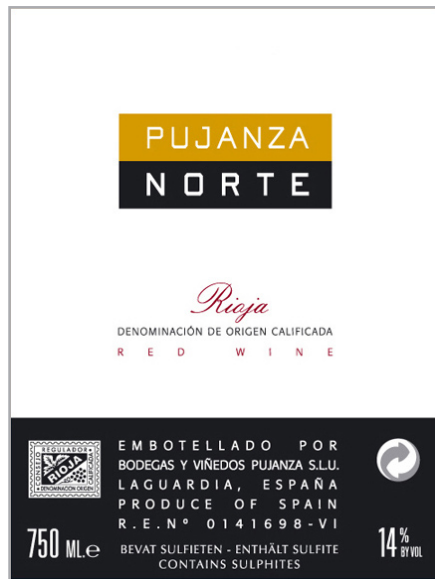


# Pujanza Norte 2008



**Winery:** Bodegas y Vinedos Pujanza

**Region:** Rioja D.O.Ca.

**Grapes:** 60% Tempranillo and 40% Garnacha, Graciano, and Mazuelo

**Winery:** Bodegas y Vinedos Pujanza was established in 1998 by Carlos San Pedro, a fifth generation grape grower and third generation winemaker. In 2001, the winery introduced its first wine, Pujanza. Carlos San Pedro considers himself to be a vine-grower, conscious of the fact that his work has an aim which is the creation of great wines. This idea was the starting point for a young winery that wants to reflect this vitality in its wines.

The winery is in La Guardia, Rioja Alavesa, a village well known for its wines. All of the wines are produced from single vineyards.

Norte is produced from the El Norte vineyard, 2.2 hectares planted with 60% Tempranillo and 40% other grapes varieties in clay and limestone at 680 meters elevation. The vines are 20+ years old and yield ~3500kg/hectare.

Carlos' philosophy is to transmit to his wines all the character and personality of the soil/terroir. This philosophy hinges on careful tending of the vineyards from pruning to harvest as well as the unique characteristic of a higher iron content in the soils of the vineyards.

**Wine:** Destemmed grapes see a 5 day pre-fermentation cold soak followed by alcoholic and malolactic fermentation in large French oak vat. Skins are macerated for a total of 30 days prior to pressing. The wine is then aged for 18 months in 100% new Allier and Tronçais French oak barrels. Bottled unfiltered.

## Reviews:

“The 2008 Pujanza Norte is a single vineyard blend of 60% Tempranillo with the balance Garnacha, Graciano, and Mazuelo aged for 18 months in new French oak. Coffee, mocha, balsam wood, mineral, leather, and blackberry aromas inform the nose of a racy, elegantly-styled Rioja with a firm acid structured, layered fruit, spicy flavors, and precision balance. This lengthy effort will evolve for another 3-4 years and drink well through 2023 if not longer.”

**92+ points** *Wine Advocate* issue 195 June 2011



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