

IMPERIAL

RESERVA 2010

- 92 points Parker. Wine Advocate
- 93 points Wine Spectator

Imperial is one of the great names in Spanish winemaking. It is a true classic in Rioja and was first made in the 1920's. Its name comes from a special bottling for the English market made in a bottle size of a 'Pinta Imperial' or 'Imperial Pint' which is approximately equivalent to half a litre.

Name of Wine:	IMPERIAL RESERVA
Type of Wine:	Red Wine
Region of Production:	Rioja
Year:	2010
Vintage Rating:	Excellent
Grape Varieties:	85% Tempranillo, 10% Graciano and 5% Mazuelo.

Bottle Type:	Bordeaux / 75cl
Case / Bottle Size:	C/6 - 75cl, C/24 – 37,5cl Magnum 1.5l

Alcoholic Volumen:	13.50 % Vol.
Total Acidity:	4.98 (g/l tartaric)
pH:	3.02
Volatile Acidity:	0.49
SO2 Free / Total:	27,02/83
IC:	12,01

WINEMAKING

Made from a selection of the best grapes from our Rioja Alta vineyards around the village of Villalba that were hand harvested in small 30 kg boxes. Before starting the alcoholic fermentation, the bunches of grapes were cooled down and kept at a low temperature for some hours in order to improve our control over fermentation without using any additives and to achieve an optimum extraction. The fermentation took place in a combination of oak vats and stainless steel tanks at controlled temperatures. The wine was then aged in both American and French new and used oak casks for two years, followed by another two years in bottle prior to its release in the market.

VINTAGE / HARVEST DESCRIPTION

The evolution of the vines in 2010 was overall very good. The excellent and healthy state of vegetation was guaranteed by good weather. Harvests started more or less on average dates and took place slowly and uneventfully, making a selective harvest possible and ensuring a good ripening and a high quality fruit.

TASTING NOTES

Deep cherry colour with shades of shiny red. To the nose, aromas of berries and liquorice balanced by hints of clove, rosemary, thyme and tobacco leaves coming from the oak cask ageing. To the palate, it shows its elegance thanks to a gentle tannin providing roundness and freshness. The wine tastes for long in the palate, with an interestingly complex aftertaste. Game and red meats are ideal pairings for this wine.

