

# 2008

Vintage Report



## Rioja Alta

Harvests 2008 started in C.V.N.E. on the 1st of October, and lasted until the 6th of November. It was a rather long process, as it was necessary to make a careful selection of fruit but the weather was kind to us during this time with just a few showers towards the end, but by that time all grapes were already safely in the winery. The vine cycle up to the start of harvest was good generally speaking, with plenty of rain during Spring. This was essential to provide enough water for the vines during the warm summer months until the time came to pick the grapes. Total production in Rioja was slightly lower than in 2007, primarily because of a rather uneven ripening. The Rioja Board rated this vintage as 'Very Good' and the average quality level of the wines made in C.V.N.E. that year was fairly high, once the grape selection was made. Afterwards, the evolution of the wines in barrels and later on in bottle has been very good up to now, and up to expectations.

## Rioja Alavesa

In Rioja Alavesa the harvest started a little later but finished earlier. At Viña Real and Contino they started on the 6th of October and lasted until the 30th of October. The vine cycle was excellent, mostly due to the rainfall that fell in the Spring. Harvests started 8-10 days later than the average dates for the last three years. This was the result of slightly lower temperatures in August and September. The grapes, however, stayed healthy all along, and even the light showers we had in September did not affect them at all. The ripening, however, was uneven depending on vineyards, so we had to make a more careful and slower selection to ensure quality. Again the results are very good and the wines continue to evolve and bloom.



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