

Bodegas Abanico

Vino de la Tierra de Castilla

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Spain

Castilla

Overview

Vino de la Tierra de Castilla

This regional wine designation encompasses the southern third of Spain, roughly south of a line running through Madrid from east to west. The regional designation encompasses vineyards that lie outside of D.O.s and offer more winemaking freedom in terms of allowed varieties and methods. Castilla y León, or Old Castile, is Spain's largest autonomía. "The land of castles" includes a number of such fortifications built to repel the Moors in the early Middle Ages, and the dynastic union of Castilla y León and Aragon through marriage in the 15th century led to the birth of the Kingdom of Spain. Castilian Spanish was the only official dialect in Spain for two centuries prior to the ratification of the Spanish constitution in 1978.



Climate: The climate is continental with very cold winters and hot, arid summers. Rainfall is low and controlled irrigation is necessary to keep the vines alive.

Winery: This winery is a new project for Rafael de Haan in Vino de la Tierra de Castilla.

Wine: Made from 70 year old tempranillo bush vines planted in sandy and limey-clay soils. They yield only 3,000 kilos per hectare due to the harsh, hot and dry conditions on the meseta. Grapes are hand harvested during the last week of August and the first week of September into 20 kilo boxes to avoid crushing the grapes during transport to the winery. Maceration and fermentation lasted 15 days with both pump-overs and rack-and-return used to extract gentle tannins. Following fermentation the wine was aged for 2 months in French and American oak barrels to soften the tannin structure and add a bit of spicy complexity.

