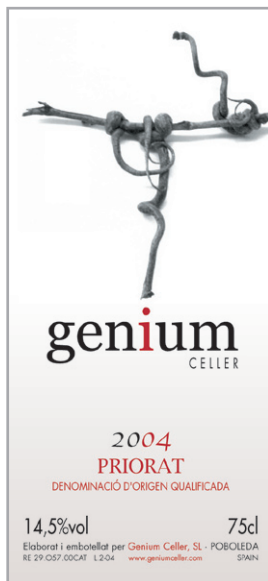


Genium Celler 2004



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. The grapes undergo a 48 hour pre-fermentation cold soak followed by temperature controlled fermentation between 84° F to 91° F in small stainless steel vats, and macerated for a 15 day period. Aged in 30% new as well as 1 and 2 year old French Allier oak barrels for 6-8 months. Unfiltered.

Reviews:

“Purple colored, it exhibits a complex nose of cedar, mineral, red currants, raspberry, and kirsch. Medium to full-bodied, and bordering on opulence, this layered wine has excellent intensity and balance. Drink it over the next 4-6 years.”

91 points *Wine Advocate* issue 169 February '07



Selected by Aurelio Cabestrero®

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