



# DGTX

**FORMERLY DONIENE GORRONDONA**

**“Perched on misty, green cliffs overlooking the Bay of Biscay, Doniene Gorrondona is keeping Basque wine culture alive—and we’re the lucky beneficiaries.” -Master Somm Ian Cauble**

**“An attractive example of the style and a worthy reminder that Txakoli is well worth seeking out.” -Jancis Robinson**

**Year Founded: 1852**

**Region: Basque Country**

**Founder/Winemaker(s):  
Itziar Insausti, Andoni Sarratea**

**Known For: Txakoli innovator and a reference point for red Txakoli**

**Fun Fact: The only winery within the Bizkaiko Txakolina DO to have their own distillery; producing orujo and hierbas liquors.**

**-Organic & Vegan-**

The winery was founded by winemaker and oenologist Itziar Insausti and journalist Andoni Sarratea. Itziar’s brother Egoitz works in the winery and assists agronomist Julen Frías in the vineyards. Doniene Gorrondona was one of three original pioneers in the revival of Txakolina production near Bilbao, with the creation of the Bizkaiko Txakolina DO in 1994. Prior to that, the Txakolina discipline was nearly lost in the area, with many vineyards given over to the construction of seaside homes. Their goal has always been to rejuvenate the tradition of Txakolina and honor its contribution to the gastronomic and cultural history of their village with the indigenous



Hondarrabi Zuri and Hondarrabi Beltza grapes. Itziar Insausti’s personal mission to show the world that Hondarrabi Zuri, the indigenous grape of txakoli, can be more than just a lighthearted wine; it can be serious, multifaceted, and truly world-class. She has achieved this goal by being a pioneer in the Bizkaiko Txakolina appellation since 1994, where she has invested an incredible amount of time, persistence, and monetary sacrifice in the form of lower yields to create something truly distinctive. Itziar’s yields wines representative of their distinctive microclimate, marked by fresh mountain herbs and salinity. Each bottling is soulful in its own way, displaying technical expertise along with a bone-deep understanding of the unique physical and human terroir that only comes from a special connection to the land. DGTX farms ecologically and the wines are fermented using only the indigenous yeasts for spontaneous fermentation. Itziar believes in creating wines that reflect the distinct terroir with the goal of crafting the most authentic wines in the region. Gorrondona is undoubtedly one of the most exciting and authentic wines produced in the Basque Country each year.

## **2019 Beltza**

Beltza is easily one of the coolest and most unique red wines produced in the Basque Country, or Spain, for that matter. It is made from an old Hondarrabi Beltza vineyard planted in 1917 and 2012 and has become a cult classic among those in the know and is widely regarded as the premier red Txakolina of Basque Country. Beltza has become a cult classic among those in the know and is widely regarded as the premier red Txakolina of Basque Country. With a wild, rustic red fruit character and not a trace of astringency, Beltza is fruit-driven and peppery; it is reminiscent of cabernet franc, to which it has recently been identified to be one of the parents. Fans of Loire Valley Chinon and Saumur Rouge will instantly understand this charming, wild, fresh red wine. Beltza repays time spent aging in bottle, patience. Ages three to four months on the lees in stainless steel, one year in bottle.

**91 Points – Robert Parker** – “A very classical and classy traditional Txakoli, with the herbal notes on the nose and palate, with good persistence and length. The carbonic gas is subtle and feels integrated with a mineral texture and an herbal finish. A textbook traditional Txakoli.”

**91 Points – Decanter** – “A superior take on Txakoli, with the traditional zip and raciness complemented with extra sea-salty minerals and wonderful purity.”

