

# R. LÓPEZ DE HEREDIA

## 'Top 100 Winery'

- Wine&Spirits Mag 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2023

### 'Year's Best Rioja Wines'

- Wine&Spirits Magazine December 2019

'World's Best Vineyards of 2019 - Best in Europe'

- CNN Food&Drink

**'#1 Most Popular Spanish Wines in America's Top Restaurants'** 

- Wine&Spirits Magazine 2018, 2019

'This venerable house has become a modern-day star with its unabashedly traditional Riojas.' - Wine&Spirits

'María José López de Heredia is a force of nature. She is the fourth generation to run her family's R. López de Heredia winery in Rioja, Spain, and, like a Russian nesting doll, she seems to carry her whole family within her. When she talks, she speaks not just for herself but for her father, her grandfather and her great-grandfather, who founded the winery in 1877.' - Wine Spectator

Year Founded: 1877

Region: La Rioja Alta

Owner: Don Rafael López de Heredia y Landeta

Winemaker: Julio Cesar López de Heredia, Maria José López de Heredia and Mercedes López de Heredia

Known for: Stands alone in the world for ageing red, whites, and rosés in the traditional manner. A worldwide icon.

-Organic-

There are few wineries in Spain, or in the world, whose name conjures the heritage, and prestige evoked by R. López de Heredia. Little about this winery has changed in the 137 years, since its founding, by Don Rafael López de Heredia. The family adheres to a winemaking doctrine blueprint ed in the 1880s - to make wine only from their own vineyards. Fermentation takes place in their 72 large oak vats, some of which are 139 years old. After fermentation, the wines are ready to be aged in 14,000 handmade American oak barrels. The wines will remain at R. López de Heredias' underground cellars, stored at perfect temperature and tranquility, for a minimum of 3 to 10 years. The wines acquire their smoothness and bouquet during the bottle aging that follows, a minimum of 3



years for Crianzas, and 10 years for Gran Reserva wines. Don Rafael López de Heredia acquired Viña Tondonia from a group of clergy in 1913. The Tondonia vineyard is a beautiful vineyard of over 247 acres, 1,600 feet above sea level, situated on the right bank of the Ebro River, in Rioja Alta. The soil is alluvial clay with a high concentration of limestone. There are 4 varieties of red grapes planted in this vineyard: Tempranillo, Mazuelo, Graciano, and Garnacho. The Tondonia vineyard also has a few acres of white grapes (Viura and Malvasia), from which R. López de Heredia makes their Tondonia Blanco. This small section of the vineyard is widely regarded as some of the most definitive "terroir" for white Rioja.





#### 2013/2014/2015 'Viña Gravonia Crianza'

100% Viura. Grapes are crushed immediately releasing their must with as little contact with skins as possible. Spontaneous fermentation in 16,000L vats. Aged 4 years in 225L American oak barrels handmade by the López de Heredia coopers, racked twice per and at least 5 years in bottle before released.

<u>95 Points – James Suckling</u> – "Aromas of dried apples, wax, blanched nuts, and lemon curd follow through to a medium to full body with serious density and zesty fruit. Lovely waxy finish. Very tangy and pointed at the end."

#### 94 Points - Wine&Spirits



#### 2012 'Viña Tondonia' Reserva White

90% Viura, 10% Malvasia. Grapes are crushed immediately releasing their must and with as little contact with skins as possible. Spontaneous fermentation in 16,000L vats. Aging: 6 years in 225L American oak barrels handmade by the López de Heredia coopers, racked twice per year and at least 6 years in bottle before released.

97 Points - James Suckling - "Nuanced pine nuts, macadamia, white truffle, dried pineapple, seaweed and marzipan. Full and voluminous on the palate with a bright beam of acidity giving it a kick in the middle before a long, nutty finish. Aged, but super youthful now. This will age beautifully, as always."

#### 95 Points - Robert Parker





#### 2011 'Viña Tondonia' Reserva

'Top 100 Spanish Wines of 2022' - James Suckling

'Top 100 Wines of 2020' -International Wine Report

70% Tempranillo, 20% Garnacho, 10% Graciano and Mazuelo. 6 years in 225L American oak barrels handmade by the López de Heredia coopers, racked twice per year.

"A beautiful example of classical Rioja, with the developing aromatic and flavor complexity of a thirteen-year-old wine that is, in reality, just beginning its vinous journey. A very fine example of why one does not have to focus exclusively on Gran Reservas to get the best of Rioja!" -John Gilman

<u>95 Points - James Suckling</u> – "A traditional beauty that effuses iron, warm earth and savory tobacco leaves, together with plums, spices and orange zest. This is juicy and still tight, with firm but savory tannins. Medium-weight and quite zesty in texture."

94 Points – Robert Parker



#### 2011 'Viña Bosconia Red Reserva'

Top 100 Spanish Wines' - James Suckling 2023

80% Tempranillo, 15% Garnacho, Mazuelo and Graciano, the remainder, all from our own vineyards. Barrel aged 5 years, being racked twice per year and fined with fresh egg whites.

<u>95 Points – James Suckling</u> – "A very complex, aged Rioja with savory plums, mushrooms, bark, red earth, orange peel and cedar. Quite juicy, fresh and bright on the palate with a tangy, zesty palate, full of berries and oranges. Firm, long and complex with a mouthwatering finish. Such a traditional taste!"

92+ Points - Robert Parker

92 Points - Wine&Spirits



#### 2014 'Viña Cubillo Crianza'

65% Tempranillo, 25% Garnacho, Mazuelo and Graciano, the remainder, all from our own vineyards. Barrel aged 3 years, being racked twice per year and fined with fresh egg whites.

94 Points – James Suckling – "An earthy, well-aged Rioja with complex aromas of dried oranges, savory dried plums, mushrooms, tobacco and wet leaves. Distinctively zesty with bright, citrusy fruit on the medium-bodied palate, rounded by firm, juicy tannins. Quite a long, outstanding entry-level red from this traditional producer. Very drinkable now, but will also hold."

92 Points – Robert Parker