

# IMPERIAL

## GRAN RESERVA 2011

- 97 Gourmets Guide points
- 96 Tim Atkin points
- 92 Guía Penín points
- 92 Wine Spectator points

Imperial is one of the great wines of Spain. A classic Rioja born in the twenties. Imperial is only elaborated in excellent vintages in Rioja Alta.

**Name of Wine:** IMPERIAL GRAN RESERVA  
**Type of Wine:** Red Wine  
**Region of Production:** Rioja  
**Year:** 2011  
**Vintage Rating:** Excellent  
**Grape Varieties:** 85% Tempranillo,  
10% Graciano and 5% Mazuelo.

**Bottle Type:** Bordeaux  
**Case / Bottle Size:** C/6 – 75 cl, Magnum 1.5l

**Alcoholic Volume:** 13,5 % Vol.  
**Total Acidity:** 5,2 (g/l tartaric)  
**pH:** 3.62  
**Volatile Acidity:** 0.59  
**SO2 Free / Total:** 27,2/80

### WINEMAKING

In our best and oldest vineyards we make a manual harvesting in boxes and an exhaustive selection in the field and in the winery, obtaining grapes of great quality. Once in the winery the grapes are macerated in cold for an improvement of the alcoholic fermentation, which will be carried out in French oak vats. Then there is a two-year aging in French and American oak barrels, ending the process with a bottle aging in our century-old cellars until it goes to market.

### VINTAGE / HARVEST DESCRIPTION

Atypical vintage with unequal and heterogeneous maturation due to water stress and the lack of temperature contrasts between day and night. These conditions have strengthened the need to make a good selection in the vineyard and in the arrival of the grapes in the winery. The main characteristic of this harvest has been the excellent sanity of the grapes and the development of fermentations without incidences. Although the ripening has been a week ahead of previous years, the wines obtained are well structured, with high polyphenol contents and good color intensities, qualities that augur high quality wines.

### TASTING NOTES

Intense garnet color with bluish notes on the meniscus. In the nose we discover a perfect aromatic balance where the fruits of the forest and licorice stand out along with the aromas from pine, cigar leaf and sweet spices. Through the palate it is marked by a soft tannin followed by a long and elegant finish, which leads us to a balsamic aftertaste leaving us the memory of a round and balanced wine able to be paired with cheeses, red meat, game and fatty fish, even to take simply with someone else. Service temperature 18°C.



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