José Pastor Selections PIONEERING GROWER-PRODUCED FINE IBERIAN WINES

Grower Jon Peñagaricano Appellation La Rioja Subzone/Locality Rioja Alta/Haro Climate Continental, Atlantic Varieties Tempranillo, Garnacha Soil clay-calcareous Elevation 450-600 meters Vine Age 25-40 years old Pruning Espaldera & En Vaso Farming Lutte Raisonée Production 9,000 bottles

Akutain Reserva



With almost 40 years of experience under their belt, **Bodega Akutain** produces classically-styled Rioja wines exclusively from their own 6.5 hectares of vineyards located near the town of Haro, in the subzone Rioja Alta, widely considered to be the most prestigious terruño for producing age-worthy Rioja wines. Founded by Juan José Peñagaricano Akutain, the bodega is now run by his son, Jon Peñagaricano. Artisan in all aspects of production, Akutain hand harvests, ferments with native yeasts with little extraction, and works with old oak for elevage; the resultant wines are throwbacks to Rioja's past - 12.5 to 13% alcohol, beautifully aromatic, nuanced, and age-worthy.

The Akutain vineyards are situated in the valley of the River Tirón in the subzone of **Rioja Alta**, at the foot of the Sierra Cantabria mountain range, and surrounded by the Rivers Ebro and Tirón. The moderately high elevation, influence of the two rivers, clay-calcareous soils, and continental climate -with Atlantic and Mediterranean influences-make Rioja Alta one of the most hospitable environs for ripening the Tempranillo grape.

The Akutain **Reserva** is comprised of mostly Tempranillo with Garnacha. It was fermented with native yeasts in steel vats, and raised in older American oak for 2 years and 10 months, with additional year in the bottle before release - far exceeding the Rioja D.O.'s aging requirements for Reserva wines.