

# Xi'ipal Syrah 2014 (Red Wine)



Wife and husband team; Raquel and Ivan Grandival started this project in 2010. They farm 40-year-old plots of Tempranillo, Garnacha, Syrah and Graciano at the foot of the mountains near the village of San Martin de Unx. They seek maximum varietal expression through respect of the earth and environment, with minimal intervention in the growing of the grapes.

Raquel seeks to emphasize the unique character of their vineyards by fermenting wine only in cement tanks with native microbes and aging exclusively in large format (400-500 liter) barrels that minimizes oak influence. The Xi'ipal wines are all strictly limited production from unique, single vineyard plots.

<b>Appellation</b>	Navarra D.O.
<b>Grapes</b>	100% Syrah from the single, 16 year old La Celada vineyard
<b>Altitude / Soil</b>	500 meters / extremely stony
<b>Farming Methods</b>	Exclusively organic methods
<b>Harvest</b>	Hand harvested into small boxes
<b>Production</b>	3 day cold pre-fermentation maceration, followed by fermentation with native microbes in cement tanks
<b>Aging</b>	Aged for 12 months in 400L French oak puncheons; total production of 3,978 bottles

## Reviews:

“...offer[s] up a fine nose of black raspberries, cassis, pepper, a bit of shoe polish, smoked meats, vanillin oak and a very good base of soil. On the palate the wine is deep, full-bodied, complex and very well-balanced, with a fine core of fruit, good mineral drive, ripe, well-integrated tannins and good length and grip on the nascently complex finish.”

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

“This Syrah saw 12 months of French oak and is sourced from stony site at roughly 500 meters above sea level. Once aroused in the glass, the nose yields some lovely earthy and smoky tones with dark fruits playing second fiddle. The palate is silky smooth and shows a nice combination of stony minerals and smoky tones with black fruits. Downright delicious now, this will continue to evolve over the next decade.” **91 points** *International Wine Report*; June 2018

