



GIL FAMILY ESTATES

CRITICAL ACCLAIM | 2018

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OUR EXCITEMENT WITH SPANISH WINES
TASTING REPORT | AUGUST 1, 2018

BODEGAS EL NIDO, D.O. JUMILLA

CLIO 2015 | 92 POINTS

70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Monastrell

Stacks of ripe-berry character in this widescreen Jumilla red. Unlike many others, this remains well proportioned, with quite fine-grained tannins integrating nicely within the rich body and acidity that keeps the plush, long finish on track. Drink or hold.

EL NIDO 2015 | 92 POINTS

70% Cabernet Sauvignon, 30% Monastrell

A ripe and rich Jumilla with some nice fragrant notes on the nose. The full tannins really help keep this on track and prevent it from tasting alcoholic or sweet. Then comes the long and elegant, quite dry finish. Drink or hold.

BODEGAS JUAN GIL, D.O. JUMILLA

JUAN GIL ROSÉ 2017 | 91 POINTS

50% Tempranillo, 50% Syrah

Very fruity and floral, this is an extremely charming, full-bodied and dry Mediterranean rosé. Crisp, dry finish that's very food-friendly. Prawns? Salad? Grilled vegetables? Yes! Drink now.

JUAN GIL BLUE LABEL 2016 | 90 POINTS

60% Monastrell, 30% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Syrah

Lots of licorice and a hint of tar on the nose, the black fruit needing some time to emerge. Generous, supple tannins on the full-bodied palate, the finish fairly dry, but with some warmth from alcohol. A blend of monastrell, cabernet sauvignon and syrah.

ALBACEA 2017 | 88 POINTS*100% Monastrell*

The aroma of violets leaps out of the glass, then on the palate there's a wave of berries, supported by some supple tannins and bright acidity. Drink now or in 2019.

JUAN GIL BLANCO 2017 | 88 POINTS*100% Moscate/Moscatel*

This dry white manages to be a model of citrus freshness and harmony. Drink now or in 2019.

HONORO VERA**HONORO VERA GARNACHA 2017 | 90 POINTS***D.O. Calatayud, 100% Garnacha*

A generous and meaty red with lively but discreet acidity lifting, which keeps the full body light on its feet on the long, clean finish. Drink now or hold.

HONORO VERA BLANCO 2017 | 90 POINTS*D.O. Rueda, 100% Verdejo*

Lovely peach, nectarine and floral aromas in this bright and juicy Rueda that has lovely pineapple freshness on the finish. Drink now or in 2019. Screw cap.

HONORO VERA RIOJA 2017 | 90 POINTS*D.O.C. Rioja, 100% Tempranillo*

A slew of blueberries makes this full-bodied, bright and moderately tannic red easy to enjoy right now. Should be good through 2020.

HONORO VERA MONASTRELL 2017 | 87 POINTS*D.O. Jumilla, 100% Monastrell*

With all the dried fruit and spice aromas, this red smells like Christmas. There is a fair balance of creaminess, soft tannins and discreet acidity. Drink now or in 2019.

BODEGAS ATECA, D.O. CALATAYUD**ATTECA OLD VINES 2016 | 89 POINTS***100% Garnacha*

Rich and slightly sweet, this opulent red is on the edge of excess. Smooth and bright finish. Drink now or in 2019.

BODEGAS SHAYA, D.O. RUEDA

ARINDO 2017 | 91 POINTS

100% Verdejo

Lovely lemon curd and pink grapefruit aromas in this generous, but lively dry white that has a lot of fruity charm, but also some structure and length. Screw cap.

SHAYA 2017 | 90 POINTS

100% Verdejo

A ripe, peachy verdejo with a full, creamy palate and just enough acidity to carry it through. Long, properly dry finish. Screw cap.

SHAYA HABIS 2016 | 91 POINTS

100% Verdejo

Attractive peach and grapefruit-peel character, plus considerable power and structure for a Rueda dry white. This packs quite a punch on the long finish, but is just beginning to open up. Better from 2019 and probably at least another five years of aging potential after that.

CELLERS CAN BLAU, D.O. MONTSANT

BLAU 2016 | 90 POINTS

50% Cariñena, 25% Syrah, 25% Garnacha

A youthful red with stacks of supple tannins that needs a bit more time for the fruit aromas to fully unfurl. Neither too dry nor with any trace of over ripeness to upset the balance. Nice freshness on the clean finish. Better from 2019 and should be good through at least 2024.

BLAU 2017 | 89 POINTS

50% Cariñena, 25% Syrah, 25% Garnacha

A big and ripe red with earthy, dry tannins and crisp acidity. Full, dry finish that's not subtle, but not aggressive either. Drink now or hold.

CAN BLAU 2016 | 87 POINTS

40% Cariñena, 40% Syrah, 20% Garnacha

Another rich and slightly sweet red from the Montsant appellation that comes across as rather simple with slightly overripe flavors. The dry finish helps make this quite food-compatible.

LAGAR DA CONDESA , D.O. RIAS BAIXAS**KENTIA 2017 | 89 POINTS****100% Albariño**

Bright peachy nose. On the palate a hint of tannins. Drink now. Screw cap.

LAGAR DA CONDESA 2017 | 89 POINTS**100% Albariño**

Fresh white peach on the nose and front palate, butter note on the finish. Drink now.

BODEGAS ATALAYA, D.O. ALMANSA**LAYA 2017 | 89 POINTS****70% Garnacha Tintorera, 30% Monastrell**

Sweet and rather fragrant nose. On the palate are chewy, dry tannins and sweetness. You need a big steak to make this work well.

LA ATALAYA DEL CAMINO 2016 | 89 POINTS**85% Garnacha Tintorera, 15% Monastrell**

Welcome to the black fruit zone! A rich and powerful red with plenty of supple tannins that balance rather well. Good length, if not that much complexity. A blend of garnacha with tintorera and monastrell.

BODEGAS TRIDENTE, D.O. VINOS DE LA TIERRA CASTILLA Y LEON**ENTRESUELOS 2016 | 87 POINTS****100% Tempranillo**

Big smoky nose, where rather little fruit shows, leading into a bold and tannic red with savory notes and a chewy, slightly alcoholic finish. Drink now.

PRIETO PICUDO 2016 | 89 POINTS**100% Prieto Picudo**

A wave of black fruit pours from the glass, a hint of dried berries. Rich and fresh, this wine has a lot of instant appeal. Well crafted. Drink now or hold.

TRIDENTE TEMPRANILLO 2016 | 88 POINTS**100% Tempranillo**

Plenty of candied orange and dried cherry in the opulent nose, then a ton of bitter chocolate and dry tannins on the finish. Drink now.