

# JAVIER SAN PEDRO ORTEGA

The Cantabrian foothills of Rioja Alavesa, where Javier sources much of his fruit



## Cueva de Lobos Crianza 2019

Rioja DOC, Spain

### ESTATE

Javier San Pedro Ortega is a fifth-generation farmer and winemaker in Laguardia, the Rioja Alavesa's most emblematic village. Rather than wait to take the reins of his family's winery, he decided in 2014 to strike out on his own with nothing more than a bank loan and some inherited vineyards. The status and pedigree of his wines were quickly recognized, with some calling him "destined to become one of the great Rioja winemakers." (Ferran Centelles, JancisRobinson.com)

### WINE

This is the style of Rioja Crianza that Spaniards crave: youthful, juicy, lifted reds without excessive weight or overbearing tannins. The Cueva de Lobos Crianza is made from 100% Tempranillo, with a mix of French and American oak providing a subtle nuance and complexity.

### WINEMAKING

*Variety:* 100% Tempranillo

*Vineyard:* The vineyards are sourced largely in Rioja Alavesa, near the Sierra de Cantabrian Mountains. Average vine age is around 20 years.

*Winemaking:* Fermented in stainless steel and aged for 12 months in used French and American barrels

*Alcohol:* 14.5%

### VINTAGE

A particularly good year, with Wines from Spain calling it "one of the best vintages of the decade". The year was warm and relatively dry, with slightly reduced yields providing concentration

### TASTING NOTE

Rich but lifted, with a refreshing red fruit character and a welcoming bite of tannin

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"Spiced strawberry and plum aromas with some red capsicum on the nose. This is a medium-bodied red with a moderate amount of firm tannins and plummy fruit. Shows balance and varietal typicity."