

Imperial Gran Reserva Tinto

THE FACTS

COUNTRY: Spain

REGION: Rioja

APPELLATION: Rioja

CEPAGE: 85% Tempranillo, 10% Graciano, 5% Carignan

WINEMAKING: Cold-stored 24 hours, gravity fed into French oak vats, native yeast fermentation.

ALCOHOL BY VOLUME: 13.5%

AGING: Minimum 24 mo. in new French and American oak

THE STORY

Imperial is one of the renowned references in the entire history of Spanish winemaking. It is a true classic in Rioja and was first bottled in the 1920's. Its name was originally adopted after a special bottling for the English market in a bottle called 'Pinta Imperial' or 'Imperial Pint' (an Imperial pint, half a litre approximately). The grapes to make Imperial have always come from our own 28 hectares of vineyards in Villalba (Rioja Alta), and selected vineyards in the nearby communes of Briones and Montalvo, where our vines average age is kept over 20 years to secure quality. The Imperial cellar is a truly independent winery inside the original CVNE winery. This cellar allows for a fully traditional winemaking process subject to the strictest quality controls.

THE ADJECTIVES

OVERALL: Intriguing & Complex

AROMAS / FLAVORS: Forest fruits, licorice, savory spices

MOUTHFEEL: Structured & Textured

THE SELLING POINTS

SUSTAINABILITY: Vegan

PAIRINGS: Perfect for red meats, game, oily fish, cured cheeses

