

Aptus 2016 (Red Wine)



Winemaker, Miguel Ángel Peñalba Martínez, has lived in Ribera del Duero for his whole life. He studied Chemistry, wine making and business and has been managing over 250 hectares of grapes for for more than 10 years. He has transitioned many of these vineyards from traditional agriculture to organic practices and continues onward to biodynamic management of these sites.

He produces two wines from vineyards that he controls, incorporating biodynamic practices in all aspects of farming and harvest. All of the grapes are sourced from villages around Aranda del Duero and include historic varieties that are now exceptionally rare in the area including Albillo, Garnacha and Monastrell. Grapes are harvested into small boxes so that they arrive to the winery intact and in the best possible quality.

Appellation	Ribera del Duero D.O.
Grapes	95% Tempranillo, 5% Garnacha and Monastrell
Altitude / Soil	800 meters / sand and gravel with clay at lower elevations
Farming Methods	certified organic methods; biodynamic farming (not certified)
Harvest	hand harvested on Sept 30 and Oct 1 in relation to the lunar calendar and with respect to biodynamic "fruit" day
Production	3 day cold maceration, fermentation with native microbes for 8 additional days with skins, malolactic conversion in barrel
Aging	Aged between 6-8 months in used, 80% French and 20% American oak barrels.
UPC / SCC / Pack	8437009198124 // 12

Reviews:

“I quite liked the 2015 Aptus Tinto from Bodegas Peñalba Herraiz last year and the 2016 vintage is a fine follow-up. Readers may recall that this is a blend of ninety-five percent Tempranillo and the other five percent a mix of Garnacha and Monastrell, with the vineyards farmed organically and in conversion to biodynamics. The 2016 version comes in at the same 14.5 percent alcohol as the 2015 and offers up a complex nose of red and black cherries, a touch of cassis, cigar smoke, a nice touch of spice, good soil elements and a gentle framing of cedar. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied and nascently complex, with good soil signature, a fine core, moderate, well-integrated tannins and a long, well-balanced finish. This is not your typical, plush, fruit-driven Ribera del Duero, but a wine with good soil signature and fine promise for down the road, but it will need a couple years in the cellar to blossom. A superb value! 2021-2045+.”

90 points *View from the Cellar*; Issue #75 – May/June 2018

“Rich in herbal notes and generous in ripe red fruit, this is a tame Ribera, expansive and creamy. It would be good company for a Cuban pork sandwich.” **87 points** *Wine & Spirits Magazine*; June 2018

