



## Castillo Ygay Gran Reserva Especial 2012 Rioja, Spain

The Cebrián-Sagarriga family, who in 1983 acquired the Marqués de Murrieta winery, established in 1852, has a distinct winemaking philosophy that is founded in the pursuit of quality and excellence through tradition and innovation.

Only the finest vintages from the 741-acre Ygay Estate are used to make Castillo Ygay. This Gran Reserva Especial is made from tempranillo and mazuelo from vineyards located at 485 meters above sea level. Limited in production and sought after all over the world, it is the worthy choice for the winery's emblematic Castillo Ygay label.

### WINEMAKING

Grapes are destemmed after going through a selection table. The grape varieties ferment separately in stainless steel tanks, with controlled temperature. The alcoholic fermentation lasts 10-12 days with regular pumping over and delestage to favor the contact of the must with the skins and slowly extract the aromas and phenolic compounds.

### TASTING NOTES

A full and complex nose with black cherry and ripe plum aromas, cloaking hints of tea leaves, cedar wood and Mediterranean herbs on a background of dried flowers. Well-framed with polished tannins and full of nuances; harmonious and long-lived.

### HARVEST NOTES

A manual harvest is done in small crates to keep grapes in perfect condition. The tempranillo was harvested from September 17th to 19th and mazuelo on September 25th.

**100**  
POINTS  
JAMES SUCKLING.COM

So much dried flower, mushroom, iron, rust, sweet berry, and grilled orange. Full-bodied with very elegant and refined tannins that melt in the mouth and give a real sense of place and integrity. Balanced and harmonious. The finesse and finish is endless. Production was 30% less than in 2011. Already so drinkable. A wonderful future. This is the new 1934 or 1964, two legends. Drink or hold.

**97**  
POINTS  
VINOUS

The 2012 Gran Reserva Especial Castillo Ygay is 81% Tempranillo and 19% Mazuelo sourced from La Plana vineyard, planted on the Ygay Estate, Rioja Alta. Aged for 34 months in French and American oak barrels, this wine offers displays a garnet color with a brick sheen. It reveals a complex aroma of bee wax, dried flowers, cassia, sour cherry, cedar and vanilla, with a candied layer. Dry, silky and fairly juicy, the fine-grained tannins and heightened acidity deliver a cleansing, long-lasting finish. This exceptional wine exudes energy and demonstrates proven aging potential, making it one to savor and age gracefully.

**95**  
POINTS  
WINE SPECTATOR


This sophisticated red offers rich flavors of plum compote and dried cherry and raspberry fruit, with detailed notes of espresso, anise, mountain herbs and fresh earth. Shows lovely interplay between generosity and a sense of finesse, integrating fine, chalky tannins and orange peel acidity. Long and fragrant on the finish. Tempranillo and Mazuelo. Drink now through 2037.

**VARIETALS**  
81% Tempranillo  
19% Mazuelo

**WINE ALCOHOL** 14%

**AGING**  
34 months in 225-litre  
American and French  
oak barrels

### SCORES ON RECENT VINTAGES:

 <b>COLLECTING</b> <b>100</b> POINTS	<b>100</b> POINTS <i>Suckling</i> Castillo Ygay 1904 Castillo Ygay 1919 Castillo Ygay 1934 Castillo Ygay 1959 Castillo Ygay 1964 Castillo Ygay Blanco 1919 Castillo Ygay Blanco 1932 Castillo Ygay Blanco 1986	<b>100</b> POINTS JAMES SUCKLING.COM Castillo Ygay 1934 Castillo Ygay 1959 Castillo Ygay 2001 Castillo Ygay 2012 Castillo Ygay Blanco 1986	Throughout its history, this iconic Rioja label has received critical acclaim worldwide with each vintage presented. Castillo Ygay is considered one of the most acclaimed in the world has received the coveted 100 points from the industry's leading critics on 18 occasions.
	<b>100</b> POINTS <i>Decanter</i> Castillo Ygay Blanco 1946	<b>100</b> POINTS <i>Falstaff</i> Castillo Ygay 1925 Castillo Ygay 1934 Castillo Ygay 2010 Castillo Ygay Blanco 1986	