



AALTO

BODEGAS Y  
VIÑEDOS

## TECHNICAL SHEET AALTO 2014

### Climatic conditions:

The winter was cold and rainy, but spring was fortunately mild and the shoots appeared at the end of April, a little earlier than usual but having avoided any frost damage.

May and June were warm but not in excess, reaching a maximum temperature of 29°C, allowing for a progressive and even development of the vines. The summer months were perfect with a high fluctuation of temperatures between day and night - an important quality factor in our region- and by mid August, with the beginning of *veraison*, we began to suspect we were heading for a great year.

September's early rains were very beneficial and we began to harvest grapes of exceptional quality on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. In no hurry at all and at a very comfortable pace, we finished on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

The fermentations confirmed our expectations: 2014 is one of the very best years of the last decade in Ribera del Duero.

### Grape origin:

100 % Tinto Fino (Tempranillo) primarily from very old vines ranging from 40 to 80 years old, in seven different villages in Ribera del Duero and Burgos, and younger grapes from our own vineyards in two villages in the province of Valladolid.

As always, harvest was done by hand in small boxes of 15 kilos and thoroughly inspected, bunch by bunch, on the selection table.

### Average oak ageing:

Aged for 16 months in 50% new barrels of French and American oak.

### Bottling:

AALTO 2014 was bottled in late June 2016.

### Tasting notes:

Dark purple. The nose has intense fruit aromas with wood in the background, bringing complexity without detracting from the sense of freshness. The palate is broad, structured and elegant as befits such exceptional phenolic maturity, with no hard edges and a tannic structure in perfect harmony with alcohol and acidity. The typical flavours of the Tempranillo are all present - liquorice, black fruits and roasted coffee, alongside spices and fresh tobacco - provided by an impeccable wood aging.

This wine is very long and will no doubt gain in complexity over the years.

**Analyses:** Alcohol by volume: 15% | pH: 3.79 | Total acidity: 4.7 gr/l

More info about our history at [www.aalto.es](http://www.aalto.es) | e-mail: [aalto@aalto.es](mailto:aalto@aalto.es)



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AALTO was created in February 1999 when Mariano García – who had been Vega Sicilia’s winemaking director for 30 years – and Javier Zaccagnini – for 6 years head of Ribera del Duero’s Consejo Regulador – decided to join their expertise in a very special project: to make a wine that in a space of 15-20 years should reach the quality of the best wines in the world. Also, from the very beginning this wine had to exhibit distinct personality.

AALTO is based on three solid pillars:

- The exceptional quality of old Tinto Fino clones (Tempranillo vines which have adapted to Ribera del Duero’s climate and soils). We believe that Tinto Fino can offer similar quality to the world’s best known varieties: Cabernet in the Médoc, Pinot Noir in Burgundy, Syrah in the Rhône, etc.
- The considerable complexity of our soils combined with the microclimate of our region.
- The winemaking talent and vast experience of Mariano García.

The AALTO project has been one of continual development. We now cultivate 110 hectares of old block Tinto Fino vines in nine villages within the region denominated as Ribera del Duero. We designed and built a modern winery in Quintanilla de Arriba, following strict criteria to ensure optimal winemaking conditions. We use a low temperature chamber to cool harvested grapes prior to de-stemming and harness gravity to move grapes and musts around the winery, thus avoiding aggressive pumps. We ferment in wood, concrete and stainless steel, employing tanks designed by us. Our two underground oak-ageing halls offer excellent natural conditions to allow perfect malolactic fermentation in wood and gentle, controlled barrel ageing.

We offer two wines:

AALTO is the result of our extremely careful selection of grapes combined with expert winemaking. It is a high quality wine which we make every year, except when the climate hinders perfect grape ripening.

AALTO PS (Pagos Seleccionados), is our top wine. It is a selection within the selection, from the very best areas (Pagos) of our vineyards. We expect to be able to offer AALTO PS six or seven vintages each decade.

Today AALTO is widely regarded as one of Spain’s leading wineries. AALTO PS 2001 was voted Spain’s Best Wine in 2005 and our winery has recently been selected in Paris as one of the Best 100 wineries in the world in Michel Bettane and Thierry Desseauve’s recently published book.