



Bodegas Darien Darien Tempranillo

WINE:	Darien Tempranillo
TYPE:	Red Wine
DENOMINATION:	Rioja DOC
VINTAGE:	2005
GRAPE VARIETY:	Tempranillo
COUNTRY:	Spain

The Winery: Darien wines provide a seamless blend of tradition and modernity. Produced by Bodegas Darien, Darien was established in 1999 with its first release in 2000. The vineyards forming the backbone of the wine are located just outside of Logroño in the heart of some of the best vineyard land found in Rioja. Situated on a terrace overlooking the Ebro River, the vineyards are composed of clay and sandy soils. It is on this site that Darien is constructing a new, state of the art winery. Designed by a famous local architect with the utmost attention to detail, the new winery will contain the most technologically advanced winemaking facilities. In addition, it is designed as a cultural center which will include a restaurant, tasting facilities and one of the largest ceramic collections in Spain. Darien owns a substantial amount of vineyard land, both at the site outside Logroño and at their estate Las Rades. The control that this affords vineyard manager Juan Luis Gonzalez and winemaker Tomás Iturriaga is evident in the wines. Stylistically, the wines reflect a modern approach while maintaining their traditional roots. French and American oak casks are used to age the wines, yet they retain intense fruit characteristics. Production is small and quality oriented.

Vinification: Grapes for the Tempranillo were harvested during the last week in September. They were first de-stemmed and then fermented for six days under controlled temperature. After fermentation, the grapes were macerated at cool temperatures for ten days to achieve maximum extraction. The wine went through malolactic fermentation and was then aged without oak for three additional months. The wines were bottled by the end of March.

Press: **Wine Enthusiast:** September 2007 (2005 vintage), **BEST BUY, 85 points.**

Food & Wine, October 2004. 20 Best New Wineries “*Founded in 1999, Darien makes this luscious, medium-rich, fruity wine in a New Rioja style--with no oak. Its methods lock in the fruit of this 100 percent Tempranillo bottling.*”



Tasting Notes: Deep red color with a purplish rim. It has bright red berry aromas of currants and cherries with a hint of licorice. On the palate it is medium weight, but packed with soft red fruit flavors. It has good structure in the form of fresh acidity and a long, pleasing finish.



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