



# Bodegas Alion

The Alión 2020 is an iconic wine from Ribera del Duero, made from 100% Tempranillo by Bodegas y Viñedos Alión, a property owned by the prestigious Vega Sicilia group. This wine stands out for its depth, intensity, and great elegance.



## ALION



Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Tempranillo

## Alion 2020

Ribera del Duero, Spain

### Region and Vineyards

The **Ribera del Duero** is a renowned wine region in northern Spain, located along the banks of the Duero River. Known for producing some of Spain's finest wines, this region benefits from a unique terroir. The continental climate, with hot summers and cold winters, plays a crucial role in the ripening of the grapes. The warm days help the Tempranillo develop concentrated aromas, while the cool nights preserve acidity, essential for the wine's balance and longevity.

The Alión vineyard is primarily planted on **limestone and clay soils**, providing ideal conditions for growing **Tempranillo**. These soils impart minerality and elegant tannic structure to the wine. The vineyard is cultivated using **traditional methods**, with a careful management of yields to ensure the highest quality of the grapes. The diversity of the plots allows for the production of wines with unique aromatic complexity, showcasing both the richness of the terroir and the modern philosophy of Bodegas y Viñedos Alión.

### Winemaking

The Alión 2020 is the result of meticulous winemaking, starting with a **strict selection of grapes**, hand-harvested to ensure only the best fruit is used. After harvest, the grapes are destemmed and fermented in **temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks**, preserving the fresh and fruity aromas of Tempranillo. This stainless steel fermentation process ensures a pure expression of the fruit, unmasked by excessive oak influence.

After fermentation, the wine is aged for **12 months in French oak barrels**, with a portion of the barrels being new. This choice of oak aging adds complexity without overpowering the fruit, imparting subtle notes of vanilla, sweet spices, and fine wood. The long barrel aging process softens the tannins while preserving the wine's freshness and acidity. Before bottling, the wine is neither filtered nor fined, ensuring that its structure and aging potential remain intact. The result is a powerful yet elegant wine, with aging potential extending beyond 20 years.



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ALIÓN

## Alion 2020

### Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep purple with violet hues.
- **Nose:** A complex bouquet with aromas of **wild blackberries, blackcurrant jelly, pomegranate seeds**, and delicate floral hints. Subtle notes of **precious wood, balsamic**, and **Mediterranean herbs** add to the refined profile.
- **Palate:** The attack is **velvety**, with a fluid texture and perfectly integrated tannins. Mid-palate warmth is typical of Ribera, with flavors of **stone fruits, dates**, and a touch of **flower honey**. The finish is long and balanced, with lingering notes of **wild red berries** and **blood orange peel**.

### Did you know?

**Alión** is the only cuvée produced by Bodegas y Viñedos Alión, a winery founded in 1991 by the Vega Sicilia group to craft modern wines while staying true to the identity of Ribera del Duero. Unlike the American oak traditionally used at Vega Sicilia, Alión is aged exclusively in **French oak barrels**, highlighting the contemporary orientation of this wine.

### Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Beef fillet:** The richness in tannins and structure of Alión pairs perfectly with a tender, juicy beef fillet.
- **Braised shank:** The depth of the wine and its balsamic notes complement the intense flavors of slow-cooked, tender braised meat.
- **Grilled lamb chops:** The Mediterranean flavors and velvety texture of Alión elevate the smoky and herbal aromas of grilled lamb chops.
- **Roasted game:** The power of Tempranillo and its dark fruit and spice notes match beautifully with game dishes like venison or wild boar.



#### Robert Parker (RP) : 95 Points (2020)

*2020 was drier than average until the harvest, when it rained and diluted the grapes, and they had to wait to regain concentration. The result is that the 2020 Alión is a wine with better balance and freshness. They felt the skins were very ripe and they could extract more and use a little more American oak (4%) in the élevage. From 2019, they kept the press wine separate until June, and they keep separate quantities of press wines that are aged in different containers depending on the quality of the wine. They used a percentage of concrete and oak vats for the élevage, which gives the wine more verticality and freshness. It's a subtle and elegant Alión, not as dense as some other vintages, but with nice balance and very elegant tannins. In 2020, they produced 285,485 bottles of this wine, 7,115 magnums and some larger formats. It was bottled in May 2022.*



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