

Paixar 2006



Winery: Bodegas y Vinedos Paixar

Region: Bierzo D.O.

Grapes: 100% Mencia

Winery: This is the joint venture of Alejandro Luna, Eduardo and Alberto Garcia focused on the production of a unique expression of Mencia. It started with the acquisition and leasing of tiny parcels of vineyards in the village of Dragonte (population 60) in the Bierzo region. The name Paixar comes from local oral tradition where Paixares are high old plantings of vines surrounded by chestnut and oak trees. Vines are planted directly in weathered slate of different colors and are 80+ years old; typically producing about one pound of fruit per vine. The low-vigor, old vines produce fruit with particularly concentrated aromas and powerful, fine tannins. The vineyards are between 2,500 and

3,000 feet above sea level, a key factor in the slow and even ripening of the grapes. Due to the altitude, harvest is typically 15 days later than the rest of Bierzo.

Wine: Hand-harvested into small boxes, cluster sorted, cold pre-fermentation maceration, native yeast fermentation. This wine was aged for 16 months in new French oak barrels and bottled without any filtration.

Reviews:

“A glass-staining opaque purple, it offers up a brooding, kinky bouquet filled with Asian spices, incense, black currant, plum, and black cherry. Elegant, silky-textured, and impeccably balanced, it comes off as an imaginary blend of Grand Cru Burgundy and Cote Rotie. Give this sexy effort 5-7 years of additional cellaring and drink it from 2015 to 2030.”

94 points *Wine Advocate* issue 183 June '09

“Explosively perfumed bouquet evokes black raspberry, candied cherry, Asian spices and potpourri, with an exotic apricot note arriving with air. Sappy, palate-coating red and dark berry flavors are impressively pure and focused, showing a strong undercurrent of minerals and no rough edges. The finish repeats the red berry and floral notes and lingers with excellent sappy persistence. This is complex enough to enjoy now but will be even better with a few more years of bottle age.”

92 points *International Wine Cellar* issue 145 June '09



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