

Selections from Europvin

**La Rioja Alta S.A.- DOC Rioja PLCB# 22930
1997 Grand Reserva 904**



Bright red. Seductively perfumed nose offers a complex bouquet of dried cherry, vanilla, cola, potpourri, smoky minerals and cedar. Silky red berry and cherry flavors are sweetened by vanilla bean and take on tannic structure with air. Becomes deeper and riper on the impressively long, sweet, lightly chewy finish, which strongly echoes the cherry and vanilla qualities. I'd serve this with strongly seasoned grilled steak or lamb. 92 POINTS Tanzer

2008 Lagar de Cervera PLCB# 22933



Bright yellow. Fresh apple, pear and fig on the nose, with a spicy undercurrent of fresh ginger. Racy but also nicely filled in, offering spicy orchard fruit flavors and a bracing citric quality. Finishes clean and focused, leaving behind sappy pear and orange notes. Manages to be both powerful and lithe; this will work very well at the table. 90 POINTS Tanzer

2008 Marques de Irun PLCB# 22934



Pale yellow. Lemon, orange and minerals on the nose, with a deeper pear note emerging with air. Juicy, penetrating citrus and orchard fruit flavors are complemented by dusty minerals and a hint of pear skin. The finish strongly repeats the orange note and clings with very good persistence. 89 POINTS Tanzer

2005 Pintia PLCB# 22932



Inky purple. Alluring bouquet of blackberry and blueberry preserves, cherry-cola and vanillin oak spices. Broad, fleshy and deep, with sweet flavors of dark berries, floral pastille and vanilla beans. The rich fruit nicely absorbs the oak element on the long, velvety finish. Leaves a wide swath of creamy dark fruits and licorice in its wake. Pretty sexy stuff. 92 POINTS Tanzer

2008 Vina Herminia Tempranillo PLCB# 22936



Bright violet. Energetic aromas of spicy red berries and cherry, plus a subtle floral overtone. Pure, bright and racy on the palate, offering vivid strawberry and raspberry flavors and a hint of white pepper. The finish is tightly focused and pure, with very good lingering sweetness and length. This is an outstanding value. 89 POINTS Tanzer

2009 Vina Herminia Tempranillo PLCB# 14693



Vivid Ruby. Spicy red berries and dried flowers on the nose. Slightly jammy raspberry and candies cherry flavors are perked up by a subtle peppery note and a hint of menthol. Dry and focused but a bit narrow, finishing with good clarity.

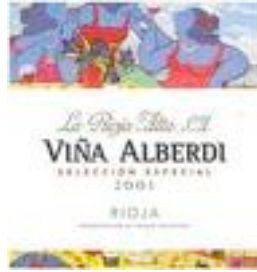
87 POINTS TANZER

2001 Vina Herminia Reserva PLCB# 22935



Fading medium red. Smoky red berries and cherry on the nose. Sweet raspberry and cherry flavors are firming by juicy acidity and lifted by brisk minerality. Finely etched red fruit and musky floral flavors become sweeter on the finish without picking up any excess weight. There's something attractively pinot-like about this, and it would be excellent with grilled birds or sheep's milk cheeses.
90 POINTS Tanzer

2001 Vina Alberdi Reserva PLCB# 22931



Medium red with a fading rim. Musky, intriguingly perfumed nose offers dried red fruits, toasted nuts, Indian spices, vanilla, botanical herbs and potpourri. Bitter cherry and tangy red berry skin flavors are tightly wound and reluctant to open, with a firm spine of minerality lending an austere quality. Finishes with very good grip and lift, leaving cherry and candied floral qualities behind. I like the aloof quality of this wine and bet that it will gain sweetness with age, but those who are after flesh and sweetness will probably be left wanting.

89 POINTS Tanzer