



Bodegas Darien

Darien Tempranillo

WINE:	Darien Tempranillo
TYPE:	Red Wine
DENOMINATION:	Rioja DOC
VINTAGE:	2007
GRAPE VARIETY:	100% 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 constructed a new, state of the art winery. Designed by a famous local architect with the utmost attention to detail, the new winery contains the most technologically advanced winemaking facilities. In addition, it was designed as a cultural center which includes 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: After destemming the grapes, the fermentation process continued for eight days, reaching a maximum temperature of 27° C (81° F). Subsequently, during the maceration stage, which lasted seven days, the temperature fell to 20°C (68° F), permitting the maximum extraction of the potential from the fruit. The wine was racked off manually. After the vinification, the wine was kept in the vats during winter, only interrupted by racking three times. Bottling took place at the end of the winter season, and the bottles were laid down in the aging cellar.

Press: Wine Enthusiast (2005 vintage):
“BEST BUY”, 85 points. 9/07

Food & Wine, 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.” 10/04.

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 with fresh acidity and a long, pleasing finish.

