022)

I also tasted two vintages of their village red, but in this case it was already 2022 and 2021. 2022 was also a warm year, extremely dry, with a very torrid summer, but they managed to keep the alcohol level of the 2022 En el Camino to the same 12.5% as the 2021 I tasted next to it. Furthermore, there might have been some blocking in the plants, as the alcohol didn't go up and the acidity was kept. It's very primary and innocent. It's 90% Mencía with 10% other grapes like Palomino, Doña Blanca and Alicante Bouschet, fermented with 30% full clusters and a short maceration. Fifty percent of the wine matured in oak casks and the other 50% in stainless steel for a period of a little less than one year. 30,000 bottles produced. It was bottled in June 2023.



