

WINEMAKER KATIA ALVAREZ

Bodegas Martín Códax



Describe the subzone where your winery is.

Bodegas Martín Códax is located in the Salnés Valley, close to the town Cambados, which is known as the Albariño capital. The Salnés Valley is a coastal region in Pontevedra, delimited by the Ría de Arousa and the Ría de Pontevedra. The main economic activities are the ones that come from the sea, as well as agriculture and viticulture. Most of the vineyards are very close to the sea so they are low and not very deep. This location explains why our soils are mostly sandy and mineral, especially granitic, and also a little acidic, which will give that special saltiness to our wines. The climate is maritime with an Atlantic influence, featuring mild temperatures and plenty of rainfall, which is considerably reduced during the summer. The average temperature in winter is 50°F. There is a slight difference between day and night. Because of its location close to the sea, the Salnés Valley is a popular tourism area, which receives hundreds of

visitors who come here to enjoy the beautiful beaches and landscapes, as well as the region's amazing gastronomy.

Share a memorable harvest story.

Each single one of them is special and has its anecdotes, but 2017 will always be remembered. During the year, the growing cycle was going very fast due to the high unusual temperatures we had. That is why we were forecasting an early harvest. Against all odds in July the temperatures dropped, and the weather cooled off. We thought the harvest would be delayed and that we would start around mid-September, which is the usual harvest time in the area. However, a big heatwave struck the Salnés Valley during the second fortnight of August accelerating again the maturation of our grapes. Because of that, on August 20th, our enology and viticulture teams went across all the vineyards to analyze the situation and decided on that same day to start harvesting in order to ensure the freshness and acidity. The team organized everything very quickly, and they started the harvest days later that same week. If they had not come to that decision, the harvest would have lost its Atlantic character.

What inspires you?

I am inspired by the viticulturalists behind our wines because they are the ones who built this winery. They have always worked to obtain the best quality grapes in the region. When I am producing the wine, I am thinking about them. I know I have to make the best out of our grapes in order to have a wine that is able to speak about their effort and the region they come from. It is a big responsibility because I know that all their work is in my hands.