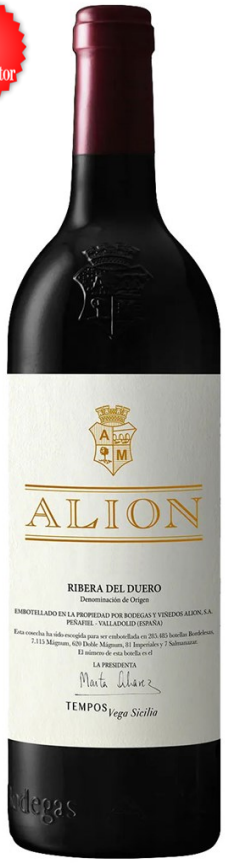


Bodegas Alion

From Ribera del Duero, Spain's highland red-wine country, Alion 2022 channels pure Tinto Fino into a polished expression of dark fruit, refined oak, and quietly powerful structure for the table.

ALION

95 Wine Spectator



Alion 2022

Ribera del Duero, Spain

Region and Vineyards

Ribera del Duero is one of Spain's leading red-wine denominations, positioned along the Duero River in the elevated interior of Castilla y León. Its wines are built around Tinto Fino, the local expression of Tempranillo, and are recognised for combining ripe fruit with firm structure. The denomination's broad inland setting encourages wines with concentration and definition, while vineyard selection remains central to achieving balance and refinement.

For Alion 2022, grapes come from **selected vineyards** within Ribera del Duero. The available technical descriptions identify **clay-limestone soils**, a combination that supports both depth and freshness in the finished wine. These sites provide the foundation for a red that feels distinctly regional while remaining polished and contemporary. Bodegas Alion's focus on hand-selected fruit allows the wine to express the character of its vineyards with precision, giving the vintage a composed, structured profile suited to the richness of Tinto Fino.

Winemaking

Alion 2022 is made from **100% Tinto Fino**, also known as Tempranillo, the signature red grape of Ribera del Duero. Fruit is hand selected before fermentation, ensuring that the cuvée is built from carefully chosen grapes with the concentration and balance expected from Bodegas Alion. The wine is listed at 14.5% alcohol, reflecting its generous yet controlled style.

Fermentation takes place in **stainless steel**, with wood or concrete vessels also used in the process. This combination allows the winemaking to unite precision with textural depth, preserving the character of the fruit while adding breadth to the palate. Maturation incorporates **French oak** together with larger-volume or concrete vessels, bringing measured spice and polish without obscuring the identity of the Tinto Fino. The result is a structured Ribera del Duero red with a refined, modern finish.

Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 100% Tempranillo

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Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby-red with a dark garnet core and bright crimson reflections.
- **Aroma:** Ripe blackberry, black cherry, plum, violet, cedar, sweet spice, cocoa, and subtle earthy notes.
- **Palate:** Full-bodied and polished, with concentrated dark fruit, firm yet fine-grained tannins, balanced freshness, and a long finish marked by vanilla, spice, and savory depth.

Did You Know?

Alion 2022 is produced entirely from Tinto Fino, the local name for Tempranillo in Ribera del Duero. The wine's identity is therefore built around a single regional grape, interpreted through a **modern vessel program** that combines stainless steel, wood, concrete, and French oak.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled rib-eye steak:** The wine's firm tannins and dark-fruited concentration complement the richness and char of the meat.
- **Roast lamb with rosemary:** Savory herbs echo the wine's earthy and spicy nuances, while the structure matches the lamb's depth.
- **Iberian pork loin:** The fruit and oak tones work naturally with the meat's caramelised, savoury character.
- **Mature Manchego cheese:** Salty, nutty flavours provide a satisfying contrast to the wine's generous fruit and polished tannins.

95 Wine Spectator

Wine Spectator (WS) : 95 Points (2022)

This is alluring, with a core of warmed black cherry and plum sauce flavors laced with fragrant accents of cinnamon, violet, licorice, dried mint and bay leaf. There's a suave feel to this red, which effortlessly enmeshes a firm core of fine-grained tannins with a plush texture and fresh focus. Expands beautifully on the palate, revealing additional details of espresso, smoked paprika and mineral that linger on the finish. Drink now through 2040.

95 Robert Parker

Robert Parker (RP) : 95 Points (2022)

The 2022 Alión comes from a year they considered to be a challenge; it was warm and dry and ripeness didn't follow the usual pattern: late vineyards ripened earlier and early vineyards took longer this year. Their obsession was to keep the freshness in the wine, so they did a softer vinification and employed more careful use of oak, using larger volumes and other materials like concrete to tame a powerful and solar vintage. The nose is serious and even has some austerity. The wine is obviously juicier and rounder, with 14.5% alcohol, a pH of 3.89 and 4.58 grams of acidity, but it has very good balance overall. The tannins are round, polished and slightly dustier than other vintages, and the wine has a tender mouthfeel. A total of 270,870 bottles, 7,040 magnums and some larger formats were produced. It was bottled in May 2024 and released in 2026.

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Tim Atkin (TA) : 94 Points (2022)

Alión is very much a pan-Ribera red, based on grapes from Moradillo, with other components from Padilla, Pesquera, Peñafanda, Villálvaro and the Vega Sicilia estate. Gonzalo Iturriaga used only 70% new wood in 2022 because of the concentration of the vintage, producing a Tempranillo that's appealingly refined and floral, all subtle aromatic spices, bramble and summer berry flavours and a focused finish. 2027-33.