



Casar de Burbia

Casar de Burbia began as a small run family winery that produced only red wines from its 100% privately owned vineyards. In 2011, in order to learn how to work the lees in white wines, the winery participated in an innovative R&D project. This was the beginning of their white wines.

Casar de Burbia owns vineyards in the mountain of Valtuille de Arriba, mostly more than 60-year-old vines, which in the case of the Sapita vineyard, which was planted in the early 20th century, in 1903 by D. Jose Bouza.

In its 27 hectares of vineyard, which follow along the Camino de Santiago (St. James Pilgrim) in various places, the Mencía variety undoubtedly reigns. As legend would have it, it has its origins in the Cabernet Franc. A French Pilgrim brought the grape to the Bierzo on his way to Santiago where it evolved over time to be today what is known as Mencía. The vineyards surrounding the Camino de Santiago are quite possibly the oldest Mencía from Bierzo.

When the Fernández Bello family began to buy old vineyards in the mountainside of Valtuille de Arriba in 1989, these vineyards were suffering a slow and evident abandonment due to the low production in the mountains. Vineyards in the fertile valley were growing in favor. Quantity not quality was the most valued factor at that time. However the higher quality of these vineyards is now unquestionable, both because of its great south facing slopes, bathed in the midday Sun, and the water drainage preventing any possible accumulation of excess water. Its altitude, at more than 700 meters, allows a wide temperature gap between day and night.

The terroir of the Casar de Burbia vineyards is a key factor in our wines, its large number of molybdenum has its origin in the slate, which makes these wines together with iron staining red soils, an authentic mineral explosion, which makes these very special wines.

The old vines needed to be regenerated in several respects. On the one hand, more than 30% of the vines were planted with the Palomino white grape variety. This was a undertaking that would last for more than 7 years, in which the winery began to graft more than 9,000 plants of palomino with Mencía and Godello with most traditional grafting techniques in the area, plateau graft. The investment the winery has made in the regeneration of the vineyards is unmatched in El Bierzo.

The vineyards are separated into 52 different plots that are basically grouped into three levels, low plots, middle plots and high plots. These levels are chosen based on a series of common features such as the altitude of the terrain, degree of slope and amount of stone in the terrain, that give the grape a special feature.

We are constantly innovating and improving our wines, always being faithful to our style and with the best quality in mind. By next year, our wines will be certified organic. It has been a 3 year ongoing process in which we have decided that it will improve our wines even further.

