

CELLAR MASTER WINE CLUB

September 2019

2015 Emilio Moro Malleolus Ribero del Duero, Spain



The winery is family-run and has links with the wine world going back three generations. It is located in Ribera del Duero, a land of dry summers and long, hard winters.

Emilio Moro, the founder of Bodegas Emilio Moro, was born in Pesquera de Duero, a wine area of time-honored traditions, where some of the flagship wines of the Ribera del Duero appellation are now produced. It was in this year that the winery's first vineyard, Finca Resalso, was planted.

One advantage that the Bodegas Emilio Moro winery has in its vineyards is that some of them have belonged to the family for many years and have the purest clone of the indigenous Tempranillo varietal, known in Spain as "Tinto Fino." This clone has been used to graft all the vine plants of the winery's vineyards, which have gradually grown in surface over time.

Ribera del Duero is located in northern Spain's Castilla y León region, just a 2-hour drive from Madrid. While winemaking in this area goes back more than 2000 years, it was in the 1980s that 9 wineries applied for and were granted Denominación de Origen (D.O.) status. Today, more than 300 wineries call Ribera del Duero home, including some of Spain's most iconic names.

Ribera's main grape variety, Tempranillo, locally known as Tinto Fino, is perfectly suited to the extreme climate of the region, where it must survive scorching summers and frigid winters. Low yields resulting from conscientious tending to old vines planted in Ribera's diverse soils types, give Ribera wines a distinctive depth and complexity not found in other Tempranillos.

Malleolus translates from Latin to majuelo, which is a local Pesquera del Duero term for a small vineyard. This wine is made from small plots which range from 25-75 years of age. The wine undergoes alcoholic fermentation in stainless steel before being transferred to new Allier French oak barrels for malolactic fermentation and 18 months of aging.

Notes from www.wine.com

"This generous red delivers rich flavors of blackberry, currant, toast and mineral, which are harmonious over the well-integrated tannins, showing firm acidity for balance and a long finish of spice and smoke. Not showy, but deep and alluring. Drink now through 2030." **Wine Spectator 93 points.**

"I also tasted two vintages of Malleolus, including the heady and ripe 2015 Malleolus, for which they selected grapes from vines ranging between 25 and 75 years of age. It had an 18-day maceration and matured in French barriques for 18 months. There is a lot less oak in these new vintages than what the wine used to have in the past, and the profile is more transparent with the conditions of the vintage. Here, I can feel the ripeness and natural concentration of 2015, with some grainy tannins and moderate acidity. Modern, ripe, concentrated and oaky but without excess." **Wine Advocate 92 points.**

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2016 Chateau Siran Margaux Bordeaux, France



Chateau Siran is located in Labarde, the southernmost commune in the Margaux appellation. Chateau Siran has a history in the Medoc that dates back to 1428, making it one of the oldest estates in Margaux. Siran is undoubtedly one of the Medoc's great historic estates. It is one of the rare estates in Bordeaux to have belonged to the same family for over 150 years (the chateau was acquired in 1859 by the family who presently own it). Representing the fifth generation, Edouard Mialhe has been at the helm of this unique estate since 2007. Helped by a new, young winemaking team, he is determined to perpetuate and enhance the chateau's fine reputation.

Silky, seductive and polished are the words that characterize the best wines from Margaux, the most inland appellation of the Médoc on the Left Bank of Bordeaux. Margaux's gravel soils are the thinnest of the Médoc, making them most penetrable by vine roots—some reaching down over 23 feet for water. The best sites are said to be on gentle outcrops, or croupes, where more gravel facilitates good drainage.

Chateau Margaux in top vintages is capable of producing red Cabernet Sauvignon based wines described as pure, intense, spell-binding, refined and profound with flavors and aromas of black currant, violets, roses, orange peel, black tea and incense.

The 24.5 hectare Left Bank vineyard of Chateau Siran is planted to 46% Merlot, 40% Cabernet Sauvignon, 13% Petit Verdot and 1% Cabernet Franc. The 2016 was made from blending 46% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Merlot, 9% Petit Verdot and 1% Cabernet Franc. Chateau Siran is best served with all types of classic meat dishes, veal, pork, beef, lamb, duck, game, roast chicken, roasted, braised and grilled dishes. Chateau Siran is a perfect match with Asian dishes, hearty fish courses like tuna, mushrooms and pasta as well as cheese.

Notes from www.wine.com & www.thewinecellarinsider.com

"The 2016 Siran has a deep garnet-purple color and nose of cassis and chocolate-covered cherries with wafts of black soil, licorice and violets. The medium-bodied palate is lively with grainy tannins and a good fruit core." **Wine Advocate 90 points.**

"The frame of sandalwood dust and singed cedar gives this a slightly restrained feel for now, though the core of bitter plum, black cherry and lilac notes is solidly built. The sandalwood edge holds sway on the finish, keeping this slightly austere for now. Cellaring should let this wine's charms emerge fully. Best from 2022 through 2032." **Wine Spectator 89 points.**