



Finca La Emperatriz

RESERVA 2005



BODEGAS
La Emperatriz

vintage

Year	2005
Climate	There was little rain or snow in winter, so budding was weak. Flowering and bunch set was normal, but was clearly marked by the drought, which was broken shortly afterwards by heavy rains. This water was vital for the plants over the summer months and the grapes ripened slowly and evenly. Despite the presence of a few storms towards the end of summer, the harvest was uneventful and the grapes were very healthy.

origin

Region	Rioja Alta · D.O.C. Rioja
Plot	A blend of grapes from plots number 4, 11, 14 and 15 from Finca La Emperatriz.
Soil	An impressive soil, with a top layer of 40cm of large whitish pebbles over a loose, sandy sub-soil. Very elegant wines are usually made in these sort of soils; they are ideal for growing grapes, as they have excellent drainage, deep root structure, limited access to nutrients and perfect illumination.
Vineyard	60 year old bush vines from the 'Emperatriz' estate, with a yield of 1.5 kg per vine.



technical data

Harvest	By hand during the first three weeks of October.
Grape variety	Tempranillo 90%, Graciano 6%, Garnacha 2% and Viura 2%.
Wine-making	After fermenting at 23°C for 8 days, the wine was left with the skins for a further 18 days. It was then racked to new oak barrels.
Ageing	Aged in 225 litre oak barrels (60% American 40% French) 23 months, with three further rackings over that time.
Analysis	Alcohol: 13.8 vol / PH: 3.61 / Total Acidity: 3.5 g/l / Volatil Acidity: 0.55 g/l
Tasting note	This is a wine which is ruby red in colour, with a fairly opaque colour and a notable density. It has an intense aroma, where the scents from the ageing are immediately noticeable: vanilla, cigar box, caramel. On further appraisal the fruits come to the fore, the varietal aromas from Tempranillo like blackberries and plums. The palate is also intense, powerful and well-structured, but with a polished tannin. It is outstandingly well-balanced, with fruit, acidity and wood all present but not dominating.

