



## Izadi, Rioja Reserva 2012

### PRODUCER

Izadi is based in Villabuena in the Rioja Alavesa, the highest part of Rioja. The hillside winery (the precipitous slope allows for gravity assisted production) was founded in 1987 by Gonzalo Anton as a modern breakaway from the traditional style of wine produced by other members of his family. As his son Lalo, who now runs the estate, says: "the whole concept of Izadi really started around wanting to produce wine to satisfy the needs of our friends over a meal". Izadi produce modern, international wines that are true to their roots and a natural expression of the area, which is unhindered by the sort of deviant flavours that are all too common in Rioja.

### VINEYARDS

Izadi sources their fruit from 178 hectares, 70 in ownership, of old vineyards with an average age of 45 years. All of them are located within the triangle formed by three villages: Villabuena, Samaniego and Ábalos. The vines are traditionally trained bush vines, a method which Izadi believes gives better exposure to the grapes, leading to better ripeness and softer, fuller wines. The vineyards are 450-550m above sea level - warm days give way to cool nights, encouraging the aromatic qualities in the grapes to develop. The vineyards are planted in clay-chalk soils.

### VINTAGE

In 2012, drought affected both grape volume and grape quality in some vineyards but also resulted in a significant quantity of wine of extremely high quality.

### VINIFICATION

Grapes were destemmed and fermented in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks at 28°C, with pumping over several times daily to extract the right amount of colour and ripe tannins. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation in stainless steel tanks before being transferred to age in 225 litre American and French oak barrels for 16 months. It was then aged for over two years further in bottle before release.

### TASTING NOTES

Beautiful blackcurrant and redcurrant fruit on the nose, with hints of unsmoked cigar tobacco, liquorice and loamy soil undertones. This is a rich and concentrated wine with exceptional purity on the finish.



### VINTAGE INFORMATION

<b>Vintage</b>	2012
<b>Region</b>	Rioja Alavesa, Rioja
<b>Grape Varieties</b>	100% Tempranillo
<b>Winemaker</b>	Ruth Rodriguez
<b>Closure</b>	Natural Cork
<b>ABV</b>	14%
<b>Residual Sugar</b>	2.2g/L
<b>Acidity</b>	5.5g/L
<b>Wine pH</b>	3.58
<b>Bottle Sizes</b>	37.5cl, 75cl, 150cl, 300cl, 500cl