

Tel: 01604 497928
Fax: 01604 497744

HAWKSHEAD WINES

BODEGAS NAVAJAS, RIOJA

E-mail: sales@
Hawksheadwines.co.uk



Bodegas Navajas is a family owned winery based in the village of Navarrete, some 5 miles west of the regional capital Logrono. It was founded in 1918 as Bodegas Arjona and the Navajas family started to become involved from 1978. Some five years later they bought out the existing owners and changed the name to Bodegas Navajas. Antonio Navajas now runs the winery with his wife Rosa Maria Gandarias. Their son Roberto is responsible for production and their daughter Mercedes looks after the exports. So this is very much a family operation with a long term view on caring for the vineyards and the quality of the wines.

Given the industrial scale that is typical of today's Rioja production, Navajas is small, friendly and refreshingly different. Antonio is convinced that quality begins in the vineyard rather than the winery and Roberto spends much of his time monitoring and controlling conditions in the 150 hectares of vineyards that belong to their growers. And where most harvesting in Rioja is now carried out by

machine, Navajas hand-pick the grapes into small containers to avoid crushing and spoilage. This quality control continues in the winery where the bunches are sorted once more to remove any unripe or rotten grapes.

In 2000 the family invested in a new state-of-the-art winemaking facility, which included doubling the barrel ageing area. This allows grapes from the best vineyards to be kept separate before fermenting in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks. The final stage is to select the wines for ageing in French and American oak barrels according to the appellation rules for Crianza, Reserva and Gran Reserva. However Antonio regularly exceeds the minimum requirements producing wines with a generous sheen of vanilla allied to ripe berry fruit flavours.

When we first tried the wines in this offer we were bowled over by the quality and impressed by their remarkable value for money. This is due to Antonio's focus on bottling all his own wines and releasing them exclusively under the family name. The great popularity of Rioja means there are hundreds of producers making thousands of different wines, but Navajas is a winery that stands out. The personal, family involvement and the attention to detail are remarkable in themselves but it is how this comes through in the quality of the wines that makes these a must-buy. They are extraordinarily delicious and we thoroughly recommend them all!

Bodegas NAVAJAS
Tinto 2009
RIOJA 13.5%



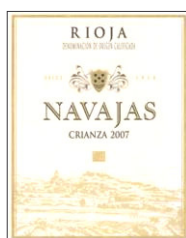
This oak-aged Rioja shows the determination of Navajas to over-deliver. Though labelled Tinto, it is actually a semi-crianza but tastes more like a good Crianza! A blend of 95% Tempranillo with Mazuelo providing the balance it has been aged nearly 4 months in oak barrels to add a distinctive vanilla character to the bright red fruit flavours. A further difference from 'standard' Rioja is that Roberto has bottled the wine with minimal filtration to preserve the vibrancy of the fruit.

Lovely sweet vanilla, cherry and damson aromas that are mirrored on the palate. A rich, ripe style with plenty of fruit which can be enjoyed young and fresh or cellared to further integrate the fruit and oak character. This is a great introduction to Navajas and quite remarkable value at just £7.49.

At Peak Now - 2013

ES0799R £7.49

Bodegas NAVAJAS
Crianza 2007
RIOJA 13.5%



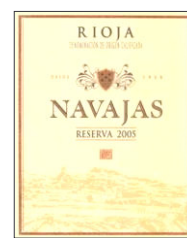
Given the quality of the Reserva and the tremendous value of the Tinto, the Crianza could easily be over-looked. This is a smooth, velvety red, aged 12 months in oak barrels and then at least a year in bottle. The style is slightly different from its siblings in that the oak character is more restrained and sits behind the primary fruit flavours. It is also a wine that would age happily in the cellar.

Reasonably deep and surprisingly youthful cherry colour. Damson, cherry and raspberry aromas with notes of vanilla spice. Fresh summer fruit flavours especially ripe cherry, nicely integrated oak and an attractive spicy lift on the finish. Good density of fruit and impressive length to the finish. Just reaching its peak now but the fruit weight and balance will enable cellaring for another 3 or 4 years.

At Peak Now - 2014

ES0777R £8.99

Bodegas NAVAJAS
Reserva 2005
RIOJA 13.5%



This is a stunning Reserva, one of the best we have ever tasted and certainly the best at anything near this price. The Reserva is Navajas' flagship wine, aged more than a year in French and American oak barrels. But these are just plain facts the reality is that this is a beautifully balanced, complex wine that is an absolute pleasure to drink.

The class is immediately apparent on the nose which is wonderfully complex mixture of cassis, blackberry, leather, vanilla and spicy liquorice. Smooth and expressive with good intensity of bramble fruits, exotic spices, fine tannins and supporting acidity. Powerful yet elegant, this is Rioja at its impressive best. 'Dark, damson nose, rich blackberry palate with elegant French oak and soft tannins. Drink 2012-25. 18/20' Decanter magazine

At Peak Now - 2015+

ES0785R £11.49

save
up to
12%

The 12 bottle Sampler Case is **£104.87** including Free Delivery
It contains 4 bottles of each wine – a **saving of up to £14**

Alternatively, make your own selection
including 12 bottles of these wines and get Free Delivery

NAVAJAS SAMPLER CASE

Delivered Price	£118.87
OFFER PRICE	£104.87
Case Code	ESC008R