

Solarce Tinto 2017 (Red Wine)



Solarce are the entry level wines from the Casa la Rad estate in Rioja. The large, family-owned estate is located in the northern foothills of the Valle de Ocón, and encompasses 2,000 acres; mostly native oak forest, with 272 acres of vineyards, and 37 acres of olive groves. The remainder of the estate is dedicated to growing almonds and cereal crops. They seek a balance between their activity and the local environment so as to sustain or improve its vitality and biodiversity.

Appellation	Rioja D.O.Ca.
Grapes	60% Tempranillo, 30% Garnacha, 5% Maturana and 5% Cabernet
Altitude / Soil	530-600 meters / chalky clay soils
Farming Methods	Organic methods (not certified)
Harvest	Hand harvested into small boxes
Production	The wine was fermented in stainless steel tanks and underwent malolactic conversion in 500L oak vats
Aging	Aged for 8 months in 225L new French oak barrels
UPC / SCC / Pack	8 436002 580301 / 28436002580305 / 12

Reviews: “A perfumed nose includes hints of exotic incense, oud wood, lavender and licorice along with ripe berry scents and a note of vanilla. A flush palate is racy and lively enough, while flavors of plum and berry are nicely peppery in front of a dry finish that’s on the money. Drink through 2022.”

91 points *The Wine Enthusiast*; August 2020

“Good focus and energy to this red, which shows blueberry and dark-cherry compote, along with some citrus. Medium-bodied and finely structured. Firm tannins. Drink now.” **91 points** *JamesSuckling.com*; July 24, 2019

“A blend of mainly Tempranillo (60%) with smaller portions Cabernet Sauvignon, Maturana and Garnacha, the ‘Solarce’ shows a terrific mouthfeel an tension, as salty terroir runs through the core of dark currants, coffee grounds and tar. Seriously good, with awesome verve in its youth, the 2017 ‘Solarce’ will cellar well over the next decade. Drink 2020-2029.” **91 points** *Washington Wine Blog*; Dr. Owen J. Bargreen, CS - July 2020

“The cépages of the 2017 Rioja “Solarce” Tinto from Bodegas Casa La Rad is sixty percent Tempranillo, thirty percent Garnacha and five percent each of Maturana and Cabernet Sauvignon. The grapes are farmed organically and the wine’s malolactic fermentation takes place in five hundred liter oak casks. It is aged for eight months in two hundred and twenty-five liter, new French oak barrels prior to bottling. The wine comes in at fourteen percent octane and offers up a black fruity bouquet of black cherries, cigar wrapper, Rioja spices, a good touch of soil, cedary French oak and a smoky topnote. On the palate the wine is full-bodied, focused and shows off good mid-palate depth, with firm, well-integrated tannins and a long, youthful finish. This is a very well-made wine, but it is young and is not showing a lot of Rioja personality in its adolescence. I suspect that more will emerge with bottle age. 2027-2045+.” **88+ points** *View from the Cellar*; Issue #86 - March/April 2020

“A beam of black cherry and currant flavors is flanked by loamy earth, tea and leafy details in this medium-bodied red. Firm, moderate tannins structure the spice and fresh leather notes on the finish. Tempranillo, Garnacha, Maturana Tinta and Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now through 2024. 3,750 cases made, 550 cases imported.” **88 points** *Wine Spectator*; September 2020

