

BETH WILLARD



TIMATKIN.COM

Rueda 2024

Top 100

BY TIM ATKIN MW & BETH WILLARD



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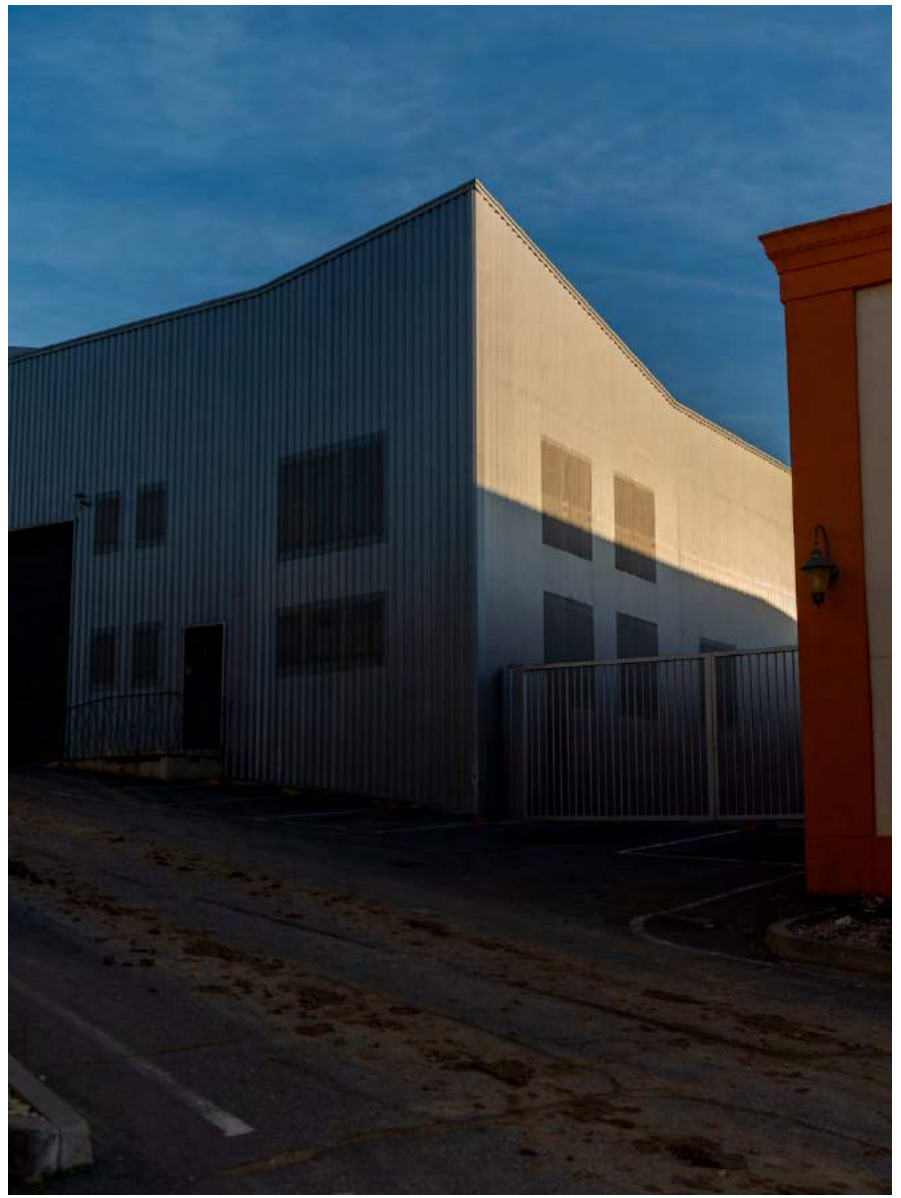
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Introduction

*No one goes to Rueda in January for the weather. There were times during our trip when the thick mist reminded me of the opening pages of Charles Dickens' novel *Bleak House* – “Fog up the river... fog down the river” – even if the great writer was describing the Thames rather than the Río Duero. The fact that we barely saw the sun was of little consequence, however, because the wines provided plenty of illumination of their own.*

I hadn't been to Rueda in more than 15 years, so my views about the Denominación de Origen were based on out-of-date knowledge. Tasting wines in London or at trade fairs like Prowein had helped me to stay in touch, but such things are no substitute for what you find out on the ground. Aply assisted by Santi Mora from the local Consejo, who was our drive every step of the way, my colleague Beth Willard and I set out to visit as many bodegas as we could in the space of six days. All in all, we tasted 307 wines, many of them from older vintages in vertical tastings, from 59 producers.

Even in the fog, we were keen to see as many vineyards as possible. In fact, our first visit, straight off the plane from Madrid, was to Viñas Murillo's pre-phylloxera plantings in Alcazarén that appear on the cover of this report. These are at least 200 years' old, according to Alfonso García, and may be ever more venerable than that.

It was one of the themes of the week. Rueda has expanded exponentially since the DO was founded in 1980, to its current 20,731 hectares. This is a measure of its enormous success, especially in the domestic market, but many of the best wines we discovered from older plots, often picked by hand, which is a rarity here.

Rueda has established its reputation with fruity, easy-drinking, well-priced whites, mostly made from Verdejo. There is nothing wrong with its mass-market offerings, but they rarely quicken the pulse. And, in a sense, they are the least interesting part of Rueda's story.

Spending time in the region was much more interesting than I expected. The first thing we picked up on were the differences in terroir. Rueda has vineyards on gravel, especially close to the river, as well as limestone, gypsum, clay and (the reason for the survival of its smattering of pre-phylloxera vines) on sand. All produce wines with different structure and textures.

Rueda is also considerably more diverse than people appreciate. Yes, Verdejo is dominant, with 17,892 hectares of the area under vine, but it's not the sole variety grown here. Beth and I tasted wines

that featured Viura, Sauvignon Blanc, Palomino, Chardonnay, Viognier, Tempranillo, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Garnacha, Syrah and something called Cenicienta, Spanish for Cinderella.

And yet it was Verdejo that impressed us most. This remarkably protean grape can be made in lots of different styles, from fortified to sparkling, dry to semi sweet. It can also be fermented and aged in lots of different ways: in eggs, foudres, amphoras, barrels and stainless steel tanks, using things like skin or lees contact, as well as bâtonnage, flor, and controlled oxidation. It really is one of Spain's greatest white varieties. As Javier Herrero of Herrero Bodega put it: “If Verdejo were French it would be much more famous.”

The thing that surprised me most was how well Verdejo ages. We had several examples that were still very sprightly at over 20 years' old. With time, these wines acquire weight and layers of complexity, while never losing their essential structure. Indeed, one of the DO's biggest challenges, is to convince consumers and restaurants to drink aged Ruedas. In a way, the region is a victim of its own success. Demand is such that the new wines are released within two months of the harvest and often drunk by Christmas. Nothing wrong with that, but the best stuff will reward your patience and then some.

After a very enjoyable week of tasting, Beth and I settled on a Top 100, all of which scored 91 points or more. In time, we will write a more complete overview of this fascinating DO. But first we need to do more work in situ. Getting to grips with a complex region takes time and we are both keen to come back and deepen our knowledge and understanding.

For now, we will leave you with the notes (all written by Beth) for our favourite wines. And what a diverse bunch they are. We sincerely hope you enjoy drinking them as much as we enjoyed tasting them.

Tim Atkin MW, London, March 2024

Podium

Winemaking Legend Félix Lorenzo Cachazo of Bodegas Félix Lorenzo Cachazo

Winemaker of the Year Pilar García of Bodegas Álvarez Y Díez and Bodegas Félix Sanz

Young Winemaker of the Year Sara Bañuelos, Ramón Bilbao

Grower of the Year Javier Sanz of Bodega Javier Sanz Viticultor

Co-operative of the Year Cuatro Rayas

Enotourism Award Finca Montepedroso

White Wines of the Year 2022 Harena Tinaja, Bodegas Garciarévalo and
2021 Pita Terracota, Bodegas Pita

Fortified Wine of the Year De Alberto Dorado NV, Bodegas De Alberto

White Wine Discovery of the Year 2019 Finca Las Amedias, Ramón Bilbao

Value Wine of the Year 2020 Carrasviñas Fermentado en Barrica,
Bodegas Félix Lorenzo Cachazo

Tasting Notes

Whites

98

Bodegas Pita, Pita Terracota 2021

DO Rueda (13%)

An arrestingly outstanding Verdejo that expresses the full potential of the variety. This is fermented and aged on lees for nine months in Tuscan clay terracotta amphora which brings not only a ferrous, earthy and petrichor character, but also delivers great tension and drive. The nose is inviting with creamy lemon curd and green apple while salinity marks the palate with a limey, savoury finish. Delicious now, this is still young and will surely develop further with time. 2024-30

98

Garciarévalo, Harena Tinaja 2022

DO Rueda Gran Vino (12.5%)

A truly exceptional interpretation of Verdejo. Winemaker Reyes Martínez-Sagarra works with vineyards more than 100 years old planted on sandy soils and to bring out the full expression of these special vines, she has turned to tinajas, five made from clay and one ceramic. The wine is fermented, and goes through malolactic fermentation, in these amphorae which seem to result in a ferrous, metallic drive. There's a lovely touch of reduction with a slightly waxy texture on the palate that leads to a limey mezcal finish. This is a beautifully precise, direct and textural wine that reveals the inherent elegance of Rueda. 2024-30

97

Bodegas Pita, Pita Finca La Cantera 2021

DO Rueda (13%)

Emilio Pita makes this single vineyard wine from grapes in Rubí de Bracamonte grown on stony, sandy clay soils. It is fermented and aged on lees for eight months in high quality 300L French oak which is already perfectly integrated. It offers delicate smoky aromas and precise citrus notes while the palate delivers a certain richness, full of ripe peach and a creamy texture. With limey acidity and underlying minerality, it is beautifully poised and refined. 2024-30

97

Félix Lorenzo Cachazo, Carrasviñas Félix 2020

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13%)

The Félix in the name of this wine is Félix Lorenzo, the founder of the winery. His children made this wine as a homage to him on his 80th birthday ... what a gift! This Verdejo comes from pre-phylloxera vines in Alcazarén grown on very sandy soils. Winemaker and daughter, Ángela Lorenzo ferments and ages this wine in ceramic amphora which reveal the pure fruit character of the wine: chamomile, white pepper, white peach and zesty citrus fruit. It is a wonderfully textured and saline wine with both great precision and weight. 2024-32

97

Ramón Bilbao, Finca Las Amedias 2019

DO Rueda (13%)

A stunning new release from Ramón Bilbao. A layered and complex wine that comes from a single vineyard area where the producer's oldest vines can be found. This wine is all about delicate and careful ageing: it is fermented in stainless steel and then spends 24 months in foudres followed by further ageing in concrete eggs. An inviting nose of rosemary, church incense and woody spice leads to zesty citrus fruit – lemon, lime and grapefruit – that fills out the palate. It is a layered and rich wine with a mineral core. A fabulous new addition to Rueda! 2025-30

96

Beronia, Laslías de Beronia 2022

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13.5%)

A very direct and tightly wound wine with the potential to age. This Verdejo comes from old bush vines planted in 1943 in sandy soils in the province of Ávila, hand-harvested and fermented in a combination of concrete tanks and 500L French oak. Following nine months of ageing on lees, the wine offers a serious palate weight balanced by even more serious, racy acidity. Lemon curd, aniseed and white pepper make for a lively and lifted finish. 2024-30

96

Bodegas Naia, Náiades Verdejo Fermentado en Barrica 2019

DO Rueda (13%)

A classy wine from small, old-vine parcels in some of the best sites of Rueda: La Seca, Matapozuelos, Orbita and Nieva. It is elegant and fine but not lacking in intensity with stone fruit and fennel on the palate. The oak is perfectly integrated and adds lift with balsamic and savoury notes. There's great tension in this wine which underpins its ageing potential, as well as serious depth and structure from complex, ancient soils. 2024-29

95

Belondrade, Belondrade y Lurton 2022

DO Rueda (14%)

Belondrade's flagship wine made from 95% Verdejo and 5% Viognier (and other varieties). Still quite tightly wound – this had only been in the market for a month when tasted – it is precise, perfectly poised and focused. Lots of care has been taken to maintain the vineyard character with very gentle oak treatment. It is a very defined Verdejo with lifted lemon and orange aromas, as well as a touch of pain d'épices and honey, showing off the subtlety and finesse of the grape variety. 2024-29

95

Bodega Hermanos del Villar, Oro de Castilla Finca Los Hornos 2021

DO Rueda (13%)

Finca Los Hornos is a single plot, 5ha of 38 year old Verdejo vines, grown on very acidic soils. Only indigenous yeasts are used in fermentation which takes place in stainless steel. The wine spends around nine months in 900L foudres then a further six months in tank before release. There's fantastic zest and spice here, bell pepper, grapefruit pith and sour lemon drops. It is perfectly drinkable now but has the substance to evolve further with time. 2025-30

95

Bodegas De Alberto, Fermentado en Barrica 2021

DO Rueda (13.5%)

Fermented and aged in new 500L French oak barrels, this Verdejo comes from various vineyards close to the winery with an average age of 30 years. The wood is quite discreet and well-integrated with delicate toasty notes and a little church spice. With typical lemon and pear, the wine is serious with great balance and a creamy texture. A morish savoury finish. 2024-29

95

Bodegas José Pariente, Cuvée Especial 2022

DO Rueda (13.5%)

Grapes come from two vineyards planted in 1930, in total 2,5ha of bush vines growing on sandy soils. Martina Pariente uses concrete eggs to ferment and age the wine for ten months on lees which contributes to a lively and vibrant texture, as well as the full expression of the variety. This is a herbaceous and herbal Verdejo with a touch of balsamic and bay leaf. It offers great tension and drive. 2024-29

95

Campo Eliseo, Harmonía Sauvignon Blanc 2022

DO Rueda (12.5%)

Outstanding Sauvignon from an old parcel (around 50 years old) of low yielding vines in La Seca. The wine is fermented in new French oak in a cellar 14 metres below ground where it is also aged for eight months in barrel and then four months in clay tinajas. Only 850 bottles are made of this elegant and finessed Sauvignon which displays gentle smoky aromas, lime and bell pepper. The palate is racy with grapefruit and grassy freshness. A very precise and persistent finish. 2024-29

95

Campo Eliseo, Verdejo 2021

DO Rueda Gran Vino (14%)

40 year old Verdejo vines provide the structure and concentrated backbone of this wine which is made to age. Not as aromatic as some other examples, with just a touch of oyster shell and floral notes, but with great palate weight and fine acidity. It has been fermented in French 600L barrels and left in oak for ten months on lees. The wine is creamy and mouthfilling, complemented by woody spice and cinnamon. Worth following this wine's development over the coming years. 2024-30

95

Castelo de Medina, Verdejo Prefiloxérico 2021

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13%)

José Maria, the custodian of a single vineyard site in Hornillos de Eresma planted in 1900, checks on his Verdejo vines every day. Planted on very sandy soils, these old bush vines escaped the ravishes of phylloxera. Only 1,800 bottles are made of this wine, fermented in a combination of concrete eggs and 500L French barrels. It is a particularly saline Verdejo with an attractive grainy, elegant texture. With subtle citrus aromas and herbal notes, this is very fine and restrained with the potential to age gracefully. 2024-30

95

Marqués de Riscal, Limousin 2022

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13.5%)

This is a blend of Verdejo grapes from some of the producer's highest terraces in La Seca, as well as their cooler, ungrafted bush vines of Segovia. The wine is fermented and aged on lees for 6 months in 600L French oak which is perfectly integrated and brings just a touch of creaminess to this elegant and finessed wine. It is a complex combination of smoky notes and petrichor with subtle peach and lively white pepper. The finish is deliciously persistent. 2024-30

95

Ramón Bilbao, Verdejo Sobre Lías 2021

DO Rueda (13%)

Sara Bañuelos, winemaker at Ramón Bilbao in Rueda, has succeeded in producing an elegant and pretty wine from selected grapes in the estate's Las Amedias vineyard. Delicate white flowers and pineapple are complimented by smoky notes and woody spice. Passionfruit and lemon peel provide a fruity core and there's only a hint of oak from 8 months in French and Hungarian 500L barrels. A subtle yet detailed wine. 2024-29

94

Arroyo Izquierdo, Mus Lías 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

Mus comes from Miguel Izquierdo's 100-year-old, high altitude vines. A very mineral white wine, the palate offers intense petrichor and saline character, combining with fresh balsamic and herbal notes to produce a lively Verdejo with great energy. There's a little tea tannin and hemp on the palate, adding to the wine's complexity and structure, and a delightful touch of pain d'épices on the finish. A very balanced wine with potential to age. 2024-27

94

Bodega La Granadilla, Dominio de la Granadilla Verdejo Selección Familiar 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

Only 2,000 bottles of this Verdejo are made from some of the producer's oldest vineyards planted in 1999. The wine spends around 6 months on lees in concrete eggs which adds fantastic weight and depth. Pretty orange blossom and green pepper aromas lead to a grassy, herbal palate with rosemary and a touch of mint. An understated wine with serious structure and length. 2024-30

94

Bodegas Blanco Nieva, Pie Franco 2021

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13.5%)

As the name suggests, these old bush vines (80 year old +) are grown on own root stock. They can be found in the surrounds of Nieva, Segovia, planted on typically sandy soils. Winemaker Victor Osorio uses one 300L and three barrels of 225L to ferment 15% of this wine in oak, the rest is in stainless steel and aged there on lees. It's a zippy and limey wine with a lot of salinity that lends a tequila-like character. Very juicy with orange zest on the finish, this is fresh and light on its feet without lacking any complexity. 2024-30

94

Bodegas De Alberto, Edición Limitada 80 Aniversario 2021

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13.5%)

A creamy and fuller bodied interpretation of old Verdejo vines planted in 1950 and 1969 in Nava del Rey and Medina del Campo. Fermented in stainless steel then aged in concrete eggs and foudres, the wine is textured with both bitterness from the grape and from balsamic oak character that gives the wine a herbal, wild fennel lift. Peachy on the palate with some exotic spice, the wine is complex and a pure interpretation of the vineyard. 2024-30

94

Bodegas Félix Sanz, Viña Cimbrón Fermentado en Barrica 2018

DO Rueda (13.5%)

Luscious and rich, this 100% Verdejo wine shows off the potential of the variety to age. It is a heady combination of toasty hazelnut notes from fermentation and ageing for eight months in 500L barrels, and orange, exotic spice and baked (but not bruised) apple. Pain d'épices, honey and lemon curd aromas add to the complexity. 2024-29

94

Bodega Martísancho, Martísancho 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

Showing off the elegance and minerality of La Seca, Martísancho comes from old vines, one of which is a pre-phyloxera vineyard planted in the mid 19th century. Typical Verdejo aromas of pear and peach make for an inviting and pretty nose while the palate is quite structured. Stony freshness and marked acidity speak of the zone and provide the framing for long aging potential. Refined and classy. 2024-30

94

Bodegas Rodríguez y Sanzo, Clavius Ecológico 2020

DO Rueda (14%)

Organic Verdejo from three towns in Segovia: Adeaueva de Codonal, Nieva and Cordoniz. Spontaneous fermentation in new 600L barrels with high toasting, followed by ageing for 12 months, brings obvious woody spice – cinnamon and nutmeg – and some grainy oak tannin but the wine is young and will integrate further with time. There's a lovely creamy texture, almost silky, with ripe, juicy apricot and peach. A mineral, fresh finish adds an elegant lift to the wine. 2025-30

94

Bodegas Rodríguez y Sanzo, Verdejo Bajo Velo 2021

DO Rueda (13.5%)

Javier Rodríguez has successfully created a wine that combines historical techniques in a modern style. Old vines in the south of Ávila, planted in 1900, are fermented with two vineyard plots from Medina del Campo in large French oak. The wine is then aged under flor for 6 months in barrels bought from Jerez. Pretty chamomile and jasmine on the nose lead to bright citrus fruit and juicy peach with a waxy texture. The flor adds just the right amount of interest and complexity. 2024-30

94

Bodegas Vatan, Nisia Las Suertes 2023

DO Rueda (14%)

Located in Segovia, the vineyard area of Majuelos de Carrabañas was planted in 1900 and some parts even earlier. Vines here are pre-phylloxera on ungrafted root stock grown on sandy soils at more than 800m. With all the directness of Verdejo from this southern part of the region, it is a steely and driven wine but generous enough following 12 months ageing in large barrels on lees. A wonderful passionfruit seed crunch defines the acidity that drives this wine while the finish is sherbet and fresh. 2024-30

94

Bodegas Verdeal, 500 Flores 2021

DO Rueda (14%)

This is an overtly oaky style of wine that carries its ageing well. It is inherently rich and intense, reflecting its origins in 35 year+ vines grown on lime clay soils. It is fermented and aged in 500L French oak with light toasting that doesn't mark the wine too much, instead bringing a savoury, green olive character and a little eucalypt freshness. Peach and green apple fill out the palate which is well balanced and underpinned by direct acidity. Should age well. 2024-28

94

Bodegas Vidal Soblechero, Amarre Salvaje 2015

DO Rueda (13%)

Brother and sister, Alicia and Vidal Soblechero, work their family's vineyards using traditional and manual methods. Made with minimal intervention from one parcel of Verdejo grown on sandy soils, there's some attractive funk here, with earthy and green olive notes. Fermented and aged in 300L used oak, the palate offers fine-grained, oaky tannin and some waxy evolution while maintaining a bright lemon and green apple core. 2024-27

94

Castelo de Medina, Verdejo Fermentado en Barrica 2021

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13%)

Winemaker Sara Román has produced this fine and age-worthy Verdejo from a single parcel of 30 years age. Fermentation in barrel, followed by 6 months ageing, seems to bring out the attractive bitterness of the grape with almond and fennel combining with a touch of Campari and a lemon core. Lively acidity balances perfectly with fine grained oak, and the wine finishes with a limey lift. 2024-30

94

Félix Lorenzo Cachazo, Carrasviñas Fermentado en Barrica 2022

DO Rueda (13.5%)

Poor, rocky soils in Cachazo's oldest vineyards in Pozaldez are the origin of this wine. Despite fermentation and ageing in barrels for five months, the oak doesn't mark the wine, instead adding richness and weight. It is very precise and direct with elegant acidity. With a typical Verdejo stone fruit and minerality, the wine finishes with a lime and lemon character, and a salty, morish Margarita finish. 2024-30

94

Garciarévalo, Harena 2022

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13%)

Sandy soils and pre-phylloxera bush vines provide the Verdejo grapes for this wine which is a pure reflection of the vineyard. No oak, the wine is macerated with stems before fermentation in stainless steel, then spends a further nine months on lees. There's a little reduction here, struck match, which adds interest and complexity. Weighty on the palate but with a limey backbone, the wine is direct and precise with a saline finish. 2024-29

94

Javier Sanz, Finca Saltamontes 2018

DO Rueda (13%)

Pre-phylloxera Verdejo from 150 year old bush vines in 2,27ha single vineyard Saltamontes. The soil here is sandy, stony and very deep with clay and limestone in the subsoil which has resulted in a very fine, fluid and complex wine. Pine needle fresh with honey and orange aromas, this Verdejo delivers a slightly waxy texture with dried herbs, marzipan and a bitter fennel finish. Fermented and aged in stainless steel, it shows the potential of the variety without much interference or makeup. 2024-29

94

Marqués de Riscal, Finca Montico 2022

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13%)

Riscal produces this wine from an old plot of 40 year old vines in La Seca on higher terraces of gravelly, stony soil. Mostly fermented in stainless steel with just a part in large foudres, this has a slightly smokey profile with a wet stone, petrichor backbone. Racy and mineral, it finishes with fennel and a touch of wild herbs. Elegant and enticing. 2024-30

94

Protos, Verdejo Reserva 2020

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13%)

A rare Reserva wine from Rueda that shows the potential of Verdejo to age. This comes from a single vineyard site, Pago Las Comas, dry farmed at 770m in La Seca. Fermented in French oak, it is aged on lees for seven months before a further year in barrel and 18 months in bottle before release. The oak is present with attractive fine oak tannin but well integrated and brings a creaminess to an otherwise herbal, lemony and mineral core. A long limey finish with a balsamic lift. 2024-28

94

Viñas Murillo, Chapirete Prefiloxérico 2021

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13.5%)

Viñas Murillo is one of the many producers blessed with very old, pre-phylloxera vines. This plot was planted more than 145 years ago on sandy soils, and to maintain the purity of the fruit character of this vineyard, the wine has been fermented in stainless steel with no oak influence in ageing. Reminiscent in its smokiness and spicy character of Loire Sauvignon, this is an unadulterated Verdejo with balsamic lift, lime and a touch of tropical fruit. It has gained some weight in bottle and has an attractive almond bitterness on the finish. 2024-29

93

Álvarez y Díez, Ermita Veracruz 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

The bush vines in this 30 year old, single vineyard “Cerro Malo” have been recuperated and restructured to provide the special selection of Verdejo grapes for this wine. It is a very varietal wine with the typical minerality, grassy notes and white pepper of this area. Add some orange and even a hint of mango, and the resulting wine is rich and satisfying. 2024-28

93

Álvarez y Díez, Mantel Blanco Verdejo Blanco Fermentado en Barrica 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

Pilar García works with grapes from a vineyard planted in 1934 at 770m to craft this elegant and balanced oak aged Verdejo. The wine reveals lovely toasty, caramel notes finely intertwined with white peach and ripe citrus fruit while the finish is savoury with green olive and some fine oak tannin. 2025-29

93

Bodega Cuatro Rayas, Amador Diez Verdejo Cuvée 2020

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13%)

Amador Diez was president of the Cooperative for 20 years and passed away in 2012 – this wine is a homage to his tenure. The grapes for this wine come from two of their best pre-phylloxera vineyards in Hornillos de Eresma and Villanueva de Duero, both planted on very sandy soils. There is oak here – it is fermented in French oak and aged 12 months – but it is elegant and delicate. White pepper and saline notes dominate with some floral character and fresh apricot. A morish Mezcal-like finish. 2024-29

93

Bodega Cuatro Rayas, Cuarenta Vendimias Cuvée 2022

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13%)

With this wine, Cuatro Rayas have paid homage to one of their important team members – former winemaker Angel Calleja. It is a classic Verdejo, rich and mouthfilling, balanced with lemony acidity and intense salinity. A little balsamic and minty on the nose from a short passage in oak (five months), it is a seriously structured wine with a savoury, umami character. A gastronomic white. 2024-28

93

Bodega Javier Ruiz Sobre Lías 2023

DO Rueda (13.5%)

The entry point into the range from Domaines François Lurton in Rueda, this is 100% Verdejo that is at once rich and intense, yet fresh and elegant. It is the greater sum of its parts having been fermented in stainless steel, foudre, concrete egg and clay amphora, all contributing to a complex and textural wine. Fresh lemonade bitterness is cut with sharp salinity and leads to a limey, spicy finish. A generous and versatile wine. 2024-29

93

Bodegas Félix Sanz, Viña Cimbrón Verdejo Selección 2022

DO Rueda (13.5%)

100% Verdejo that’s all about texture. Made from a single parcel of 30ha grown on stony soils and fermented in concrete, there is a distinctive metallic note and attractive stone fruit bitterness. Not overly expressive – there is a little pear and green apple – but fabulously structured with the potential to evolve further. 2024-30

93

Bodegas José Pariente, Fermentado en Barrica 2022

DO Rueda (13.5%)

Opulent and rich but not overdone. Vines are over 60 years old in La Seca and Hornillos de Eresma and carry some of the aniseed bitterness and minty notes typical of the area. It is a creamy wine with very fine oak tannin following fermentation (including partial malolactic) in French oak and ageing for a further 11 months. The oak brings substantial weight and a little woody, gingery spice. Delicate jasmine aromas and a mineral core balance the wine which is sufficiently restrained to maintain its elegance. 2025-29

93

Bodegas José Pariente, Finca Las Comas 2021

DO Rueda (13.5%)

Structured and serious, this is an intense Verdejo that comes from Las Comas vineyard in La Seca, planted in 1910 on limestone and stony soils which bring minerality and depth to the wine. It has been fermented on lees in large 2,250L foudres and aged for 12 months. The resulting wine offers notes of church incense and cinnamon as well as fennel and monte bajo from the surrounding area. It is a generous and fuller bodied Verdejo with a racy finish. 2024-27

93

Bodegas Naia, Naia Verdejo 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

25 – 45 year old bush vines of a Segovian Verdejo clone provide the grapes for the “entry” wine from Bodegas Naia. The nose is quite discreet and subtle but the palate reveals beautiful peach and apricot fruit, as well as some monte bajo and herbal notes. Mostly fermented in stainless steel but some use of foudre (30%) frames the wine and adds some richness on the palate. A salty, peppery finish. 2024-28

93

Bodegas Vatan, Nisia 2023

DO Rueda (14%)

Classic Verdejo: tropical, citrusy and herbal. This is from various vineyard sites dating from 1900 to the 1980s, some of which are pre-phyllloxera vines grown on predominantly sandy soils. A combination of fermentation in large French oak barrels (60%) and stainless steel (40%), the wine spends eight months on lees which brings some attractive bitter herbal notes, hemp and bay leaf. A touch of spice and cinnamon adds interest. 2024-27

93

Castelo de Medina, Vendimia Selección Sauvignon Blanc 2021

DO Rueda (13%)

Another example of excellent Sauvignon Blanc with Ruedan personality. This is a single parcel from the winery’s oldest vineyard “La Dehesa” in Villaverde de Medina. Fermented in stainless steel with indigenous yeast, the wine spends nine months on lees and a minimum three months in bottle before release. There’s a lovely touch of reduction on the nose and a Riesling-like grapiness and limey acidity that brings an elegance to the wine. A great expression of a subtle and mineral Sauvignon Blanc. 2024-28

93

Finca Montepedroso, Enoteca 2020

DO Rueda (12.5%)

Winemaker Lauren Rosillo aims to make an unadulterated Verdejo representing the full potential of the Finca Montepedroso estate. Grapes are selected from some of the best parcels on different soil types which produce a less aromatic but more mineral and structured wine. The wine sees no oak but is aged on lees in concrete eggs, and there is a definite stony texture along with notes of incense and bay leaf. Lots of drive and indications that the wine will continue to age gracefully. 2024-30

93

Lagar de Moha, Varron Verdejo 2022

DO Rueda (13.5%)

Alberto Moro, owner and winemaker at Lagar de Moga, works with organic grapes in Rueda and Nava del Rey on typical gravelly soils. Fermented in concrete tanks, the wine spends 12 months in 600L French barrels which brings some woody spice. It is a serious wine with a mineral core and some exotic cardamom and white pepper spice. A savoury finish, the wine offers lovely precision with direct, elegant acidity. 2024-28

93

Tres Pilares, Hermanos Fernández 2021

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13.5%)

This Gran Vino comes from a single vineyard Finca Sendero del Monte of more than 65 years age at the highest part of La Seca. There's no barrel use here but the wine has gone through malolactic fermentation and spent nine months on lees which adds great mouthfeel and weight on the palate. Pretty elderflower and lime on the nose, the wine is very balanced with a slightly smoky character on the finish. 2024-28

93

Viñas Murillo, Chapirete Fermentado en Barrica 2021

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13.5%)

Another wine that comes from astonishing pre-phyloxera vines more than 115 years old. The 'Chapirete' plot is grown on sandy soils at 800m altitude and offers hallmark finesse. A creamy combination of green pea, lime and pineapple is supported by a grainy texture from fermentation and ageing in French 900L barrels with just the right amount of toasting. This is a wine that will develop further in bottle. 2024-29

93

Vinos Sanz, Finca La Colina Sauvignon Blanc 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

Planted in 1980, this Sauvignon Blanc is from one single parcel in La Seca grown on stony soils. A green, grassy and vegetal style of Sauvignon with a great mouthfeel. Ageing on lees has brought some palate weight without losing any of its steely core. A long, limey and racy finish. 2024-30

92

Álvarez y Díez, Mantel Blanco Verdejo 2023

DO Rueda (13%)

The Verdejo for Mantel Blanco comes from the estate's own vineyards in Pago de la Serna at 770m, all managed sustainably. Vinified in stainless steel, it is a fresh and lively Verdejo but with some concentration and palate weight from an extended time on lees. It is a very pure expression of both the stony nature of the vineyard and the variety with intense grassy notes and zippy citrus fruits. 2024-27

92

Arroyo Izquierdo, Demimo 2023

DO Rueda (13%)

This is a single parcel wine located on the border of Segovia and Valladolid provinces, perhaps a little more on the Segovian side, and are among the highest in Rueda at over 900m. It is a very Segovian style Verdejo with bay leaf, hemp and medicinal aromas but it is filled out with lime and grapefruit. Flinty fresh on the finish, this is a bright, elegant and approachable young wine. 2024-26

92

Avelino Vegas, Montespina Verdejo Sobre Lías 2023

DO Rueda (13%)

Old vine intensity and cool, Segovian freshness: a lively and juicy Verdejo with layers of lemon, lime and pineapple. Grapes are grown at 900m on canto rodado and cascajo soils bringing drive and energy to the wine while extended contact with lees adds weight and complexity. Fantastic value. 2024-27

92

Bodega Cuatro Rayas, Cuarenta Vendimias 2023

DO Rueda (13%)

An honest, lively and direct Verdejo from vines with an average age of 40 years. Very typical grapefruit pith, pine needles and lime create a fresh and versatile white, while there is plenty of intensity on the palate from the canto rodado soils of the region. It is an uncomplicated Verdejo with plenty of personality. 2024-27

92

Bodega Cuatro Rayas, Longverdejo 2022

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13%)

This wine is the result of old vines: about two-thirds from 80 – 100 year old vines in Segovia, pre-phyloxera on sandy soils, and a third from 40 year old vines in Valladolid grown on typical canto rodado. It's a combination of fermentations and ageing in stainless steel, concrete eggs and 500L French oak. The wine is direct and elegant, salty and fresh. Loads of citrus fruit and attractive dry extract, it finishes with a bright lemony lift. 2024-27

92

Bodega Herrero, José María Herrero 2020

DO Rueda Gran Vino (13%)

Classic Verdejo from three pre-phyloxera vineyards around Nieva, Segovia. This is creamy and balsamic from eight months on lees, and bay leaf and hemp notes add some herbal complexity. There's a certain mountain freshness to the wine with zippy lime and pine resin. It has great energy and a fabulous homage to the father of the winery's owners. 2024-28

92

Bodega Javier Ruiz, Veyovis 2023

DO Rueda (13.5%)

The Javier Ruiz family harvest grapes for this wine from their La Cañada parcel, in Villanueva de Duero, which is particularly rocky and sandy. The resulting wine is not so fruity but marked by very prominent minerality. It shows off the purity of the vineyard with fermentation solely in stainless steel tanks but three months on lees does add some weight and intensity. A flinty fresh finish. 2024-27

92

Bodega La Granadilla, Dominio de la Granadilla Verdejo Viognier 2023 (13%)

DO Rueda

The Descalzo Matos family has produced a really interesting blend featuring the flagship grape of the region, Verdejo, with one of the minority varieties, Viognier. It is a creamy wine, balanced with fresh acidity, offering a lovely combination of pink grapefruit, stone fruit and orange blossom. With quite a firm, flinty finish, this is a wine with personality and interest. 2024-26

93

Bodega La Soterraña, Eresma Verdejo Sobre Lías 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

Classic Verdejo with lemony aromas, spring flowers and fennel. Low yields and cascajo soil bring concentration and intensity to this wine while six months ageing on lees adds smoky notes and a creamy texture. Restrained and refined, the wine has benefited from a year in bottle and will maintain its freshness moving forward. 2024-28

93

Bodega Matarromera, CM Fermentado en Barrica 2019

DO Rueda (13%)

A Verdejo intended to show off the variety's ability to evolve. After four years in barrel (eight months) and bottle, this is still very fresh. The winery uses a mix of tonneliers, all French, with light toasting and fine grain that brings just a hint of oak tannin and a lift to the wine. The core is full of bright citrus fruit, lemons and limes, and it finishes with attractive woody spice. 2024-29

93

Bodegas Blanco Nieva, Blanco Nieva Sauvignon Blanc 2023

DO Rueda (14%)

This Sauvignon comes from Blanco Nieva's six hectares of the variety in the area around Nieva, in Segovia. Here the soils are very sandy and stony with vineyards grown at approximately 850m. This is a precise and subtle Sauvignon with just enough tropical fruit on the palate – a little passionfruit but not overblown – and a racy backbone. A restrained style of wine, on point and poised. 2024-26

92

Bodegas Blanco Nieva, Blanco Nieva Verdejo 2023

DO Rueda (13.5%)

A Segovian style of Verdejo from a mix of old bush vines and some younger vines (25 years) on trellis. This is a pure example of the variety, without any oak influence, that offers bracing acidity and a mineral palate. Fresh pineapple, grapefruit and lemon peel lead to appealing fennel, grass and hay. A refreshing and inviting young white. 2024-27

92

Bodegas José Pariente, Verdejo 2023

DO Rueda (13%)

This was the first wine made by the winery in 1998. A classic, approachable and appealing Verdejo that shows off the citrus and tropical nature of the variety with lots of lime and pineapple aromas. It is a young wine but they are looking for some complexity, working with various vineyards across their estate of at least 15 years age, and only releasing the wine in the spring so it has time to develop. A little lees work adds to the richness on the palate while some use of concrete and tinaja in fermentation allows the full expression of all the wonderful herbal and aniseed character of the variety. 2024-26

92

Bodegas Mocén, Renacce 2021

DO Rueda Gran Vino (12.5%)

An unusual Rueda blend of 60% Verdejo (43 year old vines) and 40% Chardonnay (36 year old vines) grown around the town of Rueda. There's a Viognier-like quality to the wine with a touch of oiliness and stone fruit. The palate is very lemony with citrus peel, stony freshness and a saline finish. 2024-29

92

Bodegas Naia, Náíades Sauvignon Blanc Fermentado en Barrica 2022

DO Rueda (12.5%)

Only the second vintage of this Sauvignon Blanc which is part fermented in second use barrels and part in ceramic, all spontaneous. This isn't a tropical Sauvignon: it is restrained, elegant and more mineral. Pretty white flowers dominate the nose while the palate is textured and layered with green fruit. 2024-28

92

Bodegas Pita, Pita Sauvignon Blanc 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

Vibrant and herbaceous, this is an elegant and direct Sauvignon Blanc. From the Pita family's estate fruit in Rubí de Bracamonte, it is a very pure expression of the variety. Cayenne pepper and grapefruit pith combine with tropical fruits on the palate but the core maintains its grassy backbone. 2024-28

92

Bodegas Verdeal, 20 de Abril Organic Acacia 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

A new wine from Bodegas Verdeal. This has been fermented and aged for four months in acacia wood from the estate's organic vineyards in La Seca. A fresh and fruity wine with a unique personality, this Verdejo is lively displaying bright citrus aromas, grapefruit and exotic sandalwood spice. The palate is creamy with some honey and Spanish turrón sweetness that balances nicely with herbal and grassy freshness on the finish. 2024-27

92

Campo Eliseo, Cuvée Alegre 2022

DO Rueda (13.5%)

The entry point into the range from Domaines François Lurton in Rueda, this is 100% Verdejo that is at once rich and intense, yet fresh and elegant. It is the greater sum of its parts having been fermented in stainless steel, foudre, concrete egg and clay amphora, all contributing to a complex and textural wine. Fresh lemonade bitterness is cut with sharp salinity and leads to a limey, spicy finish. A generous and versatile wine. 2024-27

92

Compañía de Vinos Telmo Rodríguez, El Transistor 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

A single parcel wine from 45 year old Verdejo bush vines in La Seca. It is a serious wine that has the hallmark structure of the 2022 vintage and is reminiscent of a white Graves. Lots of refreshing green aromas of pine forest and kiwi fruit, the palate is elegant and direct. There's a certain richness and complexity from the use of foudres, barrels and concrete egg during six months of ageing, and the wine finishes with clear mineral definition. 2024-28

92

Finca Montepedroso, Finca Montepedroso 2022

DO Rueda (12.5%)

This is the young, 'entry' level wine from Finca Montepedroso and represents a lot of wine for the price. It is direct with punchy acidity and stony freshness, representing the typicality of the vineyards around the town of Rueda. There's a delicious green apple crunch with lots of palate weight and intensity while the wine finishes citrusy fresh. A more structured and serious wine than many at this price point. 2024-28

92

Garciarévalo, Finca Tres Olmos Lías 2023

DO Rueda (13%)

A refined and elegant wine full of youthful energy, this Verdejo comes from the Finca Tres Olmas vineyard planted on soil with vines 15 – 35 years age. Grapes are fermented separately according to the age of vines and then blended. Perfumed white floral notes, pine resin and lively white pepper dominate the nose while the palate is layered with typical peach and stone fruit bitterness. A citrusy finish with refreshing acidity. 2024-27

92

J Fernando Viñedos y Bodega, Verdejo Vendimia Seleccionada 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

This is a special selection of organic Verdejo grapes from the producer's 120ha of own vines in Rueda. It is a fresh white, fermented in stainless steel but with three months ageing on lees bringing a stony texture to the wine. Grapefruit pith and white pepper keep the wine lively while it finishes generously with juicy stone fruit. 2024-27

92

Javier Sanz, Malcorta 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

Malcorta is a local variation on the Verdejo grape that was almost extinct but rescued by Javier Sanz. It's most marked characteristic is its naturally zippy acidity, a result of its long ripening cycle. Quite Albariño-like on the nose – lemon, white flowers and stone fruit – it is dominated by vibrant lemon and wet stone minerality. It is lively with lots of energy and personality. 2024-27

92

Marqués de Cáceres, La Capilla 2022

DO Rueda (14%)

La Capilla is an elegant and subtle blend of Verdejo and Sauvignon Blanc (50/50) fermented in French oak, 225L and 500L, with 20% in concrete eggs. The wine has spent nine months on lees in concrete tanks, which has brought finesse and flinty minerality. Stone fruit and smokey notes round out the palate. 2024-29

92

Mathilde Chapoutier Selection, Fagueño Verdejo 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

Pure Verdejo from the heart of Rueda, grown on stony clay-limestone soils. Fermented in stainless steel, there is no makeup here, just bright lemon sherbet, green apple and pear. There's a great drive and energy to the wine with a pithy acidity. Bitter fennel notes and pine resin on the finish add depth. 2024-29

92

Muelas de Tordesillas, Helena La Lía 2021

DO Rueda (13%)

Helena Muelas works with her family's younger vines, planted in 2017, to produce this creamy and substantial Verdejo. The vineyards are close to the family's winery in Tordesillas, in the very northern region of Rueda. The wine is fermented and aged for 11 months on lees in French oak in the underground caves of the Muelas winery. A touch of oak tannin frames the wine which offers pretty pear and delicate honey notes. Rich and satisfying. 2024-27

92

Ramón Bilbao, Early Harvest Verdejo 2023

DO Rueda (11%)

This is a very intelligently made low-alcohol wine. At 11%, this Verdejo doesn't lack for any varietal typicity – the palate is full of lime and lemon fruit and a grapey, almost Riesling-like character. The lower alcohol is achieved by early picking, as the name suggests (!), from vineyards specifically chosen for their site and whose canopy has been carefully managed. Fermentation in concrete seems to have added a little extra aromatic expression and weight. An innovative yet authentic wine. 2024-27

92

Ramón Bilbao, Sauvignon Blanc 2023

DO Rueda (13%)

All the fruit for this wine comes from Ramón Bilbao's own vines in Finca La Amedias grown on poor, stony, clay soils. It is a very elegant but accessible Sauvignon Blanc that has benefited from fermentation in a combination of stainless steel, concrete and foudre. The resulting wine offers white floral notes, a touch of smoke and a limey core with a little tropical fruit. 2024-26

92

Tres Pilaes, Verdejo Selección 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

Time in bottle has really developed the varietal typicity and richness of this wine. It is still very fresh with pretty elderflower and white flowers on the nose and a bitter, hempy finish gives the wine a lovely lift. 70% of the wine has been fermented on lees in stainless steel but the 30% fermented in French and Hungarian oak has framed this wine which will surely develop further with time. 2024-28

92

Valdecuevas, Orange 2022

DO Rueda (13.5%)

A new wine just classified within the DO. An unusual blend for the region, 50% Verdejo 50% Viognier, the wine spends one month on skins and then ages in amphora for six months before a further two months in acacia and French oak. A limited production of only 500 bottles, this is a delightful combination of pretty orange aromas and lychee fruit on the nose while the palate is quite structured with a touch of tannin. Some textured grip and a fresh core result in lively and refreshing wine. 2024-28

92

Valdecuevas, Verdejo Cuvée 2022

DO Rueda (13.5%)

Cuvée is a young Verdejo fermented in French 500L barrels and then aged for a little time on lees in amphora and stainless steel. The barrel here brings a touch of smokiness and weight on the palate, but the wine is most marked by flinty acidity, pretty white flowers and grassy notes, and ripe stone fruit. A serious and layered Verdejo, and at the same time highly approachable. 2024-27

91

Arroyo Izquierdo, Siete Llaves Sauvignon Blanc 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

This is a citrusy Sauvignon from vines grown at 840m where the province of Segovia meets Valladolid. With a hint of smoke and bell pepper, the wine is complex yet full of ripe and juicy lemony fruit which brings body and weight. The finish is racy and dominated by appealing grapefruit pith and just a hint of crunchy passionfruit seed bitterness. 2024-26

91

Bodegas Félix Sanz, Viña Cimbrón Verdejo 2023

DO Rueda (13.5%)

In Rueda itself, Félix Sanz owns a 30ha vineyard grown at 750m on typical stony, gravelly soil. The resulting Verdejo bottled under the Viña Cimbrón brand is more about texture than overt fruit character. It is very elegant with defined minerality and a freshness that seems to derive from fennel and surrounding garrigue. 2024-27

91

Bodegas La Soterraña, Eresma Sauvignon Blanc Sobre Lías 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

This Sauvignon comes from the family-owned winery Eresma, established in 2006 under the impetus of Aníbal Asensio Paunero, one of the founders of the DO. Coming from vineyards across different sub-zones, this wine is a reflection of the variety's potential in the region. It was fermented and then left on lees for 6 months which has brought weight and texture to the wine with a waxy, lemon peel character. Blackcurrant leaf adds interest, and it offers a fresh, pithy finish. 2024-26

91

Bodegas Val de Vid, Fermentado en Barrica 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

An oaked interpretation of Verdejo with very well-integrated wood which provides a framework for intense fruit from 35-year-old vines. This Verdejo comes from vineyards grown on particularly stony soils in La Seca which bring energy and drive to the wine. 6 months ageing in French barrels results in a creamy texture complimented by lemony acidity. A touch of frankincense on the finish adds interest. 2024-27

91

Bodegas Vidal Soblechero, Amarre Verdejo Sobre Lías 2018

DO Rueda (13%)

An organic Verdejo from La Seca, this is produced with minimal intervention by the Vidal siblings. It is a very pretty and perfumed wine with white floral notes and chamomile. The palate is quite creamy following 9 months aging on lees and shows off Verdejo's varietal character with fresh apple, pear and peach. A wine with a sense of place and personality that has developed with time in bottle. 2024-27

91

Bodegas Viore, Verdejo Sobre Lías 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

This Verdejo is a lovely combination of part lees ageing (7 months), part aging in 500L French oak barrels for 5 months. Resulting woody spice and balsamic notes combine with a chalky texture and underlying salinity from the particularly sandy, lime-clay soils of a 3ha parcel in La Seca. It is a rich and concentrated wine with a lift on the finish from typical varietal bitterness. 2024-27

91

Bodegas y Viñedos Shaya, Shaya Habis 2021

DO Rueda (13.5%)

Shaya's Habis cuvée comes from an old parcel (over 100 years old) of Verdejo grapes grown on very sandy soils. The wine is fermented in barrel and aged for 10 months in French 500L and 600L oak. It is an overtly oaky style of wine with toasty notes and roasted almond and nougat aromas. Oak also brings a creaminess to the wine on the palate but it is balanced by some tropical fruit, a hint of orange and apricot fruit, and bright acidity. 2024-28

91

Castelo de Medina, Vendimia Selección Verdejo 2021

DO Rueda (13%)

Some of the producer's oldest vines in Villaverde de Medina provide the grapes for this carefully selected, hand-harvested Verdejo. After 6 months on lees, the wine then spends 3 months in French barrels before a further 3 months in bottle before release. The wine has a racy, limey backbone and very marked saline notes. It has taken on some weight and attractive honey notes over time. A pretty and textured wine. 2024-27

91

Hermanos Lurton, Verdejo 2023

DO Rueda (13%)

An elegant expression of Verdejo, full of bright citrus and tropical fruit. This comes from one of the Lurton vineyards in La Seca and is fermented in stainless steel. It offers exotic lychee and stone fruit on the nose with vibrant orange, grapefruit pith and fennel on the palate. A short period of a few months ageing on lees has brought just enough weight and intensity. Should develop further with more time in bottle. 2024-28

91

Javier Sanz, Verdejo 2023

DO Rueda (13%)

This is a youthful and vibrant interpretation of Verdejo from Javier Sanz' family plot Villa Narcisca in La Seca. Vines are 40 years old and bring old vine concentration and personality to the wine which is 100% fermented in stainless steel. The nose is pretty and frank with white floral, pineapple and lime aromas while the stony nature of the vineyard is revealed through the wine's mineral backbone. 2024-26

91

Lagar de Moha, Sapientia Verdejo 2022

DO Rueda (13.5%)

Mineral and textural, this is an elegant biodynamic and organic Verdejo from vineyards in Rueda and Nava del Rey. Fermented with indigenous yeasts, the wine offers a very pure expression of the vines with pine needle freshness on the nose and a persistent lemon core. With typical varietal fennel notes, it finishes with an attractive balsamic lift. 2024-26

91

Palacio de Bornos, Verdejo Fermentado en Barrica 2022

DO Rueda (13%)

A good value oaked Verdejo from vines in Rueda, La Seca and Pollos. The wine is fermented in French oak barrels and then aged for a further 4 months which brings a woody spice and creamy texture. A particularly citrusy Verdejo, there is a great balance between the fruit and oak and a balsamic kick on the finish. 2024-27

91

Protos, Cuvée Verdejo 2022

DO Rueda (12.5%)

Protos selects these Verdejo grapes from two vineyards grown at 730m between Rueda and Medina del Campo on sandy soils. Fermented in stainless steel followed by 5 months on lees in a combination of tank, concrete eggs and foudres, the wine is light on its feet with a lively texture while offering up volume on the palate cut with a limey backbone. Some very gentle smoky notes add to the complexity of this Verdejo which finishes with a touch of white pepper. 2024-28

91

Viñas Murillo, Chapirote Sauvignon Blanc 2023

DO Rueda (13%)

This Sauvignon comes from 35-year-old vines planted at 750m close to the town of Alcazarén. Soils here are typically stony, producing a flinty fresh white with layers of stone fruit and a grippy, grainy texture. The wine is zesty and offers an attractive sour core of bitter lemon and a pithy finish. 2024-26

Fortified

97

Bodegas De Alberto, Dorado NV

DO Rueda (17.5%)

What a wine! This Dorado is a fabulous expression of winemaking history in Spain and Rueda in particular. 100% Verdejo, the base wine is fortified and then exposed to the sun in demijohns for six months to develop the wine's unique colour and flavour profile. It is then transferred into a solera system, the mother of which is over 70 years old. Wonderfully complex, this is an indulgent combination of caramel sweetness, candied fruit and fresh dates. Imagine Rum & Raisin ice cream or a boozy Madeira cake... the wine is dry but with luscious texture and intensity. 2024-30

96

Félix Lorenzo Cachazo, Carrasviñas Dorado NV

DO Rueda (15%)

A fabulous Dorado style of wine, complex and detailed with pretty citrus peel and candied fruit with lemon pith, quince and bitter almond. The fermented must of this wine – a blend of Verdejo and Palomino – is oxidatively aged in demijohns for 19 months, followed by ageing for two years in French oak. The resulting wine is wonderfully complex and savoury with an inherent umami character and a morish nutty finish. 2024-30

95

Bodegas De Alberto, Pálido NV

DO Rueda (15%)

This Pálido blend completes the trio of outstanding fortified wines from Bodegas De Alberto. Again, it is made with 100% Verdejo but this time it is fortified then aged for 3 years under flor. It has a sherry-like nose – think aged Fino – with hazelnut, delicate caramel notes and bright citrus peel. The Verdejo personality of this wine shines through with racy, lemony acidity. An incredibly complex wine that at the same time is light on its feet and underpinned by earthy, umami character. 2024-30

94

Bodegas De Alberto, Dorado Dulce NV

DO Rueda (16%)

Like De Alberto's dry Dorado wine, this sweet version, whose base wine has around 80g RS resulting from a stopped fermentation, is fortified and aged in demijohns in the sun, in this case at least 12 months. The wine then spends two years in barrel. Golden syrup, Brazil nuts and dates produce an Oloroso-like palate. It is sweet but balanced by racy Verdejo acidity along with savoury coffee notes and an orange peel lift. 2024-28

92

Bodega Cuatro Rayas, 61 Dorado en Rama NV

DO Rueda (17%)

The mother of this solera system dates to 1950. It is a blend of 50% Verdejo with 50% Palomino from 100 year old vineyards, aged under flor in old sherry barrels. A heady blend of dried fruits, almonds, caramel and coffee notes, it is reminiscent of a Palo Cortado style of wine. Bright citrus peel on the finish gives the wine a mouthwatering lift. 2024-28

Complete Scores A-Z

PRODUCER	WINE	VINTAGE	CATEGORY	STYLE	SCORE	ABV%	€ PRICE
Álvarez y Díez	Ermita Veracruz	2022	DO Rueda	White	93	13.0	10
Álvarez y Díez	Mantel Blanco Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	11
Álvarez y Díez	Mantel Blanco Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	9
Álvarez y Díez	Mantel Blanco Verdejo Blanco Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda	White	93	13.0	16
Álvarez y Díez	Silga	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	7
Arroyo Izquierdo	Demimo	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	8
Arroyo Izquierdo	Mus Lías	2022	DO Rueda	White	94	13.0	12
Arroyo Izquierdo	Siete Llaves Sauvignon Blanc	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	8
Avelino Vegas	Casa de la Vega Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	12.5	4
Avelino Vegas	Circe	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	12.5	12
Avelino Vegas	Montespina Verdejo Sobre Lías	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	8
Avelino Vegas	Nicte Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	5
Avelino Vegas	Nicte Verdejo Ecológico	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	5
Belondrade	Belondrade y Lurton	2022	DO Rueda	White	95	14.0	46
Beronia	Laslías de Beronia	2022	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	96	13.5	17
Beronia	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	8
Bodega Cuatro Rayas	61 Dorado en Rama	NV	DO Rueda	Fortified	92	17.0	30
Bodega Cuatro Rayas	Amador Diez Verdejo Cuvée	2020	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	93	13.0	35
Bodega Cuatro Rayas	Cuarenta Vendimias	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	7
Bodega Cuatro Rayas	Cuarenta Vendimias Cuvée	2022	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	93	13.0	15
Bodega Cuatro Rayas	Longverdejo	2022	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	92	13.0	15
Bodega Cuatro Rayas	Sauvignon Blanc Vendimia Nocturna	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	6
Bodega Cuatro Rayas	Verdejo Vendimia Nocturna	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	12.5	6
Bodega Hermanos del Villar	Oro de Castilla Finca Los Hornos	2021	DO Rueda	White	95	13.0	16
Bodega Hermanos del Villar	Oro de Castilla Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	10
Bodega Javier Ruiz	Sobre Lías	2023	DO Rueda	White	93	13.5	12
Bodega Javier Ruiz	Veyovis	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	13.5	11
Bodega La Granadilla	Dominio de la Granadilla Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	12
Bodega La Granadilla	Dominio de la Granadilla Sauvignon Blanc Orgánico	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	9
Bodega La Granadilla	Dominio de la Granadilla Verdejo Orgánico	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	8
Bodega La Granadilla	Dominio de la Granadilla Verdejo Selección Familiar	2022	DO Rueda	White	94	13.0	15
Bodega La Granadilla	Dominio de la Granadilla Verdejo Viognier	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	10
Bodega La Soterraña	Eresma Cuvée Especial	2021	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	89	13.0	18
Bodega La Soterraña	Eresma Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	90	13.0	18
Bodega La Soterraña	Eresma Sauvignon Blanc Sobre Lías	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	9
Bodega La Soterraña	Eresma Verdejo Sobre Lías	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	9
Bodega Martínsancho	Martínsancho	2022	DO Rueda	White	94	13.0	8
Bodega Matarromera	CM Fermentado en Barrica	2019	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	20
Bodega Matarromera	Emina Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	88	13.0	7
Bodega Matarromera	Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	29
Bodega Matarromera	Oinoz Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	87	13.0	7

TIM ATKIN MW & BETH WILLARD RUEDA 2024 TOP 100

PRODUCER	WINE	VINTAGE	CATEGORY	STYLE	SCORE	ABV%	€ PRICE
Bodegas Aura	Finca Avutarda	2019	DO Rueda	White	89	13.5	20
Bodegas Aura	Vendimia Nocturna Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.5	9
Bodegas Aura	Vendimia Nocturna Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	8
Bodegas Blanco Nieva	Blanco Nieva Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	14.0	10
Bodegas Blanco Nieva	Blanco Nieva Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	13.5	10
Bodegas Blanco Nieva	Pie Franco	2021	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	94	13.5	30
Bodegas Cerrosol	Cepas Viejas	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	13.5	8
Bodegas Cerrosol	Doña Beatriz Verdejo	2022	DO Rueda	Sparkling	90	12.5	9
Bodegas Cerrosol	Doña Beatriz Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	6
Bodegas Cerrosol	Doña Beatriz Verdejo Ecológico	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	6
Bodegas Copaboca	Finca Feroes	2022	DO Rueda	White	88	13.5	9
Bodegas Copaboca	Juan Galindo	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	14.0	12
Bodegas Cyatho	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	12.5	7
Bodegas De Alberto	Dorado	NV	DO Rueda	Fortified	97	17.5	45
Bodegas De Alberto	Dorado Dulce	NV	DO Rueda	Fortified	94	16.0	44
Bodegas De Alberto	Edición Limitada 80 Aniversario	2021	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	94	13.5	19
Bodegas De Alberto	Fermentado en Barrica	2021	DO Rueda	White	95	13.5	15
Bodegas De Alberto	Monasterio de Palazuelos Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.5	4
Bodegas De Alberto	Monasterio de Palazuelos Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.5	4
Bodegas De Alberto	Monasterio de Palazuelos Verdejo Viura	2023	DO Rueda	White	87	12.7	4
Bodegas De Alberto	Pálido	NV	DO Rueda	Fortified	95	15.0	56
Bodegas De Alberto	Verdejo Ecológico	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.5	7
Bodegas De Alberto	Verdejo Sobre Lías	2022	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	7
Bodegas Felix Sanz	Piedras de Cimbrón	2020	DO Rueda	White	88	13.5	27
Bodegas Felix Sanz	Viña Cimbrón Fermentado en Barrica	2018	DO Rueda	White	94	13.5	17
Bodegas Felix Sanz	Viña Cimbrón Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.5	11
Bodegas Felix Sanz	Viña Cimbrón Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	13.5	9
Bodegas Felix Sanz	Viña Cimbrón Verdejo Selección	2022	DO Rueda	White	93	13.5	11
Bodegas José Pariente	Cuvée Especial	2022	DO Rueda	White	95	13.5	30
Bodegas José Pariente	Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda	White	93	13.5	45
Bodegas José Pariente	Finca Las Comas	2021	DO Rueda	White	93	13.5	45
Bodegas José Pariente	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	11
Bodegas LAN	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	88	13.0	8
Bodegas Mocén	Renacce	2021	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	92	12.5	15
Bodegas Mocén	Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	10
Bodegas Mocén	Selección Especial	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	8
Bodegas Naia	Naia Verdejo	2022	DO Rueda	White	93	13.0	11
Bodegas Naia	Náiades Sauvignon Blanc Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	12.5	19
Bodegas Naia	Náiades Verdejo Fermentado en Barrica	2019	DO Rueda	White	96	13.0	24
Bodegas Pandora	Ovo	2020	DO Rueda	White	87	13.5	42
Bodegas Pandora	Pandra Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	11
Bodegas Pandora	Pandra Sauvignon Blanc Fermentado en Barrica	2021	DO Rueda	White	89	13.5	16
Bodegas Pandora	Pandra Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.5	9
Bodegas Pandora	Pandra Verdejo Ecológico	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	10
Bodegas Pandora	Pandra Verdejo Fermentado en Barrica	2021	DO Rueda	White	88	13.5	16
Bodegas Pita	Pita Finca La Bonera	2019	DO Rueda	Red	89	14.0	13
Bodegas Pita	Pita Finca La Cantera	2021	DO Rueda	White	97	13.0	25
Bodegas Pita	Pita Rosado	2023	DO Rueda	Rosé	89	14.0	10

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PRODUCER	WINE	VINTAGE	CATEGORY	STYLE	SCORE	ABV%	€ PRICE
Bodegas Pita	Pita Sauvignon Blanc	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	11
Bodegas Pita	Pita Terracota	2021	DO Rueda	White	98	13.0	42
Bodegas Pita	Pita Tinto de Guarda	2017	DO Rueda	Red	88	14.0	13
Bodegas Pita	Pita Verdejo Sobre Lías	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	10
Bodegas Rodríguez y Sanzo	Clavius Ecológico	2020	DO Rueda	White	94	14.0	36
Bodegas Rodríguez y Sanzo	El Quinto Paraje	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	13.5	12
Bodegas Rodríguez y Sanzo	Verdejo Bajo Velo	2021	DO Rueda	White	94	13.5	19
Bodegas Rodríguez y Sanzo	Verdejo Ecológico Viñas Viejas	2022	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	8
Bodegas Val de Vid	Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	16
Bodegas Val de Vid	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	12.5	9
Bodegas Vatan	Las Suertes	2023	DO Rueda	White	94	14.0	25
Bodegas Vatan	Nisia	2023	DO Rueda	White	93	14.0	13
Bodegas Verdeal	20 de Abril Organic	2022	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	9
Bodegas Verdeal	20 de Abril Organic Acacia	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	13
Bodegas Verdeal	500 Flores	2021	DO Rueda	White	94	14.0	23
Bodegas Verdeal	Verdejo	2022	DO Rueda	White	89	12.5	11
Bodegas Vidal Soblechero	Amarre Salvaje	2015	DO Rueda	White	94	13.0	28
Bodegas Vidal Soblechero	Amarre Cepas Viejas	2022	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	11
Bodegas Vidal Soblechero	Amarre Sobre Lías	2017	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	16
Bodegas Vidal Soblechero	Amarre Verdejo Sobre Lías	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	11
Bodegas Viore	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	8
Bodegas Viore	Verdejo Organic	2022	DO Rueda	White	90	12.5	9
Bodegas Viore	Verdejo Sobre Lías	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	12
Bodegas y Viñedos Shaya	Arindo	2022	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	10
Bodegas y Viñedos Shaya	Honoro Vera Blanco	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	8
Bodegas y Viñedos Shaya	Shaya	2022	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	13
Bodegas y Viñedos Shaya	Shaya Habis	2021	DO Rueda	White	91	13.5	30
Bodegas y Viñedos Shaya	Vidilla	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	8
Bodegas y Viñedos Vicaral	Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	10
Bodegas y Viñedos Vicaral	Verdejo Monovarietal	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	5
Bodegas y Viñedos Yllera	Meraldís Verdejo Vinificación Integral	2021	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	90	13.5	21
Bodegas y Viñedos Yllera	Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	88	14.0	7
Bodegas y Viñedos Yllera	Tierra Buena	2023	DO Rueda	White	88	13.0	5
Bodegas y Viñedos Yllera	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	7
Campo Eliseo	Harmonía Sauvignon Blanc	2022	DO Rueda	White	95	12.5	90
Campo Eliseo	Cuvée Alegre	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	13.5	14
Campo Eliseo	Verdejo	2021	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	95	14.0	34
Castelo de Medina	Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	8
Castelo de Medina	Vendimia Selección Sauvignon Blanc	2021	DO Rueda	White	93	13.0	11
Castelo de Medina	Vendimia Selección Verdejo	2021	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	11
Castelo de Medina	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	7
Castelo de Medina	Verdejo Fermentado en Barrica	2021	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	94	13.0	14
Castelo de Medina	Verdejo Prefiloxérico	2021	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	95	13.0	88
Compañía de Vinos Telmo Rodríguez	Basa	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	10
Compañía de Vinos Telmo Rodríguez	El Transistor	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	23
Diez Siglos de Verdejo	Diez Siglos Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	88	13.0	8
Diez Siglos de Verdejo	Diez Siglos Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	8
Diez Siglos de Verdejo	Momento Diez Verdejo	2021	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	14

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PRODUCER	WINE	VINTAGE	CATEGORY	STYLE	SCORE	ABV%	€ PRICE
Diez Siglos de Verdejo	Nekora Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	7.0	7
Diez Siglos de Verdejo	Verdejo Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda	White	89	13.5	23
Félix Lorenzo Cachazo	Carrasviñas Dorado	NV	DO Rueda	Fortified	96	15.0	16
Félix Lorenzo Cachazo	Carrasviñas Félix	2020	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	97	13.0	28
Félix Lorenzo Cachazo	Carrasviñas Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda	White	94	13.5	9
Félix Lorenzo Cachazo	Carrasviñas Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	13
Finca Montepedroso	Enoteca	2020	DO Rueda	White	93	12.5	39
Finca Montepedroso	Finca Montepedroso	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	12.5	8
Garciarévalo	Finca Tres Olmos Lías	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	9
Garciarévalo	Harena	2022	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	94	13.0	17
Garciarévalo	Harena Tinaja	2022	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	98	12.5	25
Hermanos Lurton	Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	9
Hermanos Lurton	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	9
Herrero Bodega	Erre de Herrero	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	12.5	7
Herrero Bodega	José María Herrero	2020	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	92	13.1	19
Herrero Bodega	Robert Vedel	2021	DO Rueda	White	90	13.6	11
J Fernando Viñedos y Bodega	Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.5	9
J Fernando Viñedos y Bodega	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	9
J Fernando Viñedos y Bodega	Verdejo Ecológico	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	12
Javier Sanz	Finca Saltamontes	2017	DO Rueda	White	94	13.0	43
Javier Sanz	Malcorta	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	20
Javier Sanz	Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	12
Javier Sanz	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	11
Lagar de Moha	Sapientia Sauvignon Blanc	2022	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	11
Lagar de Moha	Sapientia Verdejo	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	13.5	13
Lagar de Moha	Varron Verdejo	2022	DO Rueda	White	93	13.5	21
Marqués de Cáceres	Excellens Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	14.0	9
Marqués de Cáceres	La Capilla	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	14.0	13
Marqués de Cáceres	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	7
Marqués de Riscal	Finca Montico	2022	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	94	13.0	16
Marqués de Riscal	Limousin	2022	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	95	13.5	19
Marqués de Riscal	Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	12
Marqués de Riscal	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.1	9
Mathilde Chapoutier Selection	Fagueño Verdejo	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	13
Muelas de Tordesillas	Helena La Lía	2021	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	17
Muelas de Tordesillas	Muedra Edición Especial	2019	DO Rueda	Red	90	14.5	22
Pagos del Rey	Analivia Verdejo Selección	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	7
Pagos del Rey	Auténtica	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	3
Pagos del Rey	Blume Verdejo Selección	2023	DO Rueda	White	87	13.0	6
Palacio de Bornos	La Caprichosa Verdejo Sobre Lías	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	10
Palacio de Bornos	Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	9
Palacio de Bornos	Sauvignon Blanc Semidulce	2023	DO Rueda	White	88	13.5	9
Palacio de Bornos	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	7
Palacio de Bornos	Verdejo Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	9
Palacio de Bornos	Brut	NV	DO Rueda	Sparkling	88	12.0	8
Palacio de Bornos	Brut Nature	NV	DO Rueda	Sparkling	89	12.0	11
Protos	Cuvée Verdejo	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	12.5	11
Protos	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	89	13.0	8

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PRODUCER	WINE	VINTAGE	CATEGORY	STYLE	SCORE	ABV%	€ PRICE
Protos	Verdejo Reserva	2020	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	94	13.0	22
Ramón Bilbao	Early Harvest Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	11.0	16
Ramón Bilbao	Finca Las Amedias	2019	DO Rueda	White	97	13.0	45
Ramón Bilbao	Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	12
Ramón Bilbao	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	12.5	9
Ramón Bilbao	Verdejo Sobre Lías	2021	DO Rueda	White	95	13.0	21
Rolland Galarreta	Parcelas 22-66	2019	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	17
Tres Pilares	Hermanos Fernández	2021	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	93	13.5	15
Tres Pilares	Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.0	10
Tres Pilares	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	10
Tres Pilares	Verdejo Selección	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	13.0	12
Valdecuevas	Blanco Fermentado en Barrica	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	13.5	14
Valdecuevas	Orange	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	13.5	18
Valdecuevas	Verdejo	2023	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	7
Valdecuevas	Verdejo Cuvée	2022	DO Rueda	White	92	13.5	16
Viñas Murillo	Chapirete Fermentado en Barrica	2021	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	93	13.5	25
Viñas Murillo	Chapirete Prefiloxérico	2021	DO Rueda Gran Vino	White	94	13.5	17
Viñas Murillo	Chapirete Sauvignon Blanc	2023	DO Rueda	White	91	13.0	11
Viñas Murillo	Chapirete Verdejo Selección	2022	DO Rueda	White	90	13.5	9
Vinos Sanz	Finca La Colina Cuvée	2022	DO Rueda	White	91	14.0	25
Vinos Sanz	Finca La Colina Sauvignon Blanc	2022	DO Rueda	White	93	13.0	15
Vinos Sanz	Finca La Colina Verdejo Cien X Cien	2022	DO Rueda	White	90	12.5	11



Winemakers of Rueda



Clockwise from top left: Ana Belen and Luis Alfonso Descalzo, Alberto Moro and Ángeles Ortega, Eduardo Poza, Andrés Monsalve, Félix Lorenzo, Beatriz González and Irene Fraile

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Clockwise from top left: Alfonso García Cano, Albert Ustrell, Antonio Nieto and Jesús Martínez, Reyes Martínez-Sagarra and Antonio Arévalo, Sara Román, Sara Buñuelos, Javier Sanz

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Clockwise from top left: The Herrero family, Javier Rodríguez, Roberto, Miguel, Luis y Ana Descalzo Matos, Víctor Osorio, José María Vegas Junior, José María Vegas Senior and Javier del Río, Concha Rodríguez and Jesús Prieto Lorenzo, Jean Belondrade

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Clockwise from top left: Laura Sanz, Pepe Herrero, Lauren Rosillo, Roberto López, Marcos Yllera, Pilar García and Juan de Benito, Marta Baquerizo

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Clockwise from top left: Silvia García, Martina and Ignacio Prieto, Miguel González and Laura Hoyos, Ángela and Eduardo Lorenzo, María Sevilla, Pablo García

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Clockwise from top left: Xavier Luc Linglin, Pilar García del Pino, Miguel Arroyo, The Ruiz family, Emilio Pita

Tim and Beth would like to thank Santi Mora of Rueda's Consejo Regulador for organising our week-long trip and for driving us around region and sharing his knowledge and expertise. A shout out, too, to Charlotte Hey and Angeline Bayly of Bespoke Drinks Media for suggesting we write our first Rueda report. And, last of all, to the producers of Rueda themselves, who welcomed us to their region with such warmth. ¡Hasta pronto!

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