



ALFREDO MAESTRO

ALMATE 2022

ORIGIN

Peñafiel, Ribera del Duero, Castilla y León.

VARIETIES

100% Tempranillo.

VINEYARD

From a selection of vineyards around 850-950m of elevation in Ribera del Duero, planted on alluvial, clay and limestone soils. Vines range in age from 15-60 years old.

VINIFICATION METHOD

The grapes were harvested by hand in the first week of October, the crushed with the stems and vinified with native yeasts by parcel in stainless steel tanks. Maceration lasts for 12-15 days with daily pump-overs. The wine finishes fermentation in the same tank, then is racked and finally bottled without additives of any sort.

PROPERTIES

Alcohol: 14.5%
Sulfites: 0 Added



PRODUCER PROFILE

Alfredo Maestro's family came to Peñafiel from the Basque Country. Having grown up amongst the vines, Alfredo had a great interest in wine and started making his own in 1998. From the beginning he farmed organically, yet in the cellar he worked literally "by the book," teaching himself enology from a textbook and using all the tricks to make a "correct" Ribera del Duero wine: cultured yeasts, acids, enzymes, tannins, color-enhancers, etc. In the early 2000's Alfredo had a revelation: as an organic farmer, why should he use chemicals to adjust the finished wine? He wanted to work as naturally in the winery as he did in the vineyard, as he puts it "to better tell the story of the land." Alfredo began eliminating exogenous products, and by 2003 he was making wine without any additives whatsoever, including sulfur. Over the past several years, Alfredo has been seeking out old, neglected, high elevation parcels around Castilla y León, and more recently in nearby Sierra de Gredos Mountains west of Madrid. He has two small bodegas, one located in his native Peñafiel where his father helps in the bodega, the other in the Navalcarnero area southwest of Madrid.

VINTAGE REPORT

2022 was an extremely dry vintage, and in many places the vines suffered for the lack of water. Yields were down about 20% and harvest was moved up by two weeks to ensure adequate acidity.

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