Ángel Rodríguez

MARTINSANCHO GRAN VINO DE RUEDA VERDEJO - 2020

REGION: SPAIN - CASTILLA Y LEON

ÁNGEL RODRÍGUEZ

Ángel Rodríguez Vidal belonged to a family of winegrowers and winemakers from La Seca with a winemaking tradition that dates back to 1780. Martínsancho is Ángel Rodríguez' mid 19th-century vineyard in the Rueda. This special vineyard and Ángel himself are responsible for the preservation of Rueda's indigenous Verdejo grape. Planted in 1972, cuttings from this special vineyard were used in 1976 to establish a 10.11 ha (25-acre) vineyard planted in the traditional head-pruned fashion and dry-farmed. Low yield "Verdejo" produces wines with a delicate floral nose, viscosity, a long finish. Ángel is one of the founders of Denominación de Origen Rueda, which was established in 1980. In recognition of his dedication to the preservation of this variety, he was awarded the Cruz de la Orden Civil del Merito Agrícola by King Juan Carlos in 1982.
Today, the winery is run by his daughter, the winemaker Mª Concepcion Rodriguez, who makes wine with the same spirit and love of the vineyard as her father. Farmed using organic principles, in 2022 the vineyards were awarded status by CCPAE-Spain. Her sons, Arturo and Eduardo spent many long days with their grandfather Ángel in the vineyard learning his passion for viticulture and the basics of goblet pruning. Eduardo is currently studying a master's degree in Viticulture and Enology at the prestigious University of Montpellier, France.

THE WINE

Vineyard Profile

Historic 17th century vineyard in La Seca, Valladolid, D.O. Rueda.

- Altitude: 1575-1970 feet/480–600 meters
- Vineyard Area: 25 acres
- Soils: Alluvial gravel, over 30 feet deep
- Vines Planted: Regrafted in 1976 from cuttings from 17th century
- Vine Training System: Head-pruned
- Dry farmed

Harvest Notes

- Hand harvested
- Destemmed, pressed, macerated prior to pressing
- Free run juice settled in fiberglass tanks for 48 hours before racking and fermentation
- Wine settles naturally over the cold Castillian winter
- Bottled in Spring

Winemaker's Notes

A highly extractive, herbaceous and minerally complex Verdejo with long aging potential. Angel Rodriguez was awarded the Cross of the Civil Order of Agricultura for reestablishing the Verdejo variety's prominence in the region of origin by King Juan Carlos.

Technical Information

- 100% Verdejo
- Alcohol: 13%

REVIEWS

Martinsancho Gran Vino de Rueda Verdejo – 2020

90 Points - Ken's Wine Guide, March, 2022

This medium straw colored Verdejo opens with a grapefruit and lime bouquet with hints of wet stone and white peach. On the palate, this wine is medium bodied with plus acidity. The mouthfeel is round and vibrant. The flavor profile is a stony mineral and juicy yellow grapefruit blend with notes of ginger, white peach, and quince. We also detected some hints of tarragon. The finish is mineral-driven and quite refreshing. We would serve this Verdejo chilled on a warm day with fish taco's or with a crab po-boy.

16.5 Points - JancisRobinson.com, July, 2022

100% Verdejo from La Seca. Bush vines. 20,000 bottles. Historic winery founded in 1780.

Tasted blind. Clearly unoaked. Peachy, flowers and passion fruit. A very tropical and expressive style of wine. Creamy and umami style. Very round and very fruity palate. A bit Alsatian. Very well made aiming for a more primary and varietal profile. 2022 – 2024

GENERAL INFO

COUNTRY	SPAIN
REGION	Castilla Y León
APPELLATION	D.O. Rueda (La Seca)
PROPRIETORS	The Rodriguez family
FOUNDED	1972
WINEMAKER	Mª Concepcion Rodriguez
ANNUAL PRODUCTION	2,083 9L cases
FARMING (SUSTAINABLE, ORGANIC, BIODYNAMIC)	Farmed using organic principles