

# Arrocal Selección Especial 2020 (Red Wine)

MOND. RODRIGO & ALBA CATED  
 VITICULTORES ANCIANOS DE MÉRGAO

**ARROCAL**

*Selección Especial*  
 TINTO FINO 2020  
 de Merca en Merca

ESTABLECIDA EN LA PROTECCIÓN DE LOS BODEGAS ARROCAL S.L. C/Gran  
 de Merca, Merca, Merca. Toda una tradición que  
 se abren con el Bodegas Arrocal y con el Bodegas  
 Arrocal, Merca, Merca. Toda una tradición que

RIBERA DEL DUERO  
 DENOMINACIÓN DE ORIGEN  
*Producers of Quality*

Located in Gumiel del Mercado, in the province of Burgos, our wines are made exclusively from our grapes from soils combined with limestone, sand, clay, and gravel at an altitude of 830m. We have 123 acres of vineyards, the most widespread red variety is “Tinta fina” or “Tempranillo”, with approximately 111 acres. Cabernet Sauvignon has 4 acres, Merlot has 2 acres and “Albillo” (white variety) has 4 acres.

In 2003, the construction of our winery was completed. A space equipped with the latest technology, but above all was designed to respect our treasure: our grapes. All processing work is done by gravity, minimizing the damage to the raw material. The main objective is to follow sustainable viticulture, a true reflection of quality wines.

<b>Appellation</b>	D.O. Ribera del Duero
<b>Grapes</b>	100% Tempranillo, from the single, 40-year-old Astrales vineyard
<b>Altitude / Soil</b>	825 meters / alluvial sand, clay and pebbles
<b>Farming Methods</b>	Practicing Organic
<b>Harvest</b>	Hand harvested fruit, hand sorted at the winery prior to processing
<b>Production</b>	Fermented with native microbes for 20 days in small stainless tanks
<b>Aging</b>	Aged for 15 months in French oak barrels; 50% new
<b>UPC / SCC / Pack Size</b>	8437005780019 / 8-437005780040 / 6

## Reviews:

“2020 Bodegas Arrocal ‘Selección Especial’ Ribera del Duero- The highly refined 2020 ‘Selección Especial’ comes from the Los Astrales Vineyard which was planted back in 1985. The palate is neat and concentrated, with fantastic underlying finesse and refined tannins. Black tea, asian spices and deep dark fruits line the palate, alongside the salty and stony undertones. This is seriously good stuff that has loads of aging potential. Drink 2023-2038-”

**93 points Owen Bargreen; Owen Bargreen - October, 2023.**

“Bodegas Arrocal 2020 “Selección Especial” is such a silky sextop of a Tempranillo that few blind tasters will believe it spent 18 months in oak, 50% of it new (even when learning that all the barrels were French). The only way to explain the delightful result must be the quality of the fruit, drawn from the single site Los Astrales vineyard, which was planted nearly 40 years ago. The aromas feature ripe fruit notes much more than ones that are wood-derived, and though there are spice notes that offset the dark cherry fruit beautifully, the fruit stays in the foreground from the first whiff through the last sensory signal in the wine’s finish. For a 2020 wine to showcase fruit that can already outrun both the tannin and oak load is remarkable, but this wine’s track record shows that it can improve for at least a decade. By the 10-year mark from now, I worry that my score will look embarrassingly stingy in retrospect. All the Arrocal wines offer excellent value at their various levels, but it is hard not to see this as the sweet spot buy in the lineup.”

**93 points Wine Review Online; Michael Franz – September 12, 2023**

“The 2020 Selección Especial from Bodegas Arrocal is a touch riper than the Crianza bottling this year, tipping the scales at 14.5 percent octane. The vines for this cuvée are fully forty- five years of age, farmed organically again, and the wine is raised in fifty percent new oak for eighteen months prior to bottling. Despite the slightly higher octane, the wine is beautifully precise on the nose, offering up a fine blend of plums, red and black cherries, Cuban cigar, a lovely array of spice tones that include a nice touch of savory elements, a fine base of soil and a very refined framing of cedary French oak. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and quite elegant in profile, with excellent mid-palate depth, good soil signature, ripe, chewy tannins and excellent focus on the long, well-balanced and complex finish. This is another excellent wine, but it has some wood tannins to absorb and will need a solid decade in the cellar to soften up. It will be outstanding once it is ready to drink. 2033-2080.”

**93 points View from the Cellar; John Gilman -Issue #103 January/February 2023.**

**93 points Tim Atkin MW.**

