



FAMÍLIA NIN-ORTIZ

Planetes Blanc

After obtaining a degree in Biology at the University of Barcelona then a subsequent degree in Enology – with an emphasis on biodynamic and organic viticulture – at the Public University of Tarragona, Ester Nin took a position at Mas Martinet in the village of Porrera in 2001. Raised in the Alt Penedès, she felt right at home in the Priorat, eventually became the viticulturist for Daphne Glorian at Clos i Terrasses where she supervised the transition of the vineyards to biodynamic farming. Falling in love with the rugged slopes, rocky soils and ancient vines of the region, in 2004 Ester bought a 3 hectare parcel of old vine Garnatxa Pelluda and Carinyena in Mas d’En Caçador– the famed vineyard on the border between Porrera and Gratallops. At 650 meters above sea level, this site is one of the highest in the Priorat and its north-facing slopes are buttressed by ancient stone terraces providing a footing for the vines on this rocky, treacherous, pure llicorella soil.

ORIGIN

Spain

APPELLATION

Priorat (from 2018)

SOIL

Schist

AGE OF VINES

10

ELEVATION

350 meters

VARIETIES

Carinyena Blanca

FARMING

Certified organic (CCPAE) and biodynamic (La Renaissance des Appellations)

FERMENTATION

Hand harvested, 2 day maceration on the skins, gentle pressing, natural yeast fermentation in neutral 300L French oak barrels

AGING

7 months in neutral 300L French oak barrels

A few years earlier, Carles Ortiz, a native of Barcelona and a trained Enologist in his own right had purchased nearly 5 hectares of vineyard land in the nearby site of Finca les Planetes. In 2008 Ester and Carles married and merged their properties. With two viticulturists devoted to the principles of biodynamics, the farming at Familia Nin-Ortiz employs only organic materials including mineral sulfur in the vineyard, sprayed biodynamic infusions and applications of their own compost. They are members of Nicolas Joly’s organization, “La Renaissance des Appellations,” and share their knowledge with neighbors interested in pursuing the transition to biodynamic farming.

When Carles Ortiz first replanted Planetes in 1988, he chose the lower slopes of this site for Cabernet Sauvignon. Unhappy with the results, he and Ester regrafted these vines to a massale selection of Carinyena from their vines in Mas d’En Caçador. In the following years, and much to their surprise, six of the newly grafted vines mutated into Carinyena Blanca. Recognizing the potential for the variety in the warm, dry climate of the Priorat, they continued to graft this selection and some additional massale selections of Carignan Blanc from the south of France. Now this lower section of Planetes totals 0.9 hectares. Starting in 2018, Carinyena Blanca has been authorized to carry the DOQ of Priorat.

ACCOLADES

94+ – 2019 Planetes Blanc – Wine Advocate

94 – 2018 Planetes Blanc – Wine Advocate

92 – 2017 Planetes Blanc – Wine Advocate

