

Cal Batllet - Marc Ripoll, Gratallops 5 Partides, DOQ Priorat, Spain, 2016

Producer Profile

Marc Ripoll returned to his family vineyards to change their fortunes.

The family had been reduced to selling their harvests to the local co-operative, but he set about renovating the dilapidated winery and now Cal Batllet is regarded as one of the leading estates from their village of Gratallops. Marc is part of the new generation of winemakers in Priorat who are reclaiming the region for their own. Focusing on a style that puts the local terroir as its heart and looking to create wines of elegance and refinement, light years away from what made Priorat the darling of the American critics. An organic approach in the vineyard and use of wild yeast and barrel fermentation all come together to create wines expressive of the individual sites they come from. The 90 year old bush vines planted in steep hillsides on slate soil all create personalities of their own, none more so than the nearly extinct Escanyavella grape, which translates from Catalan as 'old lady strangler'!

Viticulture

100% Carignan wine from vineyards up to 100 years old. Planted on steep slopes in 5 different Gratallops village areas: Aubagues (250m, S,W,N), Camp d'en Piquer (250m, E), Coma (300m, NW), la Capella (300m, S), Vinyals (250m, S).

Winemaking

A spontaneous fermentation in open top 225 litre barrels as well as a flexitank egg, with pigeage twice per day at a maximum temperature of 26°C, soft extraction, long maceration and minimal intervention with total respect for the fruit.

Tasting Note

This terroir-driven wine faithfully represents the soils of Gratallops, giving a wine that is mineral-based, complex, ripe, elegant and soft with a long finish. A superb terroir driven wine, with volume but with excellent fruit balance.

Food Matching

Roast beef, and game!

Awards

Decanter 96 Points



Product code: 3415

Technical Details

Varieties:

Carignan 100%



ABV: 15%

Closure: Natural cork

Colour: Red

Style: Still wine

Case Size: 6 x 75cl

Oak Ageing

Time: 16 Months

Type: French 225 Litre

% wine oaked: 94

% new oak: 60

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