

Cartago Paraje del Pozo 2019 (Red Wine)



Bodegas y Vinedos San Roman is a family-owned winery that was founded by iconic wine-maker Mariano Garcia in 1998 as Bodegas y Vinedos Maurodos. His vision was to produce world class wines which balanced freshness and longevity in the bottle against the renown power of the region's wines. In recent years the winemaking team, under Eduardo's direction, has been producing wines in a fresher style, harvested at the optimum moment to balance freshness and richness. This leads off with intense attention to farming exceptional grapes using organic methods and some biodynamic concepts and practices. In 2017, they released their first single vineyard "reserve" wine called Cartago Paraje de Pozo, which comes from a plot of 45-year-old vines on very sandy soils and sees extended aging in oak barrels.

Appellation	Toro D.O.
Grapes	90% Tinta de Toro and 10% Other grape varieties, from an own-rooted, 45-year-old, single parcel
Altitude / Soil	700+ meters / sandy, loose textured soil over clay sub-soil
Farming Methods	Practicing Organic, incorporating some Biodynamic principles and practices
Harvest	Hand harvested into small boxes
Production	Grapes were destemmed and lightly crushed prior to fermentation with native microbes, 2 weeks of skin maceration
Aging	Aged in new and used French oak barrels for 36 months

Reviews:

"A structured red, whose thick, creamy texture carries well-meshed flavors of black cherry compote, crème de cassis, Mediterranean macchia, espresso and graphite. Firm and focused, offering good integration and balance, this opens nicely in the glass, with the chewy finish showing loamy earth and spice notes. Best from 2027 through 2034." **93 points Wine Spectator**; A.N. April 2024

"The 2019 Cartago Paraje De Pozo is a single vineyard bottling from Bodegas San Román, with the vines now more than forty-five years of age. As I mentioned last year, it is planted to a field blend that is ninety percent tempranillo, interspersed with other red grape varieties and farmed organically. The Cartago Paraje De Pozo is raised for three years in French oak casks, with a percentage of the casks new each vintage. The 2019 version tips the scales at 14.5 percent alcohol and offers up a deep, ripe and complex nose of sweet dark berries, cassis, cigar ash, dark soil tones, coffee bean and smoky new oak. On the palate the wine is deep, broad-shouldered, full-bodied and nicely ripe, with a rock solid core of fruit, good soil undertow, firm, chewy tannins and fine length and grip on the long, well balanced and youthful finish. This is another excellent bottle in the making, but its extra year in cask seems to have given it a bit of backend wood tannin that will prolong its period of hibernation. 2036-2080."

93 points View from the Cellar; John Gilman; Issue 109, January – February 2024

