

# IMPERIAL

## RESERVA 2001

Imperial is one of the big names of Spain. It is a true classic in Rioja and first produced in the twenties. Its name comes after a special bottling for the English market, in a measure called 'Pinta Imperial' or 'Imperial Pint' (an Imperial pint, half a litre approximately).

### TECHNICAL DATA

<b>BOTTLE TYPE / CONTENT:</b>	Bordeaux / 75 cl
<b>PRODCUTION AREA:</b>	Rioja Alta
<b>GRAPE VARIETIES USED:</b>	Tempranillo 85%, Graciano 10%, Mazuelo 5%
<b>VINTAGE RATING BY D.O.Ca.:</b>	Excelent
<b>ALCOHOL %:</b>	13.20 %
<b>TOTAL ACIDITY:</b>	5.560 (gr./l of Tartaric)
<b>PH:</b>	3.60
<b>VOLATILE ACIDITY</b>	0.69 (gr./l)
<b>SO2 L/T</b>	25/75 (in ppm of Sulphur)
<b>IPT:</b>	65
<b>Intensidad colorante:</b>	12
<b>Azúcar residual:</b>	<2 gr/l

### WINEMAKING

A selection of the best grapes from our Rioja Alta vineyards around the village of Villalba were hand harvested into small 30 kg. cases. Prior to commencing the alcoholic fermentation, the whole bunches of grapes were cooled down and kept at a low temperature for some hours in order to better control the fermentation without using any additives and to achieve the optimum extraction. The fermentation took place in a combination of oak vats and stainless steel tanks at controlled temperatures. The wine is then aged in both American and French new oak casks for two years before being bottled followed by another two years in bottle prior to its release to the market.

### THE VINTAGE / HARVEST

After a rainy and mild winter and an unusually dry and warm spring, climatic conditions during summertime could be considered as normal for the season. In general, the evolution of the vineyards was satisfactory, even showing a certain advance over previous years. Green harvest was necessary during summer in order to limit the yields. In our vineyards, the harvest took place from early October until early November. In average, the pulp-skin ratio and the total production were lower than usual and the sanitary state and ripening of the grapes were excellent and homogeneous.

### TASTING NOTE

Stylish, bright ruby red and very intense in colour. Highly aromatic on the nose with hints of red

and black autumn fruit aromas along with some toasted and spicy notes of sweet Bourbon character. Full and meaty in the palate with great depth and a fine, long, velvety and complex finish.

