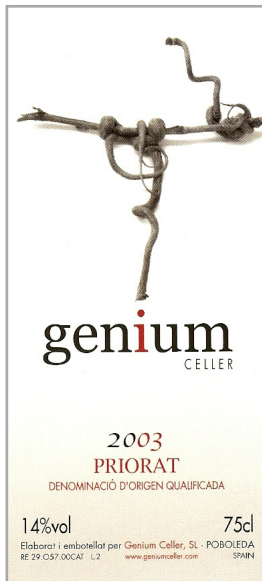


# Genium Celler 2003



**Winery:** Genium Celler

**Region:** Priorat D.O.Q.

**Grapes:** 60% Garnacha, 20% Cariñena and 20% Merlot

**Winery:** In the year 2002, six families from the municipality of Poboleda (Priorat) with a long tradition in vine growing decided to join their efforts in order to make high quality wines from their own crops. They own 15 hectares of vineyards between all of the families. 7 hectares are Costers (steeply sloping, high altitude vineyards), 3 hectares of organically farmed vines (Ecologic) and 5 hectares of terraced vines on narrow terraces with two rows of vines each. The varietal makeup of the vineyards includes Garnacha, Cariñena, Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, Pedro Ximenez and Merlot. Costers vines were planted in 1910 and produce ~300 grams of grapes per vine. Younger vines were planted in 1980 on the terraces and produce between 900gm and 1 kg per vine.

The goal of the winery is to produce wines with a typical character of Priorat. Having vineyards in three different zones of Priorat allows for different character, tone, complexity and personality in the wines. Aging in oak is crucial for the style of wine, as without it the wine would seem unfinished but only light to medium toast is utilized so that wood flavors don't dominate.

**Wine:** The Garnacha and Cariñena grapes are from 90+ year old vines, while Merlot comes from 26 year old vines. Wine was fermented in temperature controlled small stainless steel vats, and macerated for a 30-day period. Aged in new and one year old French Allier oak barrels for 6 months. Unfiltered.

## Reviews:

“This small artisanal winery in Priorat produces less than 1,000 cases...It exhibits sweet raspberry and currant aromas along with notions of wet rocks. Medium-bodied, elegant, precise, and stylish, it should be enjoyed over the next 4-5 years.”

**89 points** *Wine Advocate* issue 159 June '05

“The 2003 Genium, a blend of 60% Grenache, 20% Carinyena, and 20% Merlot has a ruby color and offers aromas of fresh violets, raspberries and cherries. Aged for six months in one and two-year French oak barrels, the palate reveals highly concentrated dried cranberry fruit with lots of spice, high acidity and a big tannic finish.”

**89 points** *i-winereview.com* May '06



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