

Bodegas Caudalia Paal Syrah 2015 (red wine)



“Our philosophy is, from the respect to the earth and the environment that surrounds us, to show the maximum varietal expression. To deep knowledge and experience, the illusion of turning our passion for wine into a way of life is united, showing in our wines the land where we come with humility and dedication. Integrated viticulture as a principle of our work, seeking the biological balance through minimal interventionism, allowing the land to express freely.”

Wife and husband team; Raquel and Ivan Grandival started this project in 2010. They farm 40-year-old plots of Tempranillo, Garnacha, Syrah and Graciano at the foot of the mountains near the village of San Martin de Unx.

Raquel seeks to emphasize the unique character of their vineyards by fermenting wine only in cement tanks with native microbes and aging exclusively in large format (400-500 liter) barrels that minimizes oak influence. The Xi'ipal wines are all strictly limited production from unique, single vineyard plots.

Appellation	Navarra D.O.
Grapes	100% Syrah
Altitude / Soil	500-750 meters / poor, lime-rich clay with abundant mother rock
Farming Methods	Practicing Organic
Harvest	Hand harvested
Production	Cold pre-fermentation maceration, fermented with native yeasts in cement tanks
Aging	Aged for 27 months in cement tanks
UPC / SCC / Pack	8 437012 831001 / 18437012831008 / 12

Reviews: “Big, sweet blackberry and bilberry nose with a hint of smoke. The bright fruit easily balances the generous, supple tannins and the lively acidity lifts the dry finish nicely. Drink now or hold.”

91 points JamesSuckling.com; August 2018

“Ripe and succulent and creamy in texture, with gorgeous blackberry and black cherry fruit, this is a sexpot of a wine that never quite tips over into being obvious or grapey. Even though derived from a relatively hot year, there’s enough acidity in this to lend freshness, and there’s also enough fine-grained tannin to provide focus and grip. The oak is nicely reserved, allowing the fruit to shine, but there are some nice savory undertones showing that keep this from seeming simple and fruity. This gets most of its (entirely deserved) points from the sub-category of sheer deliciousness.” **91 points Wine Review Online;** July 14, 2020

“Bright purple. Smoky, spice-tinged black/blue fruit aromas open up slowly to show hints of violet and cured meat. Gently sweet and focused on the palate, offering bitter cherry and cassis flavors sharpened by a strong jolt of cracked pepper, which adds back-end bite. Supple tannins build slowly on the clinging finish, echoing the smoke and spice notes. This one would make a good ringer in a blind flight of Crozes-Hermitages. (Fermented and aged for 27 months in concrete tanks.) Drink 2019-2024.” **90 points Vinous Media;** “Spain’s Northern Regions Keep it Cool” – March 2019

“The 2015 is a fine follow-up to the excellent 2014, coming in at a ripe 14.5 percent octane, but offering up sweet dark berries, pepper, spit-roasted game, a touch of chocolate, fine soil tones, woodsmoke and a hint of violet in the upper register. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied, and complex, with a good core, ripe, buried tannins and good length and grip on the focused and well-balanced finish. There is just a whisper of backend heat here, but it is manageable and the wine is once again, impressive on both the nose and palate. 2019-2040.”

90 points View from the Cellar; October 2019

“Organic fruit, hand harvested, aged 27 months in cement. Offering a meaty, forest floor, fish sauce nose, this Syrah is full and silky with smoky, meaty, bacon hints along with blackberry on palate. Tannic finish and a bit short on finesse. 14.5% alc.” **89 points International Wine Review;** June 2019

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