

# Imperial Gran Reserva 2014

*Imperial is one of the great names in Spanish winemaking. A true Rioja Classic, it was first produced in the 1920s. It is only made in vintages that the company classifies as Excellent.*



- **Type of wine:** Gran Reserva
- **Region of production:** Rioja Alta, Haro
- **Year:** 2014
- **DOCa vintage rating:** Very good
- **CVNE vintage rating:** Excellent
- **Grape varieties:** 85% Tempranillo, 10% Graciano, 5% Mazuelo
- **Bottle type:** Bordelais
- **Bottle size:** 75 cl., 1,5 l.
- **Bottling date:** January 2017

## *Analytical data*

- **Alcoholic volume:** 13,50% Vol.
- **Total acidity:** 5.64
- **pH:** 3.58
- **Suitable for Vegans**
- **Volatile acidity:** 0.71
- **SO<sub>2</sub> Free / Total:** 27/78
- **Total Polyphenols Index:** 66

## *Winemaking*

The grapes for Imperial Gran Reserva come from our best and oldest vineyards around Villalba, Briones and Torremontalbo, and which are over 40 years old. Rigorous work in the vineyard followed by hand harvesting into 20kg boxes with exhaustive selection in the field ensured the collection of great quality grapes. Once in the winery, the grapes were held in a refrigerated chamber for 24 hours and then subjected to a second manual selection on a selection table. To ensure gentle handling, the grapes were fed by gravity to French oak vats for the alcoholic fermentation. Once completed, the wine was then aged in French and American oak barrels for over 24 months, followed by minimum 36 months bottle ageing in our century-old cellars until its release.

## *Vintage / Harvest description*

The 2014 growing season lasted 182 days. The year went by with a favorable climate, leading us to expect a good harvest. Both the summer months and harvest time were marked by more rain than expected.

Once again the preventive treatments carried out in our vineyards, such as the thinning of clusters and leaf removal, allowed us to obtain quality grapes.

Imperial harvest started on September 2<sup>nd</sup> and finished within two weeks.

## *Tasting Notes*

Deep garnet in colour with cherry red hints at the rim. The nose shows an intriguing and complex range of aromas balanced between primary and tertiary notes. Amongst others, forest fruits, liquorice, spices such as cloves, black pepper and nutmeg along with tobacco leaf and roasted coffee can be found. The palate reveals an elegant wine, with soft but well defined tannins giving structure and texture. The finish is long and balsamic. This is a perfect partner for red meats, game, oily fish and cured cheeses. Recommended serving temperature 18°C.