



Reserva 2015

#### VARIETY USED

Tempranillo	95%
Graciano	5%

#### ALC./VOL

**14.2°**

Acidity	3.5
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pH  
IP

**3.68**  
**60**

#### AGEING

24 months of American oak.

#### BEST SERVED AT

Between 16° and 18°C.

#### APPEARANCE

Intense black-cherry colour with good depth of colour and hardly any signs of evolution. Very expressive aromas on the nose with notes of liquorice, cinnamon and black pepper, with just a subtle hint of the long cask-ageing, thanks to its great complexity and ripe, concentrated fruit. Fresh and easy to drink on the palate, good backbone and lovely, polished tannins. The long, persistent finish leaves gentle balsamic reminders of the finest quality.

#### FOOD MATCHES

This wine goes well with ham, mild cheeses, casseroles which are not highly spiced, bean and pulse dishes, poultry, red meat, grills and roasts.

### Features

At Marqués de Riscal, there used to be "winemaker's wines" among its Historic Reservas, like the Reserva Medoc and the XR, which never became commercial names. In the tradition of the Jerez capataces (cellarmasters), the enologist marked some of the barrels in chalk with the letters XR as a consequence of having found special characteristics which were not present in others. This XR was never marketed as such but was always a reference point for the master winemaker. This custom lasted almost a century, between the harvests of 1869 and 1964.

XR 2015, its first vintage, pays tribute to all the master winemakers who, from Jean Pineau to today, have helped to forge a part of the greatest history of Spanish wine in Marqués de Riscal.

### 2015 Weather Features

A warm autumn with average temperatures 2°C above the norm and abundant rainfall. The winter continued to see a lot of precipitation, on a couple of occasions in the form of snow. At the beginning of spring the total accumulated rainfall was 170 l/m<sup>2</sup> more than in an average year. Budburst began on 14 April, accompanied by particularly high temperatures, leading the vines to make a jump of almost a week in their development compared to an average year.

During the first month of summer there were a series of heatwaves and from 21 July frequent heavy downpours which meant that the vines continued to produce canopy and to dry up later than normal.

On 3 August, hailstones were reported in a small part of the Leza district. On 31 August there was another hailstorm which affected a larger area but the evolution of the damaged fruit was satisfactory since they quickly dried.

Harvesting began on 4 September and proceeded in dry weather. The districts affected by the hailstones were picked into crates and selected grape by grape to remove any that were at all damaged. The resulting harvest was very healthy and promised very high likely alcohol levels. Vegetative cycle 203 days.