

Penalba Lopez Blanco 2010



Winery: Finca Torremilanos

Region: Vino de la Tierra de Castilla y Leon

Grapes: 50% Sauvignon Blanc, 50% Albillo (White Tempranillo)

Winery: This winery is family owned and has been producing red wines on the estate since 1903. The vineyards are located on the second slope above and nearly 2 km. south of the Duero river at an altitude of 800-900 meters. Soils are deep and composed of limestone, sand and clay in roughly equal proportions along with gravels from the old river bed that are composed of silex and quartz. In some vineyard plots the gravels dominate, for example the Roble Viejo vineyard is predominantly gravel and the youngest vines are 85 years old. The land has been known for its quality and has been planted

with vines for more than 100 years.

The estate, Finca Torremilanos, is comprised of 200 hectares of vineyards. 60 hectares are head-trained, en vaso, with the remainder trained to wires. The majority of the vineyards are Tinto Fino with a few small plantings of Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir and Petit Verdot. The slopes are predominantly north facing and one can see for 60 kilometers from the heights of the vineyards. 100% of the plots are farmed organically and the winery is seeking organic certification.

Wine: This wine is produced from organically-grown, estate grapes harvested from 14 year old vines of Sauvignon Blanc and 70 year old vines of Albillo. All of the wine was fermented and aged in 50% new French and 50% 1 year old American (wood seasoned for 7 years prior to coopering) oak barriques which were coopered at the winery. The alcoholic fermentation took 14 days, there was no malolactic fermentation. The wine was aged in barrel for 11 month with the lees but saw no stirring, no sulphur and no racking prior to bottling. The old vines of Albillo offer a richness, depth and unctuousness in contrast to the acidity and crisp flavors of Sauvignon Blanc. A small amount of sulphur was added at bottling.

Reviews:

“Light yellow-gold. Peach, vanilla, white flowers, and smoky lees on the nose and palate. Smooth, ripe and fleshy, with very good substance and concentration. A firm backbone of acidity adds lift and bite to a long, smooth finish. A distinctly rich wine but in no way oversized or heavy.”

90 points *International Wine Cellar* issue 164 Sept/Oct 2012



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