

Los Cerezales 2008



Winery: Pago de Valdegruchas

Region: Bierzo D.O.

Grapes: 100% Mencia

Winery: The winery is a joint project between Alejandro Luna and his extended family composed of his uncle and a cousin. The vineyards are estate owned and are located in Villafranca de Bierzo. The vineyards are 500-650 m above sea level and are composed of calcareous clay, sand and slate.

Wine: Produced from a single 75 year old vineyard located 750 meters above sea level with slate soils. Grapes were hand harvested and fermented with native yeasts in stainless steel tanks. Following alcoholic fermentation, 50% of the wine underwent malolactic fermentation in tank while the other 50% pursued malolactic fermentation in new French oak barrels.

Once ML finished all of the wine was aged for 11 months in French oak barrels prior to bottling. This is the first release for the winery.

Reviews:

“The 2008 Cerezales (the first release from this producer) is 100% Mencia sourced from a single 75-year-old vineyard and aged for 11 months in French oak. Purple-colored, it exhibits an alluring nose of cedar, tobacco, fresh herbs, mineral, violets, and black cherry. On the palate it is loaded with fruit and spice combined with excellent depth and length. It will evolve for 1-2 years but can be enjoyed now through 2018.”

90 points *Wine Advocate* issue 188 April 2010

“Vivid red. Lively aromas of raspberry and fresh flowers, with a bright mineral quality adding energy. Pliant, gently sweet red berry and cherry flavors provide very good palate coverage and seamless texture. Many wines made from mencia show an herbal quality but not this one. The finish is sweet, smooth and long.”

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

“This is a very impressive wine that performs well above expectations at this price. Made entirely from Mencia sourced from 75 year old grapes in a single vineyard, it shows good concentration and depth of flavor, yet remains just medium-bodied and hence quite versatile with food. Notes of dark cherries predominate, but there are also nice accents of spices and smoke, as well as a pleasantly meaty, savory undertone.”

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



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