

LADEIRAS DO XIL GABA DO XIL TINTO



Mencía and Merenzao. This nervy, light-bodied red features a perfume of pomegranate and white pepper. With a nice volume of ripe red fruits and herbal flavors and a firm and notable finish. Well balanced and fresh, with supple tannins and approachable fruit. A wonderful expression of an Atlantic influenced red wine that is always fresh, expressive, and food-friendly. Organic.

From the Valdeorras region of Galicia, Spain. Gaba do Xil is named for the hillsides of the Sil River, which is the lifeblood of the region. They are the estate-grown village wines. From the Larouco vineyard at 400-500m, which has an Atlantic influence due to its location in a valley that forms an outlet to the sea. The soil in the vineyard is granite. The blend also contains grapes from estate vineyards in Santa Cruz and Las Ermitas. The grapes are selected in the vineyard and harvested by hand. Fermentation with native yeasts in stainless steel tanks. Aged in stainless steel for 12 months before bottling.

The pioneering duo of Pablo Eguzkiza and Telmo Rodríguez started working here in 2002. Recognizing the potential to make world-class wines in this incredibly important valley, they began a project that would take more than a decade to come to fruition. The philosophy of their company has always been vineyard first, winery second. The most important piece of the puzzle is the vineyard, and we are now just beginning to see the unfolding of the grandeur of their vision. They have been quietly conducting heroic work in the face of incredible obstacles, as the climate in Galicia is unforgiving. Since 2014, the project has been led by the young vigneron Jorge Saa. He and his team have been restoring the centuries-old terraces and replanting indigenous varieties as they were in the past: a diverse field blend, near the ancient village of Santa Cruz. Co-planting is essential in this region, and they are cultivating a number of varieties including merenzao, sousón, mencía, godello, treixadura, godello tinto, brancellao, doña blanca, garnacha, and palomino.

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Tasting Note:

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Mencía & Merenzao. Aromas of pomegranate & white pepper; flavors of red fruits & herbs; nervy & light-bodied; balanced & fresh with supple tannins & approachable fruit.; a firm, notable finish. Organic.

Shelf Talker:

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