

Wine Spectator

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Excerpt From:

“Forging Ahead: The Future is Bright for Spanish Wine, with Emerging Whites and Exciting Reds”

By Thomas Matthews (p. 53-61)

“From Ribera del Duero, Bodegas Hnos. Sastre’s luxury cuvee, Pesus, is a perennial top-scorer – of the four vintages I’ve review, it has earned three 95-point ratings – and it doesn’t disappoint in 2014 (95 points, \$750). As always, it’s plush and dense, with generous flavors of currant and cocoa. But here, the acidity is notably lively, giving the wine an energetic balance. It’s a deft example of the bodega’s ability to harmonize the push of the modern style of Tempranillo with the pull of the fresher vintage.”

Top Wines

95 points Bodegas Hnos. Sastre Ribera del Duero Pesus 2014

This red is powerful, plush and dense, with ripe flavors of currant, blackberry, cocoa and espresso. The muscular tannins are well-integrated, while lively acidity keeps this balanced.

Buying Guide

95 points Bodegas Hnos. Sastre Ribera del Duero Pesus 2014

This red is powerful, plush and dense, with ripe flavors of currant, blackberry, cocoa and espresso. The muscular tannins are well-integrated, while lively acidity keeps this balanced. Very rich, yet focused. Deftly made, in the modern style. Drink now through 2029. 8 cases imported. - Thomas Matthews

91 points Bodegas Hnos. Sastre Ribera del Duero Pago de Santa Cruz Gran Reserva 2011

A generous red, featuring a broad texture that carries ripe flavors of blackberry and current, with notes of toast and loamy earth. Well-integrated tannins and balsamic acidity round out the package. Drink now through 2021. 200 cases imported. - Thomas Matthews

91 points Viña Mein Ribeiro Eiras Altas 2015

A firm, polished texture carries clean, focused flavors of peach, quince, ginger and flint. Fresh, lively acidity keeps this bright through the floral finish. Balanced and expressive. Treixadura and Godello. Drink now through 2020. 200 cases imported. - Thomas Matthews

91 points Manso de Zúñiga Rioja Conde de Hervías 2009

Cherry, cranberry, herbal and licorice flavors are bright and fresh in this firm red. Solid tannins and citrusy acidity impart structure and focus. Elegant, balanced, and lively. Drink now through 2021. 200 cases imported. - Thomas Matthews

90 point Bodegas Hnos. Sastre Ribera del Duero Pago de Santa Cruz 2014

This plush red offers blackberry, currant, licorice and espresso flavors, with well-integrated tannins and balsamic acidity. The juicy fruit is balanced by savory notes. Drink now through 2024. 200 cases imported. - Thomas Matthews

90 points Viña Mein Ribeiro 2016

This white is firm and focused, with riper acidity supporting tart peach, grassy and flinty flavors. Features a lovely stony purity that leaves a clean, floral finish. Treixadura, Godello, Loureira, Albariño, Torrontés and Lado. Drink now through 2021. 200 cases imported. - Thomas Matthews

90 points Viña Mein Ribeiro Tega do Sal 2015

Smoky and flinty notes frame pear, blanched almonds and herbal flavors in this round, polished white. Hints of honey and tea linger on the finish. Distinctive and expressive. Treixadura, Albariño and Loureira. Drink now. 200 cases imported. - Thomas Matthews

90 points La Granja Nuestra Señora de Remelluri Rioja Gran Reserva 2011

Lively flavors of red cherry, leaf, black olive and smoke weave through this bright red, whose light, firm tannins provide backbone, while assertive balsamic acidity imparts energy. Drink now through 2023. 200 cases imported. - Thomas Matthews

88 points Manso de Zúñiga Rioja Torre del Conde de Hervías 2011

Black cherry and plum flavors mingle with toasty and loamy earth notes in this plump red, with light, firm tannins and just enough acidity to stay lively. Drink now through 2021. 200 cases imported. - Thomas Matthews

87 points Manso de Zúñiga Rioja Trinidad del conde de Hervías 2013

Rond and fresh, this red shows bright black cherry and red plum flavors, with leafy and smoky notes, while light, firm tannins and lively acidity provide a gentle structure. Drink now through 2021. 200 cases imported. - Thomas Matthews

87 points La Granja Nuestra Señora de Remelluri Rioja Reserva 2011

Cherry, cranberry, menthol and loamy earth flavors mingle in this red, supported by firm tannins and balsamic acidity. On the rustic side, but has depth. Drink now through 2021. 200 cases imported. - Thomas Matthews