

LAS CENIZAS

RIOJA ALTA

Las Cenizas takes its name from one of the most important towns of the D.O.C.a Rioja: Cenicero, in the heart of Rioja Alta, from where the Hernáiz brothers are native. Cenicero means ashtray in Spanish and Cenizas means ashes. A name believed to come from the bonfire ashes that the primitive shepherds left on the surrounding areas of the village.

An iconic village for its vineyards and the quality of its wines.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS 2021 Vintage

The 2021 vintage was mainly characterised by very dry conditions. After a very warm February the year continued without any notable climatic events. The bud break on normal dates was later than in the previous vintage, which was very early.

The spring was warm and not very humid, which accelerated vegetative development. Rainfall was very irregular throughout the year, with June being the rainiest month, followed by occasional showers, moderate temperatures and cool nights throughout the summer.

These ideal conditions for the vineyard favoured the production of aromatic compounds and an important natural acidity, resulting in fresh wines of optimal ripeness.

The scarcity of water during the summer months led to good health in the vineyard and ideal conditions for the harvest, which arrived about 10 days later than last year, reaching a date typical of a cool vintage.

HARVEST Hand-harvested, between the 23rd and the 29th of September 2021, in 180 kg crates.

VARIETALS (100%) Tempranillo.

WINEMAKING

Destemmed grapes partially uncrushed fermented in concrete tanks with controlled temperature and indigenous yeasts. Very gentle pump-overs were carried on a daily basis during fermentation, which lasted for 12 days.

AGEING

Aged in French (40%) and American (60%) oak barriques for 17 months.

ANALYSIS

Alcohol: 14,3% / pH: 3,69 / Total acidity: 5,5 g/l / Volatile acidity: 0,58 g/l.

REGION: Rioja Alta, D.O.C.a. Rioja.

VINEYARDS: Grapes from 3 vineyards: Puentarrón, Los Hundidos and Sanchisnal, planted in the 80's by the Hernáiz family.

TERROIR: Mainly clayey-calcareous soils with gravels in Puentarrón and Los Hundidos vineyards; with clay and lime, wich result in a pompous wine with a polished and fruity tannin, unctuous but fresh.

Yields of 5,830 kg/ha (37,80 hl/ha).

PRODUCTION: 20.270 bottles and 1.028 Magnum.

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RATINGS

Robert Parker, 2024	91 points
Guía Peñín, 2024	92 points
James Suckling, 2023	92 points