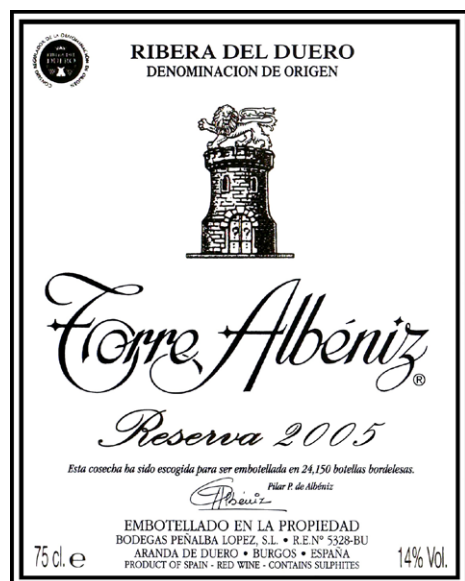


Torre Albeniz Reserva 2005



Winery: Bodegas Finca Torremilanos

Region: Ribera del Duero D.O.

Grapes: 97% Tempranillo (Tinta del Pais), 3% Blanca del Pais

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: 2005 was a challenging vintage; late frosts and high winds during flowering reduced fruit yields and early frosts in the middle of September forced an early harvest for many producers. Finca Torremilanos with its hillside location resisting cold air pockets, harvested fruit from September 19 to October 29.

The 2005 came from the Valdecañal, Adrián and Almendros pagos. Almendros was one of the last parcels to ripen due to its higher elevation (880 meters) and higher proportion of clay. The wine completed both fermentations in tank and then was racked to French oak barrels that were coopered at the winery for a total of 23 months aging. Ricardo chose to use nearly all second fill barrels for the maturation of this vintage as he felt this harvest was very rich in grape taste and aromas.

Reviews:

“It exhibits a brooding bouquet of violets, cedar, leather, and blackberry. This is followed by a firm, structured wine with excellent depth and plenty of tannin. It will benefit from 6-8 years of cellaring and offer prime drinking from 2016 to 2030.”

91 points *Wine Advocate* issue 183 June '09

“Fresh red- and blackcurrant aromas are complicated by notes of cinnamon, mace and dried rose. Tangy, finely etched red berry flavors are framed by silky tannins and become spicier with air. The spicy element lingers on the impressively long, gently sappy finish. I like the elegant character of this wine, which reminded me of a high-class Bordeaux.”

92 points *International Wine Cellar* issue 145 July/Aug '09



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