

Contino Graciano 2020

Since 1994, Contino has made a pioneering effort to rescue the Graciano variety from oblivion in the Rioja region. Contino Graciano is a 100% monovarietal wine; with an intense, vivid color, deeply aromatic, imbued with the spirit of a wine of northern Spain, Atlantic in character, fresh and complex.



- **Type of wine:** Red
- **Region of production:** Rioja Alavesa
- **Year:** 2020
- **Contino vintage rating:** Excellent
- **Grape varieties:** 100% Graciano
- **Bottle type:** Bordeaux
- **Production and bottle size:** 5,326 bot. 75cl.
- **Bottling date:** June 2023
- **Aging and barrel type:** 1 month in pure concrete tanks and 24 months in French oak barrel of second use

Analytical data

- **Alcoholic volume:** 13.58%
- **Total acidity:** 6.8
- **pH:** 3.25
- **Volatile acidity:** 0.70
- **SO₂ Free/Total:** 30/86
- **Total Polyphenols Index:** 53.4

The vineyard

Manual harvest in our vineyards around our Finca de San Rafael. Grapes from San Gregorio, Graciano vineyard (3.7 ha) planted in 1979, clay-limestone soil which offers this variety a complete maturity while preserving its characteristic acidity.

Winemaking

Manual selection in the field and selection table in the winery, to ensure the highest quality. The main objective in this vinification is to preserve the characteristics of the variety. Alcoholic fermentation in 100 HI French oak vats at a moderate temperature to ensure good color extraction. After malolactic fermentation, it is aged in pure concrete tanks for a month. After this time, the wine is transferred to second-use French oak barrels. It remains there for 2 years until bottling.

Vintage / Harvest description

The 2020 vintage was marked by an early harvest, affected by climate change. An early harvest, with an interesting ripening phase, marked by high yields in the vineyard. Marked by high rainfall, above average values. Prior to and during the harvest, there were episodes of rain which made harvest challenging. The vintage is characterized by moderate temperatures throughout the entire cycle. Great health conditions of the grapes, making the selection of the best quality grapes easy, and marking the 2020 harvest as a special vintage with great quality. The Graciano harvest took place on September 22nd.

Tasting notes

Graciano 2020 is characterized by the expression of the variety in a difficult vintage. On the nose, we find notes of black fruit, typical for the hot vintage. Intense aromas of black plum and heather flower stand out. Mineral and balsamic notes, with hints of chocolate and tobacco. On the palate, creamy with balanced and pleasant acidity. Characteristic notes of the Graciano variety, such as aromatic herbs like rosemary. A long finish wrapped in silky tannins and notes of oak from the barrel aging, making it a pleasant wine.

