



The Independent Consumer's Guide to Fine Wines

2007 Bodegas Y Vinedos del Jalon Altos Las Pizarras

Rating: 90
Drink: 2012-2022

The purple-colored 2007 Alto Las Pizarras raises the bar considerably. It was fermented and aged in a mix of new and used French demi-muids. It offers up a superior perfume of toasty oak, mineral, violets, incense, and black cherry. On the palate it has layers of fruit, savory flavors, excellent balance, and enough structure to evolve for 3-4 years. It will be at its best from 2012 to 2022.

Both Bodegas y Vinedos Del Jalon wines are 100% old vine Garnacha.

Importer: The Artisan Collection, New York, NY; tel. (212) 608-0722...

- Jay Miller (June, 2009)

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2005 Bodegas Y Vinedos del Jalon Altos Las Pizarras

Rating: 93
Drink: 2010-2025

he 2005 Altos Las Pizarras takes things to a still higher level. A selection of the best lots was put into 100% new French oak to complete malolactic where it remained until recent bottling. Toasty oak, black fruits and espresso roast aromas are followed by a full-bodied wine with supple, sweet cherry and black fruit flavors with no hard edges. Put this beauty in the cellar for 3-5 years and drink it over the following 15.

Importer: Well Oiled Wine Co., Leesburg, VA; tel. (703) 725-9022...

- Jay Miller (February, 2007)

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2006 Bodegas Y Vinedos del Jalon Altos Las Pizarras

Rating: 90
Drink: 2010-2020

The 2006 Alto Las Pizarras del Jalon is sourced from the estate's oldest vineyards and was aged for 11 months in new French oak. Dense purple, it has a superior bouquet of cedar, spice box, violets, blueberry, and black cherry liqueur. Smooth textured, layered, and intensely flavored, it has excellent balance with enough structure to evolve for 2-3 years. Drink this lengthy wine through 2020.

To this point, the D.O. of Calatayud has been best known for exceptional value. However, this is slowly changing as people appreciate just how good the wines made from its old-vine Grenache vineyards can be. Bodegas y Vinedos del Jalon has produced two superb values under the Vina Alarba label which are noted on the Best Buy chart at the end of this report.

Importer: F.L. Navarro, Quality Wines of Spain, New York, NY; tel. (212) 842-8181...

- Jay Miller (February, 2008)

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