

# Isaac Fernandez Ribera del Duero (Reserva) 2015 (red wine)



ISAAC FERNÁNDEZ

RIBERA DEL DUERO  
DENOMINACIÓN DE ORIGEN  
2015

This wine is produced from 80+ year-old vines of Tinto Fino (Tempranillo) that was planted in calcareous clay with abundant gravel in the surface using the traditional Gobelet system and aged for 24 months in New French oak barrels (Sylvain Reserve).

This wine combines power, balance, and elegance. It has a superior bouquet of plums, red and black cherries, cigar wrapper, notes of lavender, a fine base of soil and lovely spice framing of new oak. On the palate it is pure, ripe, full-bodied and outstanding mid-palate depth, well-integrated tannins, excellent focus and complexity with a very classy finish and a tremendous potential to age in bottle.

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|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Appellation</b>      | Ribera del Duero D.O.   |
| <b>Grapes</b>           | 100% Tinto Fino (Tempranillo), from vines 80+ years old planted in Gobelet  |
| <b>Altitude / Soil</b>  | 850 meters / Mainly and with a calcareous predominance, with a slight appearance of clays and some stone on the surface |
| <b>Farming Methods</b>  | Practicing Organic  |
| <b>Harvest</b>          | Hand harvested fruit starting first week of October   |
| <b>Production</b>       | Grapes were destemmed and lightly crushed prior to fermentation with native microbes, 2 weeks of skin maceration        |
| <b>Aging</b>            | Aged for 24 months in New French oak barrels (Sylvain Reserve)  |
| <b>UPC / SCC / Pack</b> | 8437012498679 / 8437012498686 / 6   |

## Reviews:

"The 2015 vintage of this wine — released in the USA at the same time as its stablemate from 2014 — is beautiful even just to behold, with a deep ruby hue and such clarity that it almost seems to shimmer in one's glass. More taut and firmly oaked at this stage than the 2014, it is nevertheless beautifully proportioned too, with very fresh acidity providing lift and linear drive to the concentrated fruit and bold but balanced oak. (Even the label and packaging are beautiful, if that matters to you.) It shows lots of tannin working along with the oak to firm and frame the wine's fruit, but that fruit is so fresh and expressive that neither element gets the upper hand. Although this is best laid down for a good five years if you only have a bottle or two, it proved quite enjoyable with a grilled hanger steak after a tasting session, so don't be afraid to try it now to see if you want to purchase more of it. Re-tasted the following day, the wine had not budged an inch, meaning that it had not softened much, but also that the freshness of fruit was utterly uncompromised."

**95 points** *Wine Review Online*; Michael Franz – February 16, 2021

"Deep ruby in color, this wine has aromas of black currant and forest floor. Vigorous tannins play host to flavors of black cherry, raspberry, chocolate covered espresso bean and dried thyme and oregano. There is an underlying sense of bright fruit from first sip to finish."

**94 points** *Wine Enthusiast*; Mike DeSimone - November 2022

"Saturated ruby. Black and blue fruit preserve, vanilla, potpourri and exotic spice qualities on the powerfully scented nose, joined by a hint of smokiness that builds in the glass. Sweet and penetrating on the palate, with a core minerality energizing intense boysenberry, blackberry, cherry cola and lavender pastille flavors. At once powerful and lithe, this wine finishes with excellent persistence, resonating florality and gently firming tannins. Raised in new French oak barrels for 24 months. 2023 – 2033."

**94 points** *Vinous*; Josh Reynolds - February 2021

"The 2015 Ribera del Duero Tinto from Isaac Fernandez is produced from more than eighty year-old tempranillo vines that are grown in the el Pago de Las Tenerías vineyard that sits at eighty hundred and fifty meters of elevation. The wine undergoes its malolactic fermentation in stainless steel tanks, prior to racking into one hundred percent new French barrels for two years of elevage. The 2015 offers up a superb, young nose of plums, black cherries, cigar ash, a touch of lavender, fine soil tones and a well-done foundation of gently spicy new oak. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied, youthful and very, very promising, with excellent mid-palate depth, ripe, well-integrated tannins and excellent focus and grip on

the nascently complex and very classy finish. This has excellent potential, but it is built for the cellar and will take at least a decade of bottle age to start to sing. It should age very long and gracefully.

Impressive juice! 2028-2055+."

**92+ points** *View from the Cellar*; John Gilman - Issue # 85 - January/February 2020

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