

Finca la Mata 2014



Winery: Isaac Fernandez Seleccion

Region: Ribera del Duero D.O.

Grapes: 100% Tinta del Pais (Tempranillo)

Winery: Isaac Fernandez Seleccion is the newest venture of the famous winemaker, Isaac Fernandez, who has spent more than 25 years producing some of the best wines in the Ribera del Duero region. He seeks to respect the identity of each vineyard and to nurture wines that balance power, finesse and purity with the capacity to age.

Wine: Produced from 100% Tinta del Pais from two different vineyards with an average age of 60 years old. Production methods are very similar as for the Rios de Tinta with hand harvested fruit sorted prior to destemming and light crushing. Cooled pre-fermentation maceration helps to attain a

deep color and intense fruit aromas. Native microbes are encouraged to complete both alcoholic and malolactic fermentation. There were no additions of yeast or malo bacteria. The wine was aged for 8 months in 225 liter barrels prior to assembling the final blend.

Reviews: “Bright violet color. Heady smoke- and spice-accented dark berry and cherry aromas, with an intense floral quality building in the glass. Sweet and seamless on the palate, offering juicy, deep raspberry and cherry-cola flavors. In a polished style, with supple tannins shaping a long floral finish. This wine was aged in a combination of new French (80%) and American (20%) oak barrels.”

91 points *Vinous*, Central Spain: Tempranillo and Beyond December 2015

“The Finca La Mata bottling from Isaac Fernandez is produced from sixty to eighty year old vines. As readers may recall from the note on the 2013, it is fermented with indigenous yeasts and is raised for twelve months in a combination of eighty percent French and twenty percent American oak casks, with one third of the barrels renewed each year. The 2014 Finca la Mata is fourteen percent octane and delivers a fine, young bouquet of dark berries, black cherries, gentle balsamic tones, cigar smoke, a fine base of soil and a stylish framing of cedary wood. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and impressively light on its feet, with lovely focus and grip, ripe, well-integrated tannins and excellent length and bounce on the nascently complex and very poised finish. The 2013 version last year struggled to carry its serving of new oak and had not yet integrated its wood tannins completely at the time I tasted it, but this is most emphatically not an issue with the lovely 2014 Finca La Mata. This is a very tasty Ribera del Duero that is light on its feet and really performs well at the table. It should age very gracefully for at least the next fifteen years, but is already very tasty.”

89+ points *View from the Cellar*, Issue 61 January/February 2016



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