



# GOMEZ CRUZADO

## *Rioja Viña Dorana Reserva*

Rioja is a complex and diverse wine region, divided by the Ebro River, which separates the Atlantic climate of the north from the Continental climate to the south and east. Rioja Alta north of the Ebro shares more similarities with Rioja Alavesa than with Rioja Alta to the south, which is politically divided between the Basque region and La Rioja province. Tempranillo thrives in the limestone-rich soils north of the Ebro, while Garnacha is more prominent further south and east. Other red and white varieties also play a role in Rioja wines.

The region's rich history includes cultural exchanges, particularly after phylloxera devastated French vineyards, bringing French winemakers to Rioja. This influx, facilitated by the Haro railway station, influenced Rioja's winemaking style, which became regulated during Franco's dictatorship. Since the early 1990s, Rioja has evolved into a diverse and exciting wine region.

### ORIGIN

Spain

### APPELLATION

Rioja

### SOIL

Ferrous clay

### VINE AGE

20–50 years old

### ELEVATION

600–710 meters

### VARIETIES

Tempranillo, Garnacha

### FARMING

Sustainable

### FERMENTATION

Hand-harvested, 4-day pre-fermentation maceration, natural yeast fermentation in tank, gentle maceration with occasional r montage

### AGING

24 months in 225L French oak barrels (2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> fill), then 12 months in bottle

At every step of the evolution of Rioja, from the center of Harro's Barrio de la Estaci n, Gomez Cruzado has been present. Founded in 1886 by  ngel G mez de Arteche, it was purchased in 1916 by  ngel and Jes s G mez Cruzado, beginning a close relationship between ex-pats of Rioja living in Mexico and the fortunes of this property. Modest in size and profile throughout most of its history, Gomez Cruzado was purchased in 2004 by the Ba os family of Mexico, who brought in winemaker David Gonz lez and viticulturalist Juan Antonio Leza to revitalize and redefine the property's range of wines. Today, under winemaker Juan Bautista S enz, the property encompasses 25 hectares of estate vineyards with access to 100 hectares of vines from growers with long-standing relationships with the estate. The cellar was modernized, but the original concrete tanks were restored, and the stocks of barrels were refreshed, resulting in a neoclassical style of Rioja.

The Ba os family originally hailed from Badar n – a village at the southern edge of Rioja. Believing in the potential of the ferrous clay soils and high-altitude vineyards of this long-overlooked part of Rioja, Vi a Dorana bears a historic label from Gomez Cruzado for this blend of 60% Tempranillo and 40% Garnacha. Their confidence isn't bluster as the fresh and intense qualities of this terru o take brilliantly to the moderation provided by 24 months in barrel.

### ACCOLADES

94 – 2018 Vi a Dorana – Wine Advocate

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