

# Ardales Tempranillo Organic 2011



**Wine Ratings -- This Vintage:**  
90 points – Vinous

**Wine Ratings -- Earlier Vintages:**  
2008: 85 points – The Wine Advocate

**Bodegas Aruspide** – The original bodega was built in 1905 as a cooperative. In 1999 several members of the cooperative founded their own bodega and purchased the facility. They totally restored the bodega in 2000, respecting the architectural style of the period and the region. The result was a technologically modern and elegant bodega. The bodega and their vineyards are located in the Valdepenas region, but the bodega uses the Vino de la Tierra de Castilla designation for their organic wines.

**Organic** -- The new owners wanted to produce their wines organically. From their original purchase they converted all of their vineyards to organic farming and their entire bodega to organic production. All of their wines are certified organic, and the brands which we import are certified organic by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

**Vineyards** – The bodega owns 270 acres of vineyards and controls another 150 acres. All vineyards are certified organic.

**Tasting notes** – Ruby color with floral and red and dark berry aromas and flavors with some sweetness and spicy notes.

**Imported since** – 2003

**Appellation:** Castilla

**Composition:** Tempranillo

**Soil:** mixture with a high concentration of clay, limestone, and small round stones

**Elevation:** 2400 feet, average

**Vineyard practice:** dry farming, certified organic

**Vine Age:** 36 years

**Yield:** 0.98 tons per acre, average

**Harvest Dates:** September 9 with a selection table

**Fermentation:** 14 days in small stainless steel tanks at 75 to 79 degrees F with wild (also referred to as indigenous or natural) yeast

**Aging:** 4 months in French and American oak casks, 60% new, and 6 months in bottle

**pH:** 3.68

**Residual Sugar:** 1.4 grams per liter

**Alcohol:** 13.7 %

**UPC:** 7 50428 19107 0

**Region:** The Valdepenas demarcated wine region is located southwest of La Mancha, and Castilla is a small part of Valdepenas. Valdepenas is at the point where Spain's central plain begins to descend towards the Andalusian region in southwest Spain. The region is a broad valley surrounded by mountains. The climate can be dry and very warm during the growing season.