

Luna Beberide Godello 2009



Winery: Bodegas y Vinedos Luna Beberide

Region: Bierzo D.O.

Grapes: 100% Godello

Winery: Alejandro Luna is the owner of this moderately sized estate. Born in Ponferrada he spent 10 years, from the age of 16 to the age of 26, in Madrid studying toward his Bachelor's and Law degrees. After finishing his academic work, he came to work as director for the family winery in 2001 which was started in 1987. 70 hectares of vines are planted between 450 and 900 meters, on south facing slopes in calcerous clay or decomposed slate. Vines range in age from 20 years for foreign grapes to 60 years for Mencia. 5 Hectare are used for experimental vineyards looking at how foreign grapes take to Bierzo's climate; they are planted with about 30 varieties including Riesling, Cabernet Franc, Pinot Noir, Macabeo, Albariño and Sauvignon Blanc. No

herbicides or pesticides are used on the vineyards. The philosophy of the winery is to produce wines based on quality of and respect for the land, primarily from native grapes along with grapes from other parts of the world.

Wine: Produced from 60 year old vineyards, which were propagated as a clonal selection of best vineyard plots of Godello within Bierzo. Soils are a combination of calcerous clay and decomposed slate. The vineyard is located between 600 and 750 meters of elevation. Grapes were hand harvested prior to overnight skin contact. The pressed must sees fermentation in stainless steel tanks at low temperatures (12-15° C). Following fermentation the wine is aged for 3 months on fine lees prior to bottling.

Reviews:

“Light straw-colored, it has an impressive nose of slate/mineral, baking spices, melon, and white fruit cocktail. Very concentrated and complex on the palate, it has a creamy texture and a sense of elegance. Its acid structure suggests that it may evolve for 1-2 years and drink well for up to 4-5 years. It is an outstanding value.”

90 points *Wine Advocate* issue 188 April 2010

“High-pitched aromas of lemon, ginger and herbs, with a strong mineral undertone. Lively and incisive on the palate, offering tangy citrus flavors and slow-building spiciness. Very fresh wine with strong finishing cut and lingering mineral and herbal notes.”

90 points *International Wine Cellar* issue 152 Sept/Oct 2010

“Albariño remains Spain's leading white grape variety in terms of prominence and world-wide recognition, but among insiders the jury is still out on whether Godello or Verdejo might not ultimately surpass it. This wine shows why this is remains a disputed matter, and it shows it with lovely fruit flavors recalling peaches and baked apples that are undergirded by fresh acidity and an interesting mineral tinge in the finish.”

90 points *Wine Review Online* October 19, 2010 - Michael Franz



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