## José Pastor Selections

**Growers** Emilio Ramírez & Envínate

**Region** Tenerife, Canary Islands

**Appellation** Ycoden-Daute-Isora

**Climate** Atlantic

Varieties Listan Blanco

**Soil** Volcanic

**Elevation** 1,000-1,200 meters

**Vine Age** 70-105 years

**Pruning** Untrained

Farming Practicing organic

**Production** 833 cases

## **Envínate**Benje Blanco 2016



Envínate ("wine yourself") is the brainchild of Laura Ramos, Jose Martínez, Roberto Santana and Alfonso Torrente, four friends who met while studying winegrowing at the University of Miguel Hernández in Alicante. Their work, both in the vineyard and winery, is focused on exploring the ancient, Atlantic-infused terruños of Ribeira Sacra and the Canary Islands, as well as exceptional vineyard plots across the Iberian Peninsula. The Envínate philosophy is simple: allow each parcel to fully express itself in the finished wine by utilizing old-fashioned farming and winemaking methods. The results are some of the most exciting wines being produced in Spain today.

The Benje wines are from vineyards in and around **Santiago del Teide**, high on the northwestern volcanic slopes of the island of **Tenerife**. The viticulture is very old-fashioned: the vines grow untrained, the soil is worked by hand, and no chemicals are used. The island experiences a fairly temperate climate, enabling grapes to ripen at moderate alcohol levels while retaining bright acidity. The main challenges to viticulture are winds from the Atlantic and Africa and fluctuations in humidity.

**Benje Blanco** is sourced from several old-vine, untrained *pie franco* parcels of **Listan Blanco**. Each parcel is hand-harvested and vinified separately in a mix of concrete tank and open tubs. 75% of the fruit is pressed directly off the skins, the other 25% is skin-macerated 14-40 days between 18-30C. The wine is then raised for 8 months in 60% concrete and 40% old French barriques on fine lees without battonage or added SO2. The finished wine is clarified with Bentonite, and bottled without filtration. Benje Blanco is a high-toned white wine, showing its volcanic terruño with smoky notes wrapped around the orchard fruit core, braced by Atlantic-infused high-elevation acidity. Pair it with prawns, scallops, roasted pork or goat.