

Elias Mora Crianza 2014 (Red Wine)



This Bodega, situated in the famous village of San Roman de Hornija, was founded in 2000 by winemaker Victoria Benavides. The winery is named after the former owner of the vineyard, Elias Mora.

The winery owns 16 hectares of vineyards and controls farming and harvest in a total of 70 hectares. Each of the dozens of plots are meticulously managed accounting for soil variation and vine age. The vines are planted in clay and limestone rich soils with abundant, large, surface stones. The arid, warm climate naturally limits production and produces concentrated grapes. Vines are trained in the traditional vaso or goblet shape, which yields ideal results but requires extra work, by hand, for harvest and pruning. Some of their best grapes are grown in the Senda de Lobo area which has 80+ year old vines.

The philosophy of the winery revolves around combining a respect for tradition and modern technology. Victoria focuses exclusively on Tinta de Toro the native clone of Tempranillo which has been grown locally, with no exposure to phylloxera, for over 2000 years. The wines are only ever in contact with natural products; oak, glass, natural cork. Finally she seeks to respect vintage conditions knowing that each year will offer different qualities in the finished wine.

Appellation	Toro D.O.
Grapes	100% Tinta de Toro (Tempranillo), from 50-year-old, own-rooted, bush vines
Altitude / Soil	700 meters / clay over limestone with sand and pebbles on the surface
Farming Methods	Practicing Organic
Harvest	Hand harvested into small boxes at the end of September
Production	Whole berries undergo a 3 day cold soak, fermentation and malo-lactic conversion in stainless steel tanks
Aging	Aged for 12 months in 50% French and 50% American oak barrels, all second fill

Reviews:

"The 2014 Elias Mora 'Crianza' was aged for 12 months in a combination of French and American oak prior to bottling. Needing some air contact to open, after time this begins to show a ripe bouquet of graphite, crushed mint, blackberry pie and milk chocolate shavings. Nicely balanced, blue fruit flavors begins to emerge that beautifully combine with black fruits and chocolate. Overall a fantastic Toro, which should will continue to evolve nicely over the next decade or more." **92 points**, *International Wine Report*; June 2018

"Deep black-fruit aromas are a touch murky and raisiny, with accents of mocha and chocolate. The palate on this Crianza is raw and shocked by tartaric acidity, so this isn't a smooth and easy ride. Blackberry and prune flavors finish hard and lemony, with unabsorbed oak and tannins. Drink through 2025."

91 points, *The Wine Enthusiast*; November 2018

