

Monte Hiniesta 2011



Wine Ratings -- This Vintage:

92 points – Wine Advocate
90 points – Vinous

Wine Ratings -- Earlier Vintages:

2010: 92 points – Wine Advocate
89 points – Wine Spectator
2009: 91 points – Wine Advocate
88 points – Wine Enthusiast

Bodegas Allegro con Spirito – Juan Antonio Fernandez had been acquiring vineyards from 1996 to 2000, which range in age from 30 to 100 years old. Finally, he started his bodega in 2000. His wife is in charge of the bodega (with lots of input from Juan Antonio), and Juan Antonio is in charge of the vineyards. All of the harvesting is done by hand in the early morning, and the grapes are brought to the bodega by mid morning. All movement of wine in the bodega is done by gravity with no mechanical pumping. The aging process in barrels is done in underground cellars below the bodega. Juan Antonio plays classical music from Bach and Handel in the wine cellar, because he believes it creates harmony as the wine ages.

Tinta de Toro -- Tinta de Toro varietal is a clone of the Tempranillo but with a thicker skin, lower acidity, and deeper blue-black color. Tinta de Toro can produce bold colored red wines with powerful tannins and alcohol in excess of 15%.

Tasting notes: Reddish-purple color. Black fruit aromas with notes of Asian spice. Complex, yet round and smooth. Blackberry, cherry-vanilla, and pepper flavors. Soft finish with notes of cherry.

Imported since: 2011

Appellation: Toro

Composition: Tinta de Toro (label says Tempranillo)

Soil: high concentration of clay, sand, and stones

Elevation: 2360 feet

Vineyard practice: dry farming, organic without certification

Vine Age: 65 to 80 years

Yield: 1.41 tons per acre

Harvest Dates: September 20

Fermentation: 15 days in small stainless steel tanks with wild (also referred to as indigenous or natural) yeast

Aging: 10 months in new French allier casks and 6 months in the bottle

pH: 3.5

Residual Sugar: 1.4 grams per liter

Alcohol: 13.5 %

UPC: 7 50428 21727 5

Region: The Toro region is located in the northwest corner of Spain near the northeast corner of Portugal. Toro is relatively flat and is the last region in Spain where the Duero River passes before it enters Portugal and becomes the Douro River. Tinta de Toro, a clone of Tempranillo, is the native varietal in Toro. Since the mid 1990's, many top winemakers from other regions have gone to Toro and begun to apply modern winemaking techniques to produce more attractive and polished wines to capture the distinct qualities of the Tinta de Toro varietal.