



Logroño

Centenary wineries

Bodega R. López de Heredia Viña Tondonia

Next to the tracks of the nascent railway that passed through Haro, Don Rafael López de Heredia y Landeta began by building a discreet warehouse to receive the wines he acquired for later marketing. Don Rafael was born in Santiago de Chile in 1857 as the son of Basque emigrants, and arrived in Spain in 1872 to carry out his studies, which he later continued in France. He arrived in Haro in 1877, to work together with a French businessman in the commercialization of wine.

Its small installation was increasing, and through the family's photographic archive we see the winery, the family house, the excavation of the cellar and the use of concrete in the construction of a deep winery. During the hard years of phylloxera, he dedicated himself to expanding his winery and preparing the land for the subsequent planting of the new grafts on the emblematic estate of Viña Tondonia, which will give its name to one of its wines.

We can learn about the process of harvesting and winemaking through its photographic collection. The photograph of the house and the winery from 1886 is the hallmark of its wines, which continue to use this emblem on their labels.

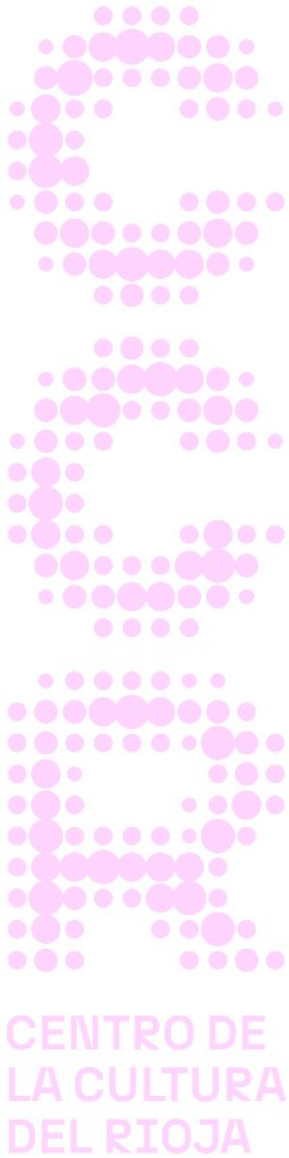
The founder's son, Mr. Rafael López de Heredia Aransáez, was fond of photography and thanks to his work we can give continuity to the graphic history of the company. With the same care that the family in its fourth generation keeps its wines in their cellars, they have maintained an archive that tells its history as a winery, being at the same time a reference for the study of the Rioja Designation of Origin.

Herederos del Marques del Riscal

Don Camilo Hurtado de Amézaga, Marquis of Riscal, had become acquainted with Bordeaux wines during his stay in the neighbouring country.

From 1860 onwards he began to build a winery in Elciego (Álava) following the typology of the Medoc facilities and under the advice and indications of the technician Jean Pineau, who had come from the neighbouring country to instruct the harvesters of Álava. The family business continued until August 1942, when it was incorporated as a public limited company.

The winery, guided by a French technician, was one of the promoters of the so-called Medóc Alavés, the set of practices that were carried out to improve the quality of wines in that region.





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The French influences in that winery in Elciego were the basis of its new wines aged in barrels brought directly from Bordeaux, as well as many other tools and implements that appear in its interesting photographic collection. Most of the photographs were taken by Francisco Garay, who would become the specialist photographer for the nascent winery industry.

The winery was installed in 1868 by the Logroño engineer Ricardo Bellsolá. We can say that this winery, in addition to being the first to settle in Rioja, was the model to follow for subsequent ones.

Bodegas Franco Españolas

In the city of Logroño, two Frenchmen, Alejo Lepine and Federico Anglade Saurat, set up a winery with Spanish-French capital on the other side of the Ebro River. Its first harvest was in 1891. A few years later, the capital of La Rioja will be the main shareholder and later a Riojan will occupy the presidency of the entity.

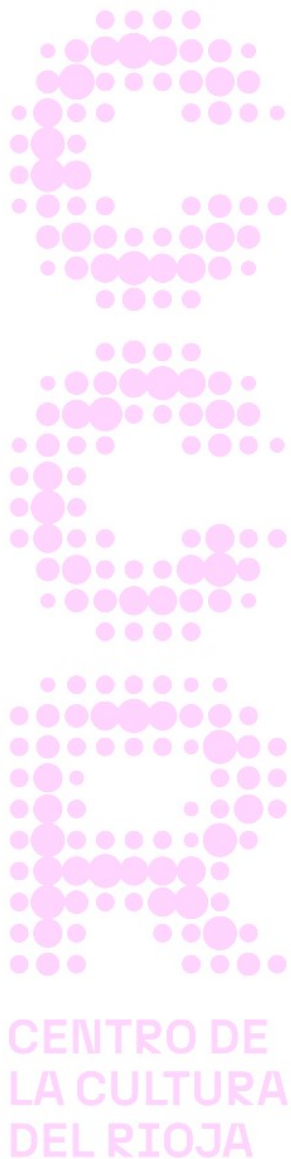
Its facilities were built by the Logroño architect Luis Barrón Sáez and visited by King Alfonso XIII, as shown in a photograph of the house's collection. The builders of the winery commissioned Francisco Garay to document it, and the shareholders did the same with the photographic commission that collected images from the tillage in the field, to the release of the wines to the market.

Being the oldest winery in the capital of La Rioja, it is the most oriental example of the French presence in the beginnings of Rioja winemaking.

Bodegas Bilbaínas

In 1901 Santiago Ugarte Aurrecoechea founded the company Bodegas Bilbaínas S.A. in Bilbao. With the capital obtained, it acquired the winemaking facilities owned by the French businessmen Savignon Hermanos in the Barrio de la Estación de Haro. The new winery building was completed in 1904, after the facilities suffered a terrible fire. The long cellars are completed with surface buildings, joining the two wine storage spaces. For the commercialization of its wines, it took advantage of the railway in all its facilities. His designs for wagons to transport dry materials and his foudres for wines bore his brand as advertising throughout Spain, as can be seen in the photographic materials in his collection.

A singularity of this company was the production from 1913 of its well-known Lumen champagne. In 1921 the new Royal Carlton brand appeared and he also made cognac and other spirits, taking advantage of distillation facilities that he had in the winery itself.



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La Rioja Alta

This winery was created in 1890, when five families from La Rioja and the Basque Country founded the Sociedad Vinícola de La Rioja Alta in the Barrio de la Estación de Haro. The first president was a woman: Doña Saturnina García Cid y Gárate. The rest of the founders were Daniel Alfredo Ardanza, Dionisio del Prado, Felipe Puig de la Bellacasa and Mariano Lacort. Several of the future wines of the house would bear the name of some of the founders. The Frenchman Vigier was the first winemaker of the house and the Reserva 1890 the first wine made.

In 1904, Mr. Alfredo Ardanza, one of the founders of the company and owner of the Ardanza Winery, proposed the merger of both companies. In commemoration, the Gran Reserva 904 is produced, just as the Gran Reserva 890 refers to the year of creation of the winery.

Today the winery has more than 450 hectares spread over different provinces, with 46,000 oak barrels for ageing and more than six million bottles of wine being aged.

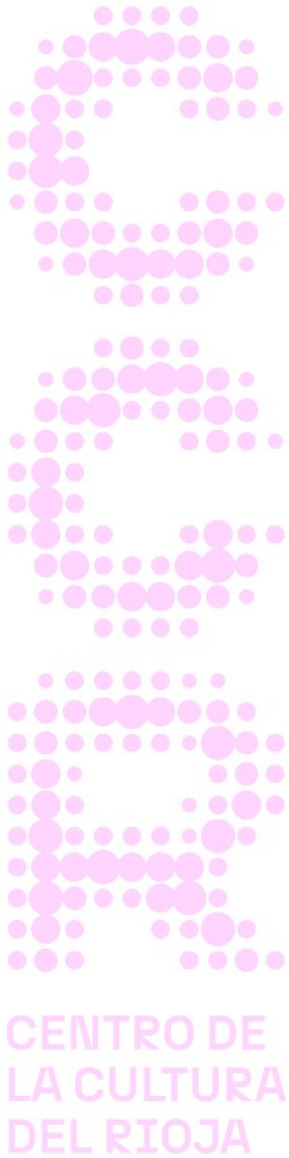
Marqués de Murrieta

The origin of the Marqués de Murrieta winery is also the origin of Rioja. Don Luciano Murrieta, applying the techniques learned in Bordeaux, made the first Rioja wine in 1852, with the intention of lasting over time.

Don Luciano was clear from the beginning that a wine with the quality of Rioja and good ageing would have the capacity to be exported outside Spain. For this reason, he did not hesitate to send that mythical vintage of 1852 to countries such as Mexico and Cuba, also becoming the first Rioja exported.

His friendship with Espartero, and the fact that he married the daughter of a distinguished and wealthy Riojan family, allowed him to start in the wine business. After Espartero's death, Luciano set out to create his own wineries after acquiring some land on the estate known as Ygay. There he cultivated vineyards, cereals and oil, always with the aim of obtaining a high quality in his products.

King Amadeo of Savoy awarded him the title of Marquis of Murrieta in recognition of his work in obtaining quality Rioja wines. In 1907 he was named adopted son and favorite of Logroño by the city council.



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