

AKUTAIN



A GUIDE TO RECENT VINTAGES

2022 The hottest vintage on record in Rioja, 2022 started with a promising, wet winter and spring. By late spring, the rain stopped and arid, hot weather lasted through the summer. Yields were greatly reduced. The old vines and high elevation at Akutain helped the vines survive and produce good quality fruit.

2021 Another very good vintage, with somewhat smaller quantities owing to a dry winter and a wet spring and early summer in 2021. Harvest was a week later than in 2020. September-November provided good weather for ripening, and the harvested grapes were small-berried and structured.

2020 2020 was a very successful vintage in Rioja, despite some struggles with mildew. Winter was cold and summer started mild and grew warmer. There were concerns about rain around harvest, but Akutain luckily dodged the worst of the weather. The vintage's wines are structured and very well balanced.

2019 A very good vintage that produced balanced wines suited to aging, 2019 featured a cold and dry winter that led to lower than average yields, followed by a warm summer and a wet fall (there was some anxiety about Botrytis). The wines are ripe, structured, and intense.

2018 2018 was another complicated and difficult vintage in Rioja, this year owing to rain and humidity. Many of the area's wines failed to ripen properly. Owing to lower yields, no Gran Reserva or Reserva wines were made, with the grapes typically intended for those bottlings put towards the Crianza.
Wines produced: Cosecha, Crianza

2017 2017 was very difficult in Rioja. Akutain lost about 70% of production to frost and hail. The only grapes that survived and were vinified were in the Gembres vineyard and were of the highest quality, thus the decision was made to make only a single wine.
Wines produced: Reserva

2016 Humid in the spring and summer, 2016 required careful vineyard work to combat mildew and oidium. Ripening was somewhat irregular and multiple selective harvests were needed, but the quality of the grapes was very good.
Wines produced: Cosecha, Crianza, Reserva, Gran Reserva, Gran Reserva Rosado

2015 Moderately hot and dry, with even ripening and a relatively early harvest, 2015 was an exceptional vintage in Rioja and Jon's favorite vintage in which he has made wine so far. This was the first year of the Akutain Gran Reserva Rosado.
Wines produced: Cosecha, Crianza, Reserva, Gran Reserva, Gran Reserva Rosado