Castillo Ygay Gran Reserva Especial 2012
Rioja, Spain

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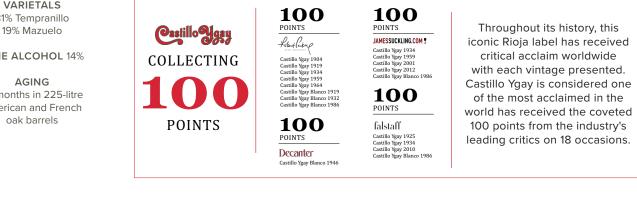
HARVEST NOTES
A manual harvest is done in small crates to keep grapes in perfect condition. The tempranillo was harvested from September 17th to 19th and mazuelo on September 25th.

100 POINTS
JAMESSUCKLING.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.

VARIETALS
81% Tempranillo
19% Mazuelo

WINE ALCOHOL 14%

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

SCORES ON RECENT VINTAGES:

Castillo Ygay
COLLECTING
100
POINTS

100 POINTS
Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE
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

100 POINTS
Decanter
Castillo Ygay Blanco 1946

100 POINTS
JAMESSUCKLING.COM
Castillo Ygay 1934
Castillo Ygay 1959
Castillo Ygay 2001
Castillo Ygay 2012
Castillo Ygay Blanco 1986

100 POINTS
falstaff
Castillo Ygay 1925
Castillo Ygay 1934
Castillo Ygay 2010
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.