

LUBERRI ZURI RIOJA BLANCO



Viura and Malvasia. Zuri (which means white in Basque, the native language of the Monje family) is a fresh, mineral-driven, unoaked Rioja Blanco from traditional Rioja grapes that expresses the mountain vineyards of the Alavesa region. Zuri is crisp, but substantive, fruity, yet dry and minerally - a complete and satisfying medium-bodied white wine designed to pair well with food and remain crushable by the glass.

The grapes for Zuri come mainly from vineyards near the village of Elciego, at 450-500 meters. Planted in well-drained, sandy-calcareous clay soil. The vines are 30-50 years old. After a manual harvest, the bunches are destemmed and undergo a cold maceration before a soft pressing in a bladder press. The free-run must is then fermented in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks. The wine is kept on the lees for two months with *batonnage* to extract maximum aromatic complexity.

Florentino Martínez Monje, the incredible force behind Luberrri, is a jovial and mercurial spirit with a heart the size of Rioja. He is also a serious winemaker, a self-made cosechero who is so talented he often makes his craft look easy. In reality, he is one of the most respected farmers in Rioja because he grew up in the vineyards and understands his landscape better than almost anyone alive. Florentino and his wife María José started their family winery in 1991. Florentino wanted to make wines which expressed the truth and gastronomy of his native Basque region. Wines that make people happy. In the winery, Florentino participates in all aspects of the production, but his true passion lies in his work in the vineyards. All the plots are farmed ecologically, with each individual vineyard site fermented and vinified separately. All of the cuvées at Luberrri are well-considered blends of specific neighboring parcels that yield a certain individual personality for each wine. Essentially all of the wines from Luberrri are single-vineyard expressions. The next generation at Luberrri is led by Florentino's two daughters Miren and Laura, with Laura's husband Carlos taking on a key role in the cellar, ensuring Luberrri will be a family affair for generations to come.

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Tasting Note:

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Shelf Talker:



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