

Genium Celler Ecologic 2004



Winery: Genium Celler

Region: Priorat D.O.Q.

Grapes: 60% Garnacha, 30% Merlot and 10% Cariñena

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: Produced exclusively from a 3 hectare, organic vineyard certified by the Catalan Council of Agricultural production. 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 70% 1 year old French Allier oak barrels for 4-5 months.

Reviews:

“Bright purple. Super concentrated cherry and raspberry on the nose, with inky notes of espresso, licorice and bitter chocolate. The wild mix of bright and dark aromatic impressions is repeated on the palate, where the bright red fruit tones are supported by deeper, richer notes of coffee and chocolate. Powerful, focused and long on the sweet, energetic finish.”

91 points *International Wine Cellar* issue 128 Sept/Oct '06

“The fragrant aromatics consist of vanilla, spice box, mineral, raspberry, and kirsch. Medium to full-bodied, this wine manages to combine elegance with power. With excellent intensity and balance, there is enough structure for several years of positive evolution although the wine can be enjoyed now through 2015.”

92 points *Wine Advocate* issue 169 February '07

“You want color and heft? You get that here, and more. Dark, grapy aromas are lush more than rough and tight, while the palate is full of sassy black cherry fruit and a fair share of richness. No doubt this jam-packed blend of Garnacha, Merlot and Carignan is solid and rewarding.”

91 points *Wine Enthusiast* August '07



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