



2012 José Antonio García Aires de Vendimia

A Mencia Dry Red Table wine from Spain,, Bierzo, Castilla Leon, Spain

Review by Luis Gutierrez

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Rating: 91+

Drink 2015 - 2019

Cost: \$0

I was quite impressed with the 2012 Aires de Vendimia, especially for a warm vintage. It's old-vine Mencía which fermented with 50% full clusters in an oak vat with indigenous yeasts and aged for 11 months in contact with the lees in 225- and 300-liter oak barrels. It's still a bit marked by the oak, clean, good-quality oak, with faint notes of vanilla and other spices over a core of violets, red cherries and blueberries; it is quite harmonious and aromatic but with certain restraint. The palate is medium-bodied, supple with juicy fruit, focused, with good freshness developing a licorice final note. 4,500 bottles produced. José Antonio García is a third generation grape grower from Valtuille de Abajo who started producing and bottling his own wines in 2010. He owns and controls a total of 15 hectares of vineyards in the villages of Valtuille de Abajo and Corullón and produces close to 30,000 bottles. Prices are approximate, as the wines are not yet exported to the US. Modern, well-made wines, a new name to follow.
