

ORIGIN

Ribeira Sacra, Galicia, Spain.

VARIETIES

Mostly Mencía with small amounts (<15%) of other traditional local varieties like Brancellao, Caiño, Marenzao, etc.

VINEYARD

From a mix of older vineyards around Amandi that are planted on slate soils.

VINIFICATION METHOD

The grapes were harvested by hand and fermented in stainless steel tank with native yeasts. The wine rests in the same vessel for 8 months on the lees, then is bottled. No fining, light mechanical filtration, and small sulfur addition at bottling.

PROPERTIES

Alcohol: 12%

Bottles Made: 120,000.

GUÍMARO TINTO 2021

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

2021 was a fascinating vintage in Galicia, especially in Ribeira Sacra. It brought to mind vintages from the 90's: a rainy winter and early spring, a long, cool, and somewhat wet summer, and a drier fall. All of the area's wines have less ripeness, less alcohol, and more acid.

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