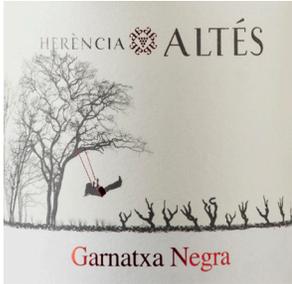


Herència Altés Garnatxa Negra

Terra Alta, Spain

G

Grenache



Overview

For generations the ancestors of Nuria Altés have cultivated vines in the vicinity of the village of Batea in Terra Alta. Their most widely planted red variety is the indigenous Garnatxa Negra which grows well in the sandy and clay limestone soils of the region. By mixing old and young vine fruit (40–100 years old), and fermenting in concrete, Nuria is able to create an affordable, lively, and elegant version of Garnatxa showcasing the delicate Pinot-side of the variety.

History

Nuria Altés, like many young vintners in Spain, comes from a family who have grown grapes for generations. Tucked away in a remote corner of Catalunya, Nuria's new project, Herència Altés is situated outside the village of Batea, in the DO of Terra Alta. Remarkably Terra Alta is one of the largest wine growing regions in Catalunya and one which few are aware – something Nuria has set about changing. Having grown up among the vines that her grandfather tended, Nuria has known these vineyards since her childhood and made the decision in 2010 to start purchasing grapes from her father to make her own personal wines. In this project she is assisted by her partner Rafael de Haan and together they inaugurated a new cellar for the 2016 vintage located in her hometown of Batea. Since 2010, Rafa and Nuria have slowly grown their property from 14 to 60 hectares. They purchased their first vineyard, La Serra in 2013 followed by Lo Grau and Xalamera in 2014 and 2015. Near the birthplace of Garnacha in the neighboring province of Aragon, these sites are predominantly Garnatxa Blanca, Negra and Gris planted primarily between 1900 and 1960.

Region

Terra Alta literally means “high land” and it's from this high land that this wine region looks over the River Ebre and Tarragona below. Wine became resident here, most likely during Roman times due to the fact DO Terra Alta was on the route between Zaragoza and Tortosa. During the middle ages, Knights Templar planted vines and grew wine, but most of the wine was for local consumption, as the main export focus in the region was on olives. A young Pablo Picasso stayed in the region during his twenties, where he developed his cubism techniques after staying with a friend, Manuel Pallares. Picasso spent long visits here, recovering from an illness, and lived in the mountains while eating rice cooked on bonfires.

Grape

Garnatxa Negra is another name for Grenache. It's known by many different names and is grown worldwide, perhaps most famously in the southern Rhone Valley in regions such as Châteauneuf-du-Pape. It's most often blended with other grapes, notably Syrah and Mourvedre. It can produce a range of styles, from light and fruity to rich and bold.



Wine

A very drinkable version of Grenache, it features plenty of red fruit (cherries, strawberries, raspberries), spice, minerality and wild brush. Drink this with pizza, hamburgers or goulash.

Maturity

This wine should hold up well for up to 2 years, but is meant to be drunk young.

\$10.99