



JOSEP GRAU

Les Casetes

2020



GARNATXA NEGRA

LES CASETES 2020

Red Grenache

2020 was an important year for the winery. The decision to **return to the Capçanes** winery (the starting point of our adventure) and start making what is the **finest wine** in the winery, has made us relive a great illusion.

Les Casetes 2020 is a **single-vineyard wine made 100% of Red Grenache** from the vineyard that surrounds the winery and that we acquired in 2003. It was the first vineyard of the entire project and the one that now, 18 years later, offers us an outstanding grape to produce the finest, most elegant and distinguished red wine.

Vintage:

2020 vintage will be remembered for generations for its special conditions. After a dry 2019 year, 2020 starts in January with storm *Gloria*, which affects roads access to the vineyards and some fields.

Once the weather has stabilized, we saw on the horizon an extraordinary vintage both in quality and quantity. But the rains were very abundant in April and May and the perspective we had, it changed. An attack of mildew, such as had never been seen before, fills the vineyards with sadness and despairs the peasants, who, despite great efforts, are unable to stop it. The grape dries up inexorably in the vineyards.

Only a few privileged plots, due to their exposure to the *Seré* wind, resisted the fungus. This is the case of *Paratge de Les Casetes*.

A strong wind just before the harvest caused many ripe grapes to fall to the ground and this made us react quickly, harvesting immediately.

For the winery, that represented a 50% drop from the expected harvest. We made an extreme selection to enter only the grapes that were in perfect sanitary conditions. The production was short, but extraordinary.

Soil:

The vineyard is located in Capçanes, surrounding the winery. Half of it, the one is in the highest part exposed to the north, has a completely calcareous soil. And the rows exposed to the south are planted on a clayey soil. It is curious how the plot is divided into two types of soil so clearly. Both, calcareous and clay soils retain water, and this benefits the vineyard because the rainfall is short. It is a very poor soil in organic matter and is located at 238 meters above sea level.

Viticulture:

It is a single vineyard of 1 hectare, planted in a gentle slope and divided by dry stone walls. These traditional constructions help prevent soil erosion and retain more rainwater.

All work in the vineyard is manual and we do not use any chemical-synthetic product. Following the principles of organic and biodynamic growing, we guarantee the biodiversity, the sustainability of the vineyard and the essence of its origin.

Winemaking:

In the winery, we accompany the grapes in their transformation, but with a minimum intervention. In this way, we maintain the essence of the grape variety and its vineyard. It ferments in a clay amphora, and ages in a 300-litre second-hand French oak barrel for approximately 8 months.

Lastly, 9 months in bottle help to homogenize, balance and round the wine before it is launched to the market.

Burgundy style, fine and subtle.

On the nose it has a great range of aromas and very well defined. Fresh red fruits, like cherry, strawberry and pomegranate. Violets and red flowers define a delicate and infinite wine.

Light citrus notes on the palate add freshness and dynamism.

Smooth and fully integrated silky tannins. Well balanced, well-structured and with a long and enjoyable finish.

Other information:

DO Montsant

Vineyard location: Capçanes - 238 msnm

Climate: Warm Mediterranean with some influences of Continental climate.

Humid Mediterranean wind *Garbí* and dry inland wind *Seré*.

Grape variety: 100% Garnacha Tinta

Alcohol: 14%

Production: 398 bottles (0,75 cl.)