



PURO ROFE

Mentidero

Lanzarote is the easternmost of the Canary Islands, situated just 100km from the continent of Africa. The warmest and driest part of the Canaries, it receives a scant 6 inches of rainfall in an average year. Subjected to nearly constant winds blowing off the Sahara desert, known locally as *alicias*, this would be a challenging place to grow vines even if they were not planted on a vast and volatile volcanic fissure. The lunar landscape of Lanzarote was largely formed with an eruption that lasted from 1730 to 1736 which covered 200 square km of the islands with up to 3 meters of ash and lapilli. Viewed from space, the most notable features of the islands are a series of calderas that pockmark Lanzarote and a large black desert that dominates the northwestern part of the island – Los Volcanes National Park.

The raw materials of Lanzarote – the stark beauty, unique viticulture, indigenous and ancient vines has been on the mind of Rayco Fernandez for many years. A wine exporter based in Gran Canaria, Rayco had waited patiently for over a decade for the potential of Lanzarote to be discovered. From his interest in the island and the people he met there, Puro Rofe was created. While Rayco was the impetus for its creation, Puro Rofe, is a collaboration among local, like-minded grape growers Rafael (Chicho) Mota, Vicente Torres, Ascension Robaina and Pedro Umpiérrez. They tend vineyards surrounding Los Volcanes in the villages of La Geria, Tinajo, Masdache and Testeyna and all practice organic farming. The enologist at Puro Rofe is Carmelo Peña, a native of Gran Canaria who learned his trade there and in the Douro with Dirk Niepoort. Puro Rofe is based in La Geria at Chicho Mota's small, museum-like bodega which preserves many of the traditional features of winemaking on Lanzarote – lagars, basket presses, and concrete vats which are now supplemented with clay amphorae as well.

Masdache is named for a small village on the southeastern edge of La Geira in Lanzarote and is sourced from Ascensión Robayna's vineyard, Moro la Virgen. This site is planted with 100+-year-old Listán Blanco, Malvasía, Diego and Listán Negro. This vineyard is the source for the Masdache Blanco as well as a small amount of Clarete named Mentidero. Both the red and white varieties are harvested together with have being pressed directly into 228L French oak barrels for fermentation and aging for 6 months, and the other half treated like their Tinto – whole cluster fermentation in amphorae and fermentation bins before aging in tank for 6 months. The two parts are then blended and settle for about a month before bottling.

ORIGIN

Spain

APPELLATION

Lanzarote

SOIL

Black volcanic sand over clay

AGE OF VINES

100+

ELEVATION

325 meters

VARIETIES

Malvasía, Listán Blanco, Listán Negro and Diego

FARMING

Practicing organic

FERMENTATION

Hand harvested as a field blend, half direct press with a natural yeast fermentation in 228L French oak barrels, half whole cluster, natural yeast fermentation in amphorae and small fermentation bins

AGING

6 months in 228L French oak barrels (the direct press wine), 6 months in stainless steel tanks (the macerated wine), blended in tank for one month of settling before bottling

ACCOLADES

92 – 2019 Mentidero – Wine Advocate

