

# Genium Celler Costers 2004



**Winery:** Genium Celler

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

**Grapes:** 50% Cariñena, 25% Garnacha, 15% Merlot, 10% Syrah

**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:** Made from grapes planted on slopes in the region, named "Costers" (dramatically steep land, 45 degrees, where no machine can be used), where the vineyards are almost a hundred years old, which provides a repeatable mineralization, concentration and structure in comparison to other zones. 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 25-day period. Aged 14 months in new French Allier oak barrels of various toasts and coopers. Unfiltered.

## Reviews:

"Opaque purple-colored, it has a slightly muted nose of pain grille, Asian spices, mineral, earth, leather, and black cherry. Full-bodied and firmly structured, this intensely flavored, superbly balanced wine can be cellared for several years and should drink well through 2017."

**93 points** *Wine Advocate* issue 169 February '07

"Black cherry and cranberry nose with black currant, cinnamon, vanilla, and a bit of tobacco and leather; powerful palate with French oak, spice, black tea, and lots of red and black fruit. The nose is friendlier than the mouth, but that adds to the complexity."

**Gold Star Award Winner** *Sante Magazine* issue 116, September '07

"Grown on the steep slopes of Poboleda and Torroja, this selection from old vines is a vibrant and youthful expression of the place: Its slate character merges into a profound layer of ripe red fruit and strong, muscular tannins. With air, the mineral character feels even more present, as the wine gains in size and depth." **100 Best Wines of the Year**

**93 points** *Wine & Spirits* February '08



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