

# Blanco Nieva *Pie Franco* Verdejo 2015



## **Wine Ratings -- This Vintage:**

92 Points – Vinous  
92 Points – Wine Enthusiast

## **Wine Ratings -- Earlier Vintages:**

2014: 92 Points – Vinous  
2013: 91 Points – Int'l Wine Cellar  
88 Points – Wine Enthusiast  
2012: 86 Points – Wine Spectator  
2011: 92 Points – Wine Enthusiast  
2010: 91 Points – Wine Enthusiast  
90 Points – Wine & Spirits  
2008: 87 Points – Wine & Spirits  
2007: 90 Points – Wine Advocate  
2006: 90 Points – Wine Enthusiast

**Bodegas Vinedos de Nieva de Martue** – In 1989 Jose Maria Herrero acquired 135 acres of verdejo and 12 acres of Sauvignon Blanc vineyards that had been neglected for many years. The vineyards varied in age up to 150 years old. In 2007 the Martue family purchased the bodega and all of the vineyards. Manuel Gonzalez brings all of his youthful enthusiasm to the bodega and has upgraded the bodega with all of the latest technological advancements. The bodega is located in the small village of Nieva in the southern portion of Rueda.

**Vineyards** – The bodega is known in the region for its vineyards, many of which are up to 150 years old. All of their grapes are estate grown. The bodega uses their top 35% for their wines, and they sell the remaining 65% to other bodegas.

**Tasting notes:** Pale light gold color. Light citrus, orchard fruit, and floral aromas. Elegant mouthfeel. Orange, pear, anise, and slight apple flavors. Long, soft finish with some minerality.

**Imported since:** 1994

**Appellation:** Rueda

**Composition:** Verdejo

**Soil:** almost entirely sand with lots of river stones

**Elevation:** 2800 feet

**Vineyard practice:** dry farming, organic without certification

**Vine Age:** pre pheloxera, more than 150 years

**Yield:** less than 1 ton per acre

**Harvest Dates:** September 18 to 20 with a selection table

**Fermentation:** 20 days in small stainless steel tanks at 55 to 58 degrees F with wild (also referred to as indigenous or natural) yeast

**Aging:** none

**pH:** 3.20

**Residual Sugar:** 2.80 grams per liter

**Alcohol:** 13.07%

**UPC:** 7 50428 20717 7

**Region:** Most of the white wine in Spain is produced near the coast where the per capita seafood consumption is the highest in Europe and second internationally only to Japan. However, Rueda is in the middle of Spain and only white wines are produced in Rueda. Most of the bodegas in Rueda are in the northern portion of Rueda where the soil is mostly clay, but the all of the pictures of the vineyards in the literature are taken in the southern portion where the soil is nearly entirely sand.