

# Undiscovered Castilla y León with Tim Atkin MW

WINE	PRODUCER	CONTACT	POINTS	TIM'S TASTING NOTES
<b>XARDÍN DE XAMPEDRO 2018</b> BIERZO	<u>VIÑEDOS SAMPEDRO</u> <u>Y ALONSO S.L</u>	JUAN JOSE ALONSO MARTINEZ <a href="mailto:hola@sampedroyalonso.com">hola@sampedroyalonso.com</a>	95	Old vine Mencía at its best, this is fresh and hauntingly perfumed, all violets, tobacco and red berries, with nuanced oak and a stony, refreshing finish. Long and well balanced, with fine, granular tannins.
<b>CISSUS CRIANZA OXIDATIVA VERDEJO 2015</b> VINO DE ESPAÑA	<u>SOCIEDAD COOP.</u> <u>VALDECHIMOZA</u>	LAURA HOYOS <a href="mailto:laura@bodega3pilares.com">laura@bodega3pilares.com</a>	94	Very much a traditional style, albeit one made with Verdejo rather than Viura, this is a wonderfully complex, nutty white with notes of salted almonds, beeswax and toast and an intense, savoury finish.
<b>ALMA. DE VIRTUS 2014</b> RIBERA DEL DUERO	<u>BODEGAS VIRTUS.</u> <u>S.L.</u>	JORGE HERRERAS <a href="mailto:info@divinoduero.com">info@divinoduero.com</a>	93	2014 was one of the cooler recent vintages in Ribera del Duero and this shows commendable freshness and focus, even at 15% alcohol. Rich and dense, it's firm and intense with blackberry and liquorice flavours and well-integrated spicy oak.
<b>CARODORUM SELECCIÓN ESPECIAL RESERVA 2015</b> TORO	<u>CARMEN</u> <u>RODRIGUEZ MENDEZ</u>	JORGE HERRERAS <a href="mailto:info@divinoduero.com">info@divinoduero.com</a>	93	Very old vines of between 80 and 100 years supply the fruit for this bold, richly coloured Tinto de Toro. Dense, firm and serious, it has savoury tannins, fine oak and a core of damson, blackberry and dark chocolate flavours. Should age well
<b>V MALCORTA 2019</b> RUEDA	<u>JAVIER SANZ</u> <u>VITICULTOR, S.L.</u>	BERTA DURAN <a href="mailto:export@bodegajaviersanz.com">export@bodegajaviersanz.com</a>	93	Made with the very rare Malcorta clone of Verdejo, this has remarkable concentration and persistence with pear and lime flavours, a smooth, leesy texture and a salty tang.
<b>DOMINIO DE MANCILES CRIANZA 2017</b> ARLANZA	<u>ARLANZA SDAD.</u> <u>COOP. PROVINCIAL</u>	JORGE HERRERAS <a href="mailto:info@divinoduero.com">info@divinoduero.com</a>	92	Tempranillo-based with some Cabernet Sauvignon and Mencía for company, this unusual blend from an up-and-coming DO is spicy, dense and chalky with fine tannins, good underlying grip and an overlay of toasty oak.

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<b>GRAN BIERZO 12 MESES 2015</b> BIERZO	<u>VIÑAS DEL BIERZO,</u> <u>SDAD. COOP.</u>	DAMIÁN CÁNEPA GASPAROLI <a href="mailto:bierzowines@gmail.com">bierzowines@gmail.com</a>	92	Combining fruit from high-altitude vineyards in San Lorenzo, San Esteban de Valdeza and Valdefrancos, this pure Mencia is fragrant, peppery and elegant, with stony minerality, clove and blackberry flavours and deftly integrated oak.
<b>GODELLO SELECCIÓN 2016</b> BIERZO	<u>BODEGAS GODELIA,</u> <u>S.L.</u>	SARA COUREL FREIJO <a href="mailto:export@godelia.es">export@godelia.es</a>	92	A wine that illustrates Godello's suitability for ageing, this lightly wooded example is structured, bone dry and very focused with notes of beeswax and fresh bread and a bracingly tangy finish.
<b>VALTRAVIESO RUPTURE 2016</b> VINO DE LA TIERRA DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN	<u>BODEGAS Y</u> <u>VIÑEDOSO</u> <u>VALTRAVIESO, S.L.</u>	PABLO GONZALEZ BETERE <a href="mailto:pablogonzalez@valtravieso.com">pablogonzalez@valtravieso.com</a>	92	Good blends of Bordeaux grapes are comparatively rare in Spain, but this Cabernet/Merlot cuvée, all sourced from old vines, is savoury and refreshing, with graphite and green herb flavours and fine-grained tannins.
<b>CANTARIÑA 5 VALDEOBISPO 2018</b> BIERZO	<u>CANTARIÑA VINOS</u> <u>DE FAMILIA, S.L.</u>	SANTIAGO YSART ALVAREZ DE TOLEDO <a href="mailto:santi@vinoscantarina.es">santi@vinoscantarina.es</a>	92	This is the first vintage of a single-vineyard Mencía from the Valdeobispo vineyard and it's quite a debut. Deep in colour, with rose petal and violet aromas, sinewy tannins, bluberry and damson fruit and a slight volatile lift.
<b>ALGIL EXPRESIÓN 2019</b> TORO	<u>IVAN ALONSO GIL</u>	LAURA HOYOS <a href="mailto:laura@bodega3pilares.com">laura@bodega3pilares.com</a>	91	Showing the high alcohol that's often a feature of Toro wines, this is bold, strapping yet well-balanced stuff with lots of colour, savoury tannins and layers of fig and dark plums.
<b>PARDEVALLES ALBARÍN BLANCO 2019</b> LEÓN	<u>PARDEVALLES S.L.</u>	HUGO ALONSO REY <a href="mailto:info@pardevalles.es">info@pardevalles.es</a>	91	Albarín vineyards at 800 metres, all from the Los Nistales parcel, are the source of this rare León white, which has lovely flinty, struck match aromas, flavours of grapefruit and nectarine and a long finish.

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<b>ADMIRACIÓN SELECCIÓN ESPECIAL 2015</b> RIBERA DEL DUERO	<u>BODEGAS EL INICIO, S.L.</u>	YÉSICA ABAD <a href="mailto:export@bodegaselinicio.com">export@bodegaselinicio.com</a>	90	Still very youthful and showing some of the heat of the vintage, this is a ripe, heady, full-bodied style with lots of mocha oak, good supporting acidity and dark damson and blackberry fruit. Needs time.
<b>VIÑA CIMBRÓN VERDEJO FERMENTADO EN BARRICA 2018</b> RUEDA	<u>BODEGAS FELIX SANZ, S.L.</u>	ALBERT USTRELL SERRANO <a href="mailto:export@bodegasfelixsanz.es">export@bodegasfelixsanz.es</a>	90	Stone fruit flavours of peach and nectarine combine winningly with racy acidity, good texture and adroitly handled wood. Stylish Verdejo.
<b>PEPE YLLERA 2018</b> RIBERA DEL DUERO	<u>BODEGAS GRUPO YLLERA, S.L.</u>	ANDREEA IRIMIA <a href="mailto:andreea.irimia@grupoyllera.com">andreea.irimia@grupoyllera.com</a>	90	Great value drinking from the Yllera Group, Pepe Yllera is a judiciously wooded cuvée of Tempranillo with a little Cabernet Sauvignon. Juicy, perfumed and floral, it combines summer pudding sweetness, with supple tannins and a kiss of vanilla spice.
<b>12 LINAJES FINCA LOS ARENALES 2016</b> RIBERA DEL DUERO	<u>DO5 HISPANOBODEGAS, S.L.</u>	MORGAN DA CUNHA <a href="mailto:morgan.dacunha@hispano-bodegas.com">morgan.dacunha@hispano-bodegas.com</a>	90	Sourced from some of the highest vineyards in Ribera del Duero, this is a fresh, tangy, focused style of Tinto Fino with a herbal undertone, firmish tannins and oak that needs time to integrate.
<b>ERMITA DEL CONDE ALBILLO MAYOR 2016</b> VINO DE LA TIERRA DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN	<u>ERMITA DEL CONDE, S.L.</u>	IRENE BURGOA <a href="mailto:export@ermitadelconde.com">export@ermitadelconde.com</a>	91	Historic plantings of the rare Albillo Mayor grape are the source of this complex, aniseed and jasmine-scented dry white, which combines stucture and concentration with freshness and acidity.
<b>LA JOTA DE TORO ROBLE 2018</b> TORO	<u>LAURA GOMEZ COSTA</u>	OSCAR DIEZ RAMOS <a href="mailto:oscar@bodegasdiezgomez.com">oscar@bodegasdiezgomez.com</a>	90	A stylish brand with a sense of humour, La Jota is a bold, bright, juicy Tinto de Toro showing notes of coconut and wood spice, with medium-weight tannins, fig and bramble fruit, plenty of texture and supporting acidity.

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<b>PRADA SELECCIÓN 2016</b> BIERZO	<u>PRADA A TOPE, S.A.</u>	ESTHER DOMINGUEZ MENCIA <a href="mailto:esther@pradaatope.es">esther@pradaatope.es</a>	90	Definitely at the greener, leafier end of the Bierzo spectrum, this is fresh, stylishly oaked and perfumed, with filigree tannins, raspberry and cut grass undertones and a bright, satisfying finish.
<b>DIEZ MIL Y PICO 2018</b> VINO DE LA TIERRA DE CASTILLA Y LEÓN	<u>JUAN GOMEZ GARCIA</u>	JUAN GOMEZ GARCIA <a href="mailto:Gom.gar.juan@gmail.com">Gom.gar.juan@gmail.com</a>	90	Baking spices, honey and pear flavours combine appealingly in this vibrant, juicy, well-balanced Verdejo is framed by subtle oak with a zesty, lemon peel finish.
<b>CONVENTO OREJA CRIANZA 2017</b> RIBERA DEL DUERO	<u>CONVENTO DE OREJA, S.L.</u>	ANTONIO VAQUERO <a href="mailto:Convento@conventooreja.es">Convento@conventooreja.es</a>	89	Scented, appealing and at the fresher, more fruit forward end of the Ribera del Duero spectrum, this is a deftly wooded red with supporting acidity and bramble and black cherry fruit.
<b>MONTE PINADILLO ROSADO DE LÁGRIMA 2019</b> RIBERA DEL DUERO	<u>BODEGA SAN ROQUE DE LA ENCINA, SDAD. COOP.</u>	BLANCA RODRIGUEZ <a href="mailto:exportacion@bodegasanro-&lt;br/&gt;quedelaencina.com">exportacion@bodegasanro- quedelaencina.com</a>	88	Free-run Tempranillo juice supplies the fruit for this full-flavoured rosado, which is half-way to being a red wine, rather than a pale Côtes de Provence style. Cranberry and wild strawberry flavours combine appealingly on the palate.
<b>PANDRA VERDEJO 2019</b> RUEDA	<u>BODEGAS ARIABAL, SL</u>	CELIA GARCIA VICENTE <a href="mailto:manager@bodegaspandora.&lt;br/&gt;com">manager@bodegaspandora. com</a>	88	Juicy, lip-smacking Verdejo with lots of acidity at its core, this has appealing flavours of lemon and lime, some stony minerality and a zesty finish.
<b>QUELÍAS ROSÉ 2019</b> CIGALES	<u>DANIELA GOMEZ LORA</u>	RUTH SIERRA DE LA GALA <a href="mailto:ruth@sinforianobodegas.com">ruth@sinforianobodegas.com</a>	88	Packaged in a stylish skittle bottle, this is an assemblage of mostly Albillo with 50% Garnacha, Verdejo and Tempranillo, showing raspberry and boiled sweets flavours, lees-derived texture and a fresh finish.

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<b>SARA RIVERA 2017</b> RIBERA DEL DUERO	<u>SARA RIVERA, C.B.</u>	SARA RIVERA <a href="mailto:sararivera13@hotmail.com">sararivera13@hotmail.com</a>	88	Youthful, firm and richly oaked, with sweet bramble and bluberry fruit, chewy tannins and lots of clove and vanilla spice. Needs time in bottle.
<b>RODRIGUEZ &amp; SANZO WHISKY BARREL 2018</b> TORO	<u>RODRIGUEZ SANZO, S.L.</u>	JAVIER RODRIGUEZ <a href="mailto:javier@rodriguezysanzo.com">javier@rodriguezysanzo.com</a>	88	Very much aimed at a certain type of wine consumer - and why not? - this is dominated by smoky wood, but has enough fruit weight and sweetness to cope. Bold and intense, this is for people who like big wines.
<b>ADEMÁN VALDEARANA 2017</b> TORO	<u>BODEGA Y VIÑEDOS MAIRES S.L.</u>	LAURA HOYOS <a href="mailto:export@bodegamaires.com">export@bodegamaires.com</a>	87	Ripe, supple and oak dominated, with lots of fig and mulberry fruit, savoury tannins and a balsamic finish.
<b>ARDAL RESERVA 2015</b> RIBERA DEL DUERO	<u>BODEGAS BALBAS, S.L.</u>	INMA RODRÍGUEZ <a href="mailto:export@balbas.es">export@balbas.es</a>	87	Dominated by smoky oak on the nose and palate, but with (just) enough structure to cope this is firm and serious with slightly drying tannins and lots of damson and black cherry fruit.
<b>LIBERSO CURIOSO VERDEJO 2017</b> RUEDA	<u>BODEGAS DE CRIANZA DE POZALDEZ, S.L.</u>	IGNACIO HERNÁNDEZ <a href="mailto:hernandez@liberso.es">hernandez@liberso.es</a>	87	Rich, honeyed and concentrated, this is a mature Verdejo that has good, supporting acidity but should be drunk up.
<b>CONCEJO RESERVA ORGANICO 2016</b> CIGALES	<u>CONCEJO BODEGAS, S.L.</u>	LAURA HOYOS <a href="mailto:export@concejobodegas.com">export@concejobodegas.com</a>	87	Spicy and sweet, with lots of juicy fruit flavours, toasty oak, supple tannins and a core of sweet plum and raspberry flavours. The finish is ripe and full-bodied.