

Montsant

Vinyes Domènech



Vinyes Domènech founded in 2002 by Juan Ignacio Domènech is a 17 ha (42 acre estate), located within the Capçanes district of Montsant (zone 5) at 550 m elevation (1,800 ft). Location is the most distinguishing factor of Vinyes Domènech. Its owner, Juan Ignacio, calls his vineyard “mi rincón” which translates in English as my corner, emphasizing the uniqueness of its location. The mountain-walls surrounding this vineyard create a vacuum of wind that comes from the Mediterranean making this “corner” a cooler and drier environment than neighboring vineyards within Montsant. In addition to the windy condition, its altitude contributes to a remarkable contrast of day/night temperatures allowing these Garnacha grapes to ripen at a slower pace hence its great aromatic purity. The topsoil is composed of clay, Volcanic Slate, limestone and Pinyolet stones (which are responsible for the mineral flavors of these wines); the subsoil is all limestone. The rainfall in this area is low 442 mm (17 in) yearly. Average temperatures from April to October (Active period of the vine) is moderate (68° F).

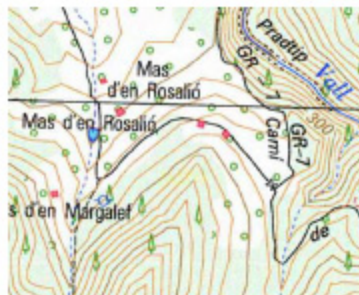


Pinyolet stones on surface

Juan Ignacio’s commitment to the environment is manifested in his organic care of the vineyard and the use of renewable energies within the winery. 80% of the energy used in the winery comes from solar power, and 100% of the water used comes from the its own land and the rain.

Vinyes Domènech is a small production winery, only making 375 cases of Teixar and 1,250 of Furvus, out of which 20% is imported into the US. All wines are made from organically grown grapes. Garnacha Peluda of 70 year old vines makes Teixar; and Garnacha with Merlot makes Furvus.

Today Montsant is the Golden Ring of Priorat. High elevation vineyards and Old vines are the two most important factors in making Montsant a golden spot over Priorat. In 1998, Priorat had a dozen wineries; ten years later Priorat has 90 register wineries making wines from plantings that are 5 years of age average. The high elevation of Montsant vineyards’ brings cooler night temperatures, allowing the Garnacha variety to ripen in a slower, more-balanced-way. A slower ripening process allows grapes to retain more acidity, color and aromatics, resulting in greater balance, which will turn into greater ageing potential.



Vinyes Domenech is 8km South of Falset in the Capçanes District (southern Priorat) and 14km away from the Mediterranean Sea at 1,800 ft altitude.

What do the names mean? *Furvus* is a latin word that refers to black as a color. Volcanic slate and graphite are the principal black elements that make up this name. *Teixar* refers to a type of tree by the name *Tejo*, in the Castilian language that only grows in high elevation areas that have a cool climate.

What makes Vinyes Domenech Unique? Estate owned Small production winery; Organic viticulture; old vines; pour soils that transmit minerality to the wines; location of the vineyards (vacuum wind coming from the Mediterranean); its altitude (1,800ft); the use of the rare, almost extinct, indigenous variety Garnacha Peluda; overall wines that showcase a level of purity and finesse that is truly remarkable.