

Descarte 2019 (Red Wine)



This Bodega, situated in the famous village of San Roman de Hornija, was founded in 2000 by winemaker Victoria Benavides. The winery is named after the former owner of the vineyard, Elias Mora. The philosophy of the winery revolves around combining a respect for tradition and modern technology. Victoria focuses exclusively on Tinta de Toro the native clone of Tempranillo which has been grown locally, with no exposure to phylloxera, for over 2000 years. The wines are only ever in contact with natural products; oak, glass, natural cork. Finally she seeks to respect vintage conditions knowing that each year will offer different qualities in the finished wine.

Appellation	Toro D.O.
Grapes	100% Tinta de Toro, from a single, 40-year-old, north-oriented vineyard
Altitude / Soil	2,600 feet above sea level / clay and limestone rich soils
Farming Methods	Sustainable
Harvest	Hand harvested into small boxes
Production	Fermentation takes place with native yeast/microbes in stainless steel tanks
Aging	Aged 12 months in French oak barrels
UPC / SCC / Pack Size	855012000527 / 18550120008275 / 6

Reviews:

“Inky in the glass, the 2019 Descarte offers concentrated chocolate and dark currant flavors alongside a seamless mouthful and wonderful verve. Finishing long with huckleberry and black cherry compote, roasted figs, with worn leather and dark chocolate shaving notes, this is sensational wine that will age gracefully. Sourced from 40 year old Toro vines. Drink 2023-2035”

93 points OwenBargreen.com; Owen Bargreen - October, 2023

“A rich red in a round and graceful, supple frame, this shows concentrated flavors of coulis blackberry and boysenberry fruit, green olive, mineral stone and smoke, with cigar box and toast accents. Features firm tannins that provide good tension and focus, while the chewy finish is lingering and well-spiced. Best from 2025 through 2034. 833 cases made, 200 cases imported.”

93 points Wine Spectator; Alison Napjus – Issue Dec. 15, 2023

“vine” cuvées, as they tempranillo vines are only forty years of age. The wine is aged in French oak barrels for one year, with the casks a mix of new and used wood. The 2019 Descarte is another broad-shouldered wine, tipping the scales at fifteen percent alcohol and offering up a deep and complex nose of black cherries, sweet dark berries, cigar wrapper, coffee bean, a fine base of soil, coffee bean and smoky new oak. On the palate the wine is full-bodied, ripe and focused, with fine depth at the core, good soil undertow and grip, firm, buried tannins and a long, well balanced and still quite primary finish. This wine carries its alcohol very well indeed and really shows little signs of backend heat. It will need plenty of cellaring to blossom, but will be a fine drink once it has had time to drop some tannin. 2035-2070.”

92+ Points View from the Cellar; John Gilman; Issue 109, January – February 2024

