

# Orben, Rioja 2017

# Rioja Alavesa, Rioja, Spain



Grape Varieties	100% Tempranillo
Winemaker	Ruth Rodríguez
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	14.5%
Acidity	5.2g/L
Wine pH	3.62
Bottle Sizes	75cl

#### **PRODUCER**

Orben is an exciting estate in Rioja Alavesa from the same team behind Izadi, established with the aim of producing a single estate Rioja that rivals the best of the region. The Antón family owns 75% of the property, with the remaining 25% being split between 50 of Spain's top restaurants - all friends of the family who share a common passion for fine food and wine.

#### **VINEYARDS**

The vineyards benefit from the mitigating influence of the Atlantic Ocean giving the resulting wines fresh acidity, which is important in a very warm climate. This area has the highest percentage of old vines in Rioja. The grapes for this wine come from a selection of 79 plots of an average size of 0.30 hectares, located in Laguardia. The vineyards were planted between 1945 and 1954 and have an average yield of four tonnes per hectare. The bush vine vineyards are planted on limestone and clay soil at an altitude of around 520 metres above sea level.

### **VINTAGE**

Spring and summer were very warm, and as a result, harvest started 15 days earlier than the previous year and finished before the end of September. Weather in September was exceptionally cold and dry, with temperatures more than 2°C lower than during the past 10 years which allowed the grapes to mature slowly and in perfect health until harvest.

#### **VINIFICATION**

Harvest began mid-October. The grapes were hand picked into 15 kilogram boxes and manually selected on the sorting table. After fermentation in temperature controlled stainless-steel tanks, malolactic fermentation took place in oak and stainless steel. The wine was then aged for 12 months in fine grain French oak (50% new, 50% two year old).

## **TASTING NOTES**

This wine is intense garnet red in colour. It is very interesting on the nose, with aromas of cherry, blackberry, toffee, toasty oak and a hint of leather. It has a complex and impeccable balance, with a long and aromatic finish.