

ARTILLERO 2019

DOCa Rioja

Varieties: 90% Tempranillo, 5% Graciano and 5% Viura.

Production: 2.300 bottles

ARTILLERO is the perfect expression of Tempranillo from old vines growing on the soils of Rioja Alavesa. Powerful, yet elegant.

Vineyards

A 101-year (1919) old vineyard of 1 ha located in Elvillar (Rioja Alavesa) at 600 metres altitude with calcareous clay composition. A mixed plot of Tempranillo, Viura and Garnacha Blanca that only yields 3000 kg per hectare.

Winemaking

The fermentation of the hand-picked grapes is carried out in open vat and barrels using indigenous yeast. The malolactic fermentation takes place in used French oak barrels of 500 litre. After racking the wine remains another 12 months in oak for ageing.

Character

Forest fruit (wild strawberry, bramble, cherry) together with the well integrated oak give Artillero its softness. This is balanced by a pleasantly fresh acidity and grippy but fine-grained tannin structure. Flavours of black fruit, roasted plum, sweet spices, violets, thyme and a touch of leather. An intense lively wine.

What's in a name

The former owner of this vineyard used to be a gunner in the civil war. Artillero (Spanish for gunner) became his nickname. Grateful for the great care he took of the vineyard, now 100 years old, Oxa decided to name both the plot and the wine after him. Also does Artillero happen to be a Kamasutra position. Hence the label.

Analysis

Alcohol 14,5%

Total acidity (in tartaric acid) 6,03 g/l

PH 3,57

Acknowledgements

Artillero 2018: 93 points - Robert Parker 2020

Artillero 2017: 92 points - Tim Atkin MW Rioja 2020 Special Report

Artillero 2016: 91 points - Tim Atkin MW Rioja 2019 Special Report

Artillero 2014: 92 points - Guía Peñin 2019

Artillero 2014: 92 points - Robert Parker 2016

Artillero 2014: 92 points - Tim Atkin MW Rioja 2017 Special Report

Artillero 2014: 93 points - James Suckling 2016

Artillero 2016: 91 points - Tim Atkin 2019

