

ORIGIN

Ribeira Sacra, Galicia, Spain.

VARIETIES

80% Mencía, with the remainder split between Brancellao, Garnacha Tintorera, and others.

VINEYARD

From a selection of vineyards on the Sil river, one of the two main rivers of Ribeira Sacra. All of the sites for this wine are more than 65-years-old and the soils are slate with iron and quartz.

VINIFICATION METHOD

The grapes were harvested by hand and fermented with native yeasts on the skins in used French oak vats with 40% whole clusters. After fermentation, the wine was racked to 3000L used French oak foudre, where it rested for 18 months. No fining, no filtering, and only a small sulfur addition at bottling.

PROPERTIES

Alcohol: 13.5%



PRODUCER PROFILE

Pedro Rodríguez of Adegas Guímaro descends from a long line of *winegrowers* working in the Amandi area, Ribeira Sacra's most prime subzone of perilously steep south facing vineyards planted on local *Losa* slate, just above the river Sil. The previous generation, his parents Manolo and Carmen, still work with him in the vines. They named their winery Guímaro (meaning "rebel" in Gallego) when they established it in 1991. In the past, Pedro's family had produced small quantities of wine for their own consumption and sold their wine in *garrafones* - 20-liter glass containers - to local cantinas. In the early 1990s, they began to bottle their wines, and Guímaro was one of the first *adegas* to join the Ribeira Sacra appellation when it was founded in 1996. Like other traditional winemaking regions of inland Galicia, the area was in steep decline until the early 1990s. Pedro's winemaking has been and is resolutely traditional: for the single vineyard wines, they employ wild yeast fermentation, foot treading in open-top vessels, stem inclusion, low sulfur additions, and fermentation and aging in used foudre.

VINTAGE REPORT

2020 was a warmer vintage that yielded wines with a great concentration of fruit. The concentration is probably due to the year's low yields (25% less than typical) and some extreme heat in the summer. Overall, it is a successful and approachable vintage from Ribeira Sacra.