



CASTAÑO

Alcaria Rosado

The Castaño family are the original pioneers of the DO Yecla. Starting in the 1950s Ramón Cantano Santa, with an extensive family history of viticulture, built the first modern winery in the region and over the successive decades he added to his family's holdings so now the estate encompasses 450 hectares of primarily old, bush vine Monastrell. Starting in the 1980s the family began bottling wines under their own name continuing to innovate and improve the reputation of Monastrell from Yecla in domestic and export markets. Before this time, the majority of the wine made in the region was sold off in bulk so much of the best, old-vine material was blended away before anyone could take note of its quality.

The wines selected by European Cellars are primarily sourced from the northern part of the DO where the soils are poorer, rockier and the elevation is higher. The vine age ranges from 30 to over a hundred years old. The Monastrell is aged entirely in tank to retain the fresh crunchy characteristics of the variety. Hécula, born from older vines with a more brooding character is tempered by aging for 6 months in a combination of French and American oak, it takes its name from the old Roman name for Yecla. Solanera is a custom, old-vine cuvée created under the direction of Eric Solomon which blends low-yielding Monastrell grown on the rockiest soils of the DO with Cabernet Sauvignon and Garnacha Tintorera. It is aged in 80% French and 20% American oak barrels for 10 months.

The Alcaria Rosado comes from high elevation vineyards located in the northern part of the DO on rocky, limestone-rich soil. This allows the Castano family to harvest ripe, concentrated fruit for their rosé that retains a lovely balanced acidity. In recent years Castano has moved from a saignée style to a direct press of Monastrell resulting in a pink wine that is more delicate, refreshing and loaded with cherry and raspberry flavors with just a hint of herbal aromas.

ORIGIN

Spain

APPELLATION

Yecla

SOIL

Clay limestone

AGE OF VINES

30+ year old bush vines 00-00

ELEVATION

750 meters

VARIETIES

Monastrell

FARMING

Sustainable

FERMENTATION

Direct pressing (no maceration on the skins), fermentation in tank

AGING

3 months in tank



ERIC SOLOMON
SELECTIONS