



# Ramón Valle

Varietal Blend: 100% Mencia  
Vintage: 2018  
D.O.: Bierzo  
Winemaker: Jorge Peique  
Vineyard: 1,800ft altitude | 50+ years old  
Soil: Clay & Sand

## TASTING NOTES

Color: Jet black  
Nose: Elegantly scented with red and black berries and a lifted floral quality  
Palate: Velvety wild plum and mountain herbs  
Finish: Extremely long, harmonious, and haunting

## ELABORATION

Pre-fermentation maceration: 3 - 5 days at 39-43°F  
Alcoholic fermentation: 6 - 10 days  
Malolactic fermentation: 5 - 9 days  
Aging: 7 months in French oak barrels, then 5 months in bottle

## HERITAGE & PHILOSOPHY

The Peique family has deep roots in the village of Valtuille de Abajo, in El Bierzo, where Ramón Peique began making wine in 1912. Today the fourth generation family members Luis, Mar and Jorge are honoring the traditions of their predecessors as both farmers and winemakers, *verdaderos viticultores (true viticulturists)*, and they believe their vineyards in Valtuille perfectly represent the natural environment of El Bierzo. While paying homage to their history they also continue to innovate and explore new concepts and ways of working the vineyards and the winery. The Mencia bush vines are nearly 100 years old and the family is deeply focused on the care and maintenance of their vines and soils with an emphasis on sustainability. The Peique family vineyard is located between 1,500 and 1,900 feet in elevation and is composed of predominately clay based soils which provides the framework to develop fleshy and well-textured reds.

## CLIMATE & VINTAGE

Bierzo enjoys the unique climatological blending of moist, cool Atlantic climate from the west and the warm and sunny eastern influence from the plains of Castilla. Ringed by mountains the valley of Bierzo sets up as a perfect location for Mencia to thrive. The 2018 vintage is considered the finest in memory with a moderately humid and mild spring, quite rainy toward the end, with drier and more Mediterranean conditions in July and August. There was slightly higher amounts of rainfall during the year, 37 inches, and the temperatures were slightly lower than average. The vintage delivered wines that are harmonious and approachable.

## PRESS



**97 Points | 'Best in Show' - Decanter World Wine Awards 2020**

*"Our judges loved the brooding aromatic asperities of this jet-black wine, and its plunging wild-plum-and-mountain-herb flavors, improbably allied to a texture of pure velvet. Few wines, too, in our Best In Show selection this year have a longer finish than this eerie, haunting beauty."*

