# Bodegas Roda, Rioja, Spain

# CIRSION



VINTAGE

2018

**S**TYLE

Red

MENTZENDORFF wine/shippers.since/ 1858

## DETAILS OF PRODUCTION

Cirsion, meaning 'thistle', can be seen on Roda's logo and bottles and was first made in 1997 (but never released). Cirsion is produced using vines that bear fruit which have noticeably different characteristics to the surrounding vines' yields. When tasted, these grapes give a sensation of fullness and volume. During each harvest, the vineyards are selectively picked, with only one vine in a thousand producing the particular grapes required to make Cirsion.

Fermentation occurs in temperature controlled French oak vats and is aged in 100% new French oak for only 8 months. This short degree of ageing is because the selected grapes have a particular stage of ripeness, where the tannins are more polymerised. Shorter ageing in the barrel lets the wine reach an incredible degree of silkiness and complexity.

# TASTING NOTES

The colour of the 2018 Cirsion is deep, almost impenetrably dark. The nose is intense and complex with smoke and moist earth alongside the black and red fruits. Powerful and voluminous while keeping its gracefulness with very fine tannins. Flavours of liquorice, chocolate, mint with plenty of freshness in the fruit that remains in the long finish. The wine is voluminous but never excessive; wide and at the same time long. A hugely impressive wine from an extraordinary vintage.

#### How to serve

Decant and serve at room temperature. A perfect match to barbecued red meats.

"A perfumed nose of blackberries, blueberries, cumin, porcini, olives and dried herbs. It's full-bodied with fine, creamy tannins. Layered. Such complexity, with savory, mineral character. Focused and long. Better in a year or two, when the vanilla character melts into the wine." 96 points

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