

# GRAN VINO ALBARIÑO 2021

*Rías Baixas, Spain*



**VARIETALS**  
100% Albariño

## OVERVIEW

Pazo de Barrantes, a wine that captures the subtle flavor and freshness of albariño, comes from one of the largest single estates in Salnés Valley, Rías Baixas D.O. of Galicia, Spain. The wine's true albariño character is a direct reflection of the Creixell family's core values of quality and estate-owned vineyards, paired with a modern winemaking approach and the latest technology.

The grapes used to elaborate the wine are sourced from Pazo de Barrantes estate, with 30 acres divided into 8 different plots located around the winery. The shallow soils of the estate are granitic with sand on the surface and the average age of the vineyard is 40 years. The vines are trained high on supporting wires in the 'parral' trellis system (also known as Parron), as is the local tradition, to guard against mildew and rot, and to assist ripening.

## WINEMAKING

After an exhaustive hand-picked selection, the grapes are destemmed and pressed gently and slowly in a pneumatic press. The must is decanted by flotation to ensure greater aromatic purity and then fermented at 10°C in stainless steel tanks for approximately 30 days. After fermentation, the wine remains in contact with fine lees for three months inside the stainless steel tank.

The wine ages six months in stainless steel tanks, of which 15% in 225-litre acacia wood barrels followed by 16 months in bottle.

**94+**  
POINTS  
*Robert Parker*  
WINE ADVOCATE

The 2021 Gran VINO Albariño is the third vintage of this new cuvée from their 12 hectares in eight different plots (Cacheiro, Huerta, Besada, Eira, Ferradiña, Ferradura, Tomadiña and Souto) in the Valle del Salnés plus a further hectare rented from the archbishop. The destemmed grapes were pressed and the must let to settle and then fermented in stainless steel for around 30 days. The wine was kept with the lees in stainless steel for six months and then a further six months without the lees. Fifteen percent of the volume matured in acacia wood barrels. It was kept in bottle for around 20 months before being sold. It has 13.5% alcohol with a pH of 3.25 and seven grams of acidity (tartaric). It's pale and elegant, insinuating, perfumed, floral and subtle. It's lighter but very vibrant, and it's fresh and with volume and very tasty flavors. This could be the finest vintage to date—elegant, clean, classical and Atlantic. 105,274 numbered bottles and 1,827 magnums produced. It was bottled in July 2022. The wine is released almost two years after the harvest.

**94**  
POINTS  
JAMES SUCKLING.COM

Unique, expressive and pure on the nose, with acacia, minerals and iodine. Bright and taut on the palate, with a subtle twist that goes through to the finish. Such an outstanding, gastronomic albariño. 10,000 bottles made. Drink now.

**93**  
POINTS  
vinous

The 2021 Gran VINO Pazo Barrantes is a 100% Albariño from Ribadumia, Valle del Salnés, Rías Baixas. After cold fermentation, 15% of the wine spent three months in acacia barrels with lees, followed by six months in tanks and at least two years in bottle. The 2021 opens with orange blossom and tuberose aromas, hints of herbs, acacia wood and soft peach tones. The creamy palate offers delicate tension and an elegant, floral finish, revealing some emerging tertiary notes. This is a distinctive Albariño shaped by extended bottle-aging.



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