

# Cartago Paraje del Pozo 2020 (Red Wine)



Bodegas y Vinos San Roman is a family-owned winery that was founded by iconic wine-maker Mariano Garcia in 1998 as Bodegas y Vinos 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.

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

## Reviews:

"The dark, almost opaque red 2020 Cartago Paraje del Pozo, pure Tinta de Toro from ancient engrafted vines, is quite a bruiser, with 15% alcohol and packing abundant tannins, but the tannins are very fine and make it finer-boned than what I expected from the color and nose. It's very smoky, with toasty notes and a hint of fountain pen ink and graphite—think black. I'd still wait to pull the cork; it's going to take bottle aging to tame those tannins. The élevage was long, 31 months in new and used French oak barrels. 3,600 bottles produced. It was bottled in July 2023. This is one for the long haul".

**95 points** *The Wine Advocate*; Luis Gutierrez – June 19, 2025.

"The Cartago Paraje De Pozo is a single vineyard bottling from Bodegas San Román, made from ungrafted tempranillo vines, with these vines more than fifty years of age. This old vineyard is farmed organically. The 2020 Cartago Paraje De Pozo was given an élevage of thirty-one months in French oak barrels, of varying ages. The 2020 version is ripe in the style of the vintage, coming in at fifteen percent octane. It delivers superb depth on the nose, wafting from the glass in a complex blend of sweet dark berries, black cherries, cigar wrapper, a superb base of dark soil tones, woodsmoke, coffee bean and a svelte framing of nutty French oak. On the palate the wine is deep, pure, full-bodied and really very well balanced for its octane level, with only a touch of backend heat poking out on the finish. The wine shows stunning depth at the core, good soil signature and grip, excellent youthful complexity and great promise on the precise and still quite primary finish. This needs plenty of time in the cellar to resolve its tannin, but it will be an outstanding wine in due time, and despite its hefty alcohol number, I have little doubt that it will age long and gracefully." **94 points** *View From the Cellar*; John Gilman – May-June, 2025

"The 2020 Cartago is 100% Tinta de Toro and was aged for three years in barrels and two in bottle. Dark garnet in color, it opens with balsamic and herbal notes, bay leaf and ripe fruit, especially plum, followed by subtle thyme and oak. The palate is creamy, with plush reactive tannins, and is full-bodied and flavorful. A structure Toro with energy and aging potential". **93 points** *Vinous Media*; Joaquin Hidalgo, Jun 2025

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