Aptus 2018 (Red Wine)



Winemaker, Miguel Ángel Peñalba Martínez, has lived in Ribera del Duero for his whole life. He studied Chemistry, wine making and business and has been managing over 250 hectares of grapes for for more than 10 years. He has transitioned many of these vineyards from traditional agriculture to organic practices and continues onward to biodynamic management of these sites.

He produces two wines from vineyards that he controls, incorporating biodynamic practices in all aspects of farming and harvest. All of the grapes are sourced from villages around Aranda del Duero and include historic varieties that are now exceptionally rare in the area including Albillo, Garnacha and Monastrell. Grapes are harvested into small boxes so that they arrive to the winery intact and in the best possible quality.

Appellation	Ribera del Duero D.O.
Grapes	95% Tempranillo, 5% Garnacha and Monastrell
Altitude / Soil	800 meters / sand and gravel with clay at lower elevations
Farming Methods	certified organic methods; biodynamic farming (not certified)
Harvest	hand harvested on Sept 30 and Oct 1 in relation to the lunar calendar and with respect to
	biodynamic "fruit" day
Production	3 day cold maceration, fermentation with native microbes for 8 additional days with
	skins, malolactic conversion in barrel
Aging	Aged between 6-8 months in used, 80% French and 20% American oak barrels.
UPC / SCC / Pack	8437009198124 / 18437009198121 / 12

Reviews:

"The 2018 Aptus Tinto from Bodegas Peñalba Herraiz is composed of a blend of ninety five percent Tempranillo and the other five percent a mix of Garnacha and Monastrell, with the vineyards farmed organically. In the torrid European summer of 2018, the Aptus has come in riper than in any previous vintage I have tasted of the wine, as this is a full fifteen percent octane. The wine offers up a nose of backed red and black cherries, a bit of apricot, chocolate, a bit of coffee grounds, soil and a discreet foundation of cedary oak. On the palate the wine is deep, full bodied and reasonably balanced for its octane, with a good core of fruit, moderate tannins and just a touch of backend heat on the long finish. This is a strong effort in a very challenging growing season, but it is not at the same level as previous vintages, from more classically inclined summers. 2020-2025."

87 points View from the Cellar; Issue #85 - January/February 2020

"Full ruby-red. Primary cherry and dark berry qualities on the perfumed nose, which opens up to show hints of violet and vanilla. Round and supple on the palate, offering sappy red and dark fruit flavors and a touch of mocha. Finishes with solid punch, a dusting of tannins and lingering sweetness. 80% French and 20% American oak. 2022 – 2028."

90 points Vinous; Josh Raynolds - February 2021

