

Luna Beberide Art 2013 (Red Wine)



ART...

The winery was founded in 1986 pre-dating the modern renaissance of Bierzo. Now run by the second generation lead by Alejandro Luna, they own over 200 hectares of vineyards, including very old vines at high elevations around the village of Villafranca del Bierzo and in Dragonte.

The philosophy of the winery is to produce wines based on quality of and respect for the land, with a focus on the native grapes of the region, Godello for white wine and Mencia for red wines.

Winemaking starts with all grapes being hand harvested into 18 kilo boxes. Careful cluster sorting, eliminating unsound bunches continues the push toward quality. All varietals are fermented separately with native yeasts prior to aging in oak barrels.

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| Appellation | D.O. Bierzo |
| Grapes | 100% Mencia from low yielding (25 hl/ha) 70-80 year-old vines |
| Altitude / Soil | 700-900 meters / calcareous clay and decomposed slate over mother rock |
| Farming Methods | Practicing organic |
| Harvest | Hand harvested into small boxes from steeply sloping vineyards called <i>laderas</i> |
| Production | Fermented in temperature controlled inox tank with native yeasts |
| Aging | Aged for 20 months in new French oak barrels |
| UPC / SCC / Pack | 8 437002 954161 / 8 437002 954369 / 6 |

Reviews:

"Quite deeply colored .., it showed complex aromas and layered flavors with very good integration of oak. Light mineral tinges in the finish were very appealing, and there was more than enough persistence to the fruit flavors (black plum and Bing cherry) to outlast the tannins and wood. The Paixar surpassed "Art" when its minerality kicked into high gear with aeration, ultimately becoming considerably more intricate, but this is still a terrific wine that will be much easier to find ... if you see it, buy it."

93 points *Wine Review Online*; Michael Franz – July 25, 2017

"The top of the range is the 2013 Art, pure Mencia from a cool vintage. This has a classical nose of the 1990s style of concentrated and generously oaked reds, quite exuberant, full of spices and ripe berries, a little backward and also quite young. The palate is medium to full-bodied, with good concentration, abundant, fine-grained tannins and good underlying acidity. This has the stuffing to age nicely, you feel the intensity and balance of the old vines. 12,500 bottles produced."

92 points *The Wine Advocate*; Issue #224 – April 2016

"Today, the fairly new oak nose offers up scents of dark berries, pomegranate, lead pencil, slate and spicy new oak. On the palate the wine is pure, full-bodied and shows marvelous mid-palate depth, with the inherent elegance of Mencia still very much in evidence. The finish is long, moderately tannic and focused, with a bit of oak still sticking out on the backend, but the pieces in place to eventually settle in and offer up some very good drinking. If the wine eventually seamlessly absorbs the new wood, my score will seem conservative, as there are superb raw materials under the new casks! 2020-2045."

90-92+ points *View from the Cellar*; January/February 2017

