



Vias Around the World

www.viaswine.com

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Vias Imports develops Non-Italian Wine Portfolio

Vias Imports Ltd. has already successfully established itself as having one of the finest Italian wine portfolios in the country. We are pleased and proud to present here our Non-Italian wine portfolio, called "VIAS AROUND THE WORLD", which we distribute directly in the states of New York and New Jersey. We have wines from Argentina, Austria, Germany, South Africa, France, Spain, Chile, New Zealand, California and Oregon. The same care and attention paid in selecting our Italian suppliers are used for these brands, which are all small, family-owned, artisanal properties with focus on high quality and truth to their land. CHEERS!

Key to ratings:

- WA The Wine Advocate
- WS Wine Spectator
- IWC International Wine Cellar
- WE Wine Enthusiast
- W&S Wine & Spirits

(Based on 100-scale rating)



Indicates wineries that practice green farming (see back page).

- Argentina ●
- Austria ●
- California ●
- Chile ●
- France ●
- Germany ●
- New Zealand ●
- Oregon ●
- South Africa ●
- Spain ●

Argentina

● BODEGA BENEGAS (Maipu, Mendoza)

Bodega Benegas is one of the flagship properties in the Argentine wine industry. The Benegas-Lynch family was a pioneering force in Trapiche Vineyards, one of Argentina's oldest commercial wineries. They built their own winery in 1897 but were forced to sell the business in later generations. The current patriarch of the family, Federico Benegas-Lynch, repurchased the original family vineyard and winery building and has spared no expense to refurbish the building to its original grandeur and return Benegas to its former glory.



The winery fully restored in the traditional Adobo-style.

The heart of Benegas is the Finca Libertad Vineyard (Freedom Estate). With plantings of 45, 60, 80, and 100 years of age in the unique sub-appellation of the Upper Mendoza Riverbank, the Benegas winery team has incredible raw materials from which to draw, all with the consulting supervision of superstar oenologist Michel Rolland. The winery makes three different tiers of wines: the entry level wines bear the names of family members and see short oak ageing, the Estate tier only sees used oak, while the Lynch is the top of the line and receives 100% new French oak treatment.

- 2008 "Clara Benegas" Chardonnay
- 2006 "Luna" Cabernet Sauvignon
- 2005 "Malma" Cabernet Sauvignon
- 2007 "Juan Benegas" Malbec (100% Malbec)
- 2005 Don Tiburcio (Cab Sauv/Cab Franc/Merlot/Malbec)
 - ... 'Great Value' ... IWC:89
- 2006 Don Tiburcio (Cab Sauv/Cab Franc/Merlot/Malbec)
- 2006 Estate Sangiovese
- 2006 Estate Malbec
- 2005 Estate Syrah.....WA:90
- 2005 Estate Finca Libertad (Cab Sauv/Cab Franc/Merlot)
- 2005 Lynch Meritage.....WA:92
- 2003 Lynch Cabernet Franc

● BODEGA NQN (Neuquen, Patagonia)



A brand new property in up-and-coming Neuquen Patagonia, NQN boasts a spectacular modern winemaking facility and close planted, multi-clone vineyards. The facility resembles Opus One in its technical sophistication. The winery is covered by actual vineyard, with underground caves for production and elegeage.

This is one of the newest facilities in the area (founded in 2001) and it brings along the impulse typical of new projects. They



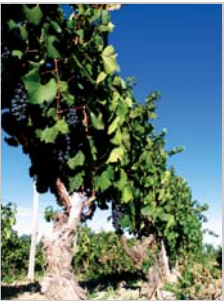
invested in cutting-edge irrigation equipment to beat the scorching heat of this southern land, and practice full organic farming. NQN has launched products bearing an excellent proportion between quality and price with the trademark called MALMA –“pride” in the local Mapuche tongue. The entry level Picada 15 line takes its name from the route on which the winery is located.

- 2009 Picada 15 White Blend (Chardonnay/Sauv. Blanc)
- 2007 Picada 15 Red Blend (Merlot/Cabernet/Pinot Noir)
- 2007 “Malma” Malbec

● **BODEGA NOEMIA** (Rio Negro, Patagonia)



Bodega Noemia is a fairly recent project, co-owned by Countess Noemi Marone Cinzano (owner of the Argiano property in Tuscany) and renowned winemaker Hans Vinding-Diers. Trigger to the project was the finding of an ancient Malbec vineyard that was planted in the 30's somewhere in the Rio Negro Valley, a place far lost in the landscape of Patagonia but with an ancient winemaking heritage due to its ideal climate. Influenced by two rivers,



At Noemia, Malbec vines are over 70 years old.

the valley has a perfect micro-climate for grape-growing. In general Patagonia has a naturally organic climate, very dry (humidity never exceeds 30%), thus not prone to diseases and this leads to the use of biodynamic practices at the winery and certification by Demeter obtained in 2009. Hans’ skillfull winemaking and the exceptional old-vine vineyards produce three different interpretations of Malbec that have been receiving accolades and prizes since

the very first bottling in 2001. Due to its incredible track record, Bodega Noemia was named as a “Winery of the Year” in 2008 by Wine & Spirits Magazine.

- 2008 A Lisa (90% Malbec, 9% Merlot, 1% Petit Verdot)WS:90
- 2008 J. Alberto (95% Malbec, 5% Merlot).....WS:92
- 2007 Noemia Malbec (100% Malbec).....WS:94

● **GOUGUENHEIM** (Tupungato, Mendoza)

Financier Patricio Gouguenheim was a success on Wall Street before returning to Argentina to start his namesake winery. He was able to purchase a fine facility in the Uco Valley, south of Mendoza, and more specifically in the

Tupungato area, along with many hectares of mature vineyards. Tupungato is a very special sub-region of Mendoza with vineyards planted at some of the highest altitudes in the region. The diurnal temperature swings can approach 50 degrees Fahrenheit during harvest time. These huge temperature swings allow for wines with intense ripeness to be combined with sappy freshness and firmer structures. The Gouguenheim winery produces two separate lines of wines in an effort to showcase the potential of the Tupungato region and the quality-price ratio is unrivaled.



The snow-covered Andes and the Tupungato Mountain provide a scenic backdrop to the vineyards.

- 2009 Chardonnay
- 2008 Torrontes
- 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon
- 2008 Malbec
- 2008 Merlot

● **VALLE AZUL** (Rio Negro, Patagonia)

Valle Azul is a very special place in Patagonia, formed by two rivers flowing from the Argentinne Andes. As one looks down from the ridge of the valley, an ex glacier, one can see that it turns blue at certain times of the year, hence its native name Valle Azul (Blue Valley). It is also the name of this new line of wines, that are meant to represent this less known area of Patagonia. The idea was born when a group of local grape growers approached wine-maker Hans Vinding-Diers, long-time, worldwide ambassador of the Rio Negro, and asked him to turn their fruit into wines that would show all of its potential.

- 2009 Chardonnay - Torrontes (50/50)
- 2008 Malbec
- 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon
- 2008 Cuvee Don Vito (85% Cab. Sauvignon, 15% Merlot)

Austria

● **ALLRAM** (Kamptal)



The Allram winery is situated in the village of Straß in the heart of the Kamptal wine area, that just recently received the DAC appellation by the Austrian government as a guarantee of origin and quality. The Allram estate has

always been recognized as one of the best wineries of this region. For owners Michaela and Erich Haas the main factor in producing high quality wines is to be found in the vineyards: the proper soil for each grape variety to benefit from the regional strengths. Gaisberg vineyard has primary rock soils ideal for Riesling;



Villa Allram.

while Hasel is the ideal terroir for Grüner Veltliner as the loess soil retain deep reservoirs of moisture. Moreover, the winery practices integrated farming methods in accordance to EU regulations. The personal care by the Haas family and the resources from some of the best vineyards in the area provide the secret for their success.

- 2007 Riesling Gaisberg.....WS:92
- 2007 Riesling Gaisberg Reserve
- 2008 Gruner Veltliner Hasel alte Reben

● **JOSEF EHMOSER** (Donauland)



Josef Ehmoser's vineyard is located in Tiefenthal and contributes to the high reputation the Wagram wine-growing region, characterized by a particular type of soil, called "loess", that is unique to the area on the left bank of the Danube (Donau in German).

The labels represent the most important natural elements: sun and water. In a certain sense, the human being is only an observer. Wine is created in a natural environment, in the vineyard. This is the philosophy that leads Ehmoser to produce individual wines with unmistakable personality and potential. The grapes are lightly crushed (immediate pressing). The time the must is allowed to stand depends on the grapes. Fermentation takes place in tanks. Bottled early and then matured and aged in the bottle, the wines are powerful in style, full-bodied, rich and individual.

- 2006 Pinot Blanc
- 2007 Gruner Veltliner 'Von den Terrassen'
- 2006 Gruner Veltliner 'Hohenberg'
- 2007 Gruner Veltliner Eiswein

● **JOSEF SCHMID** (Kremstal)

Wines from Josef Schimid not only reflect the philosophy of their winemaker, they are the result of hard work, dili-

gence and perseverance matched with understanding, know-how and passionate idealism. The winery has been the property of the Schmid family since 1865 and is located in Stratzing near Krems, not far from the Danube River. The estate was originally founded as a mixed agricultural enterprise, until approximately 20 years ago, when it was decided that it would only concentrate on wine. Since 1991, Josef Schmid runs the 14-hectare winery and he has been giving it his own personal approach: with a firm eye on quality, the objective is to create valuable Rieslings and Gruner Veltliners that are alive and powerful, apt for the local and international high gastronomy. The Kremstal region was officially given the DAC status is 2008, thus becoming the fourth wine region in Austria to hold this quality appellation. As a member of the Kremstaler consortium, Schimid also reserves the right to qualify his best wines as "Priorissa", an old female monastery that is engaged in the sale of Kremstal wine since the Middle Ages. This union was founded in 1990 to promote the tradition and quality of the typical wines of the area.

- 2008 Gruner Veltliner Satzen
- 2006 Gruner Veltliner Kremser GeblingWA:91
- 2008 Riesling Bergterrassen
- 2008 Riesling Stratzinger

California

● **BAXTER**

Phil Baxter, who for the last 35 years has consistently crafted some of the best wines in the valley, joined efforts with his son Phillip Jr., also an accomplished winemaker, to deliver excellent, powerful products.

These wines are meticulously cared for and represent the finest efforts to bring wines which not only bear the family name, but which represent the determination to make unique wines of quality and character, all from single-vineyards located in Napa, Mendocino, Rutherford and Anderson Valley.

- 2007 Sauvignon Blanc
- 2003 Cabernet Sauvignon Fedele Vineyard (Rutherford)
- 2004 Merlot Rodger's Vineyard (Napa)
- 2005 Zinfandel (Mendocino)
- 2006 Pinot Noir Toulouse Vineyard (Anderson)
- 2006 Pinot Noir Oppenlander Vineyard (Mendocino)

● **PHILIPPE LORRAINE** (Napa Valley)

The wines of Philippe-Lorraine are hand crafted, artisan wines, produced from some of the finest vineyards in the Napa Valley. Phil Baxter Sr. created the label in 1989 to honor his maternal grandparents and for the past three years he has shared his passion with his son. Together with their growers, the Baxters work towards a pure expression of the valley's terroir, producing their wine in small open-top fermenters and punching-down by hand. These traditional methods allow them to bring small lots of high quality wines made in the classic, balanced, and elegant style.

- 2003 Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley
- 2003 Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve

● **RENARD**

Bayard Fox became obsessed with Syrah, as well as varieties such as Grenache, Viognier and Roussane, during a trip to the Rhone, and started Renard in 1995. The basic premise is that the best Syrahs are readily identifiable as syrah and retain a strong sense of origin. Syrah has a remarkable ability to adapt from the cool climate of Sonoma Coast and Santa Barbara to the heat of a dry farmed vineyard in Calistoga. All the wines have a unique and desirable expression of Syrah from each site. Thus, many (but not all) of his wines are single vineyard designated and possess much soul and personality.



Spectacular view of the vineyards.

- 2008 Grenache Alta Mesa
- 2007 Viognier (Sonoma Valley)
- 2005 Syrah Kick Ranch (Sonoma Valley)
- 2006 Syrah California
- 2005 Tres Ninos (90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Syrah, 3% Petite Syrah and 2% Grenache)

● **CIMA COLLINA** (Monterey County)

Cima Collina produces artisan wines from small Monterey vineyards. The idea of an "artisan wine" is the partnership with growers who meticulously cultivate vineyards, the insistence on using only carefully chosen fruit, and the creation of wine on a barrel-by-barrel basis. The winemaker Annette Hoff stresses how Monterey is still a

viticultural frontier but a truly gifted region for growing grapes, from the cool maritime climate to well-drained soils.

- 2007 Sauvignon Blanc Cedar Lane
- 2006 Pinot Noir Chula Vineyard
- 2006 Pinot Noir Tondre Grapefield
- 2005 Pinot Noir Hilltop Ranch
- 2005 Hilltop Red Blend (55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 35% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Syrah)

● **OLSON OGDEN** (Sonoma County)

Located in Sonoma County, California, Olson Ogden Wines concentrates on producing small lots of fine, hand-crafted wines. The winemaking philosophy has its roots in traditional methods but is tempered by trial and error and creative innovation. The primary goal is to produce a balanced wine that expresses the terroir and vintage from which it comes. They produce highly enjoyable wines from Rhone varietals and Pinot Noir.

- 2006 Syrah (78% Sonoma/22% Napa).....WS:92
- 2006 Syrah Unti Vineyard
- 2006 Syrah Stagecoach.....WS:93
- 2006 Pinot Noir Russian River Valley

Chile

● **VIÑA SAN NICOLAS** (Curico Valley)

Located 200 Km south of Santiago, Vina San Nicolas lies in the Curico Valley - the heart of prime wine Country, in a spot known as "Corner of the Winds" (*Requingua*). The vineyard was first planted with the noble French varietals in the 1930s. The winery itself, ultra-modern and efficient, was constructed recently and operates under the watchful eye of the winemaker Santiago Achurra Jr., assisted by a full-time French oenologist, Benoit Fitte. In 1999, Nicola Arena, an American shipping executive and an old friend of the Achurras, acquired partial vineyard ownership and gave the winery its current name. The venture prospers from an abundance of all-around and on-going technical winemaking, and viticultural expertise, with a commitment to excellence.

- 2008 Rose' Isabella (100% Syrah)
- 2007 Chardonnay

- 2007 Sauvignon Blanc
- 2007 Chardonnay Reserve "Sabrina"
- 2007 Merlot
- 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon
- 2005 Merlot Reserve "Maigo"
- 2006 Cabernet Sauvignon Gran Reserve "Sofia"
- 2003 Carmenere "Victoria"

France

● CLOS CRISTAL (Loire)



Since 1928, the Hospital of the town of Saumur has owned and managed the 10-hectare property called Clos Cristal. In fact this land was donated to them by Antoine Cristal, a winemaking legend in the area. First of all Saumur was at the time well known for white wines, but Cristal was the first to produce and market red wines in the area, which later became known as Saumur-Champigny. His other great legacy is an ingenious project: he built approximately 2 miles of walls, along which, and through which, the vines grow. Close to the walls, the vine takes advantage of the heat accumulated by the stone, which enables for a greater level of ripeness in the fruit.



The ingenious wall training system used at Clos Cristal.

The main objective in the way that the vineyard is run and the vinification is performed is to produce, naturally, a concentrated and expressive wine. This Cabernet Franc, from 40 year old vines, is elegant with nice structure, the perfect compliment to a good meal with friends.

2006 Cabernet Franc Saumur-ChampignyWE:89

● CLOT DE L'OUIM (Cotes du Roussillon)



This property is certified for organic wine production, which means that absolutely no herbicides and chemical fertilizers are used in the vineyards. Since they stopped using them, nature was reborn and the biodiversity reinstalled. Hence the name Compagnie des Papillons, the 'society of butterflies' that once again populated the fields. The 33 parcels of the 37-acre vineyard are located

at different elevations (ranging from 1,000 to 1,800 feet above sea level). This wine is a blend of mostly Grenache with Carignan from 50 year old vines grown on high altitude gneiss and schist terroirs.

2005 Cuvee La Compagnie des Papillons WA:90
(Mostly Grenache with Carignan)



● DOMAINE DE LA BERTHETE (Rhone Valley)

The Domaine was created in 1950 and has been owned since 1933 by Pascal Maillet and his family. Soon after graduation, Pascal, who majored in computer science, decided to settle in at the domain and make his own wine. He has since then planted new vines, along with the existing vineyards averaging 32 years of age (all traditional varieties from the area, Syrah, Grenache, Carignan and Cinsault), and invested in brand new equipment for the cellar in order to improve the vinification process. The estate practices sustainable farming, and because of the older vines growing on a calcareous clay soil, it yields wines that are highly fruity and aromatic, but also have a strong and tonic backbone: the cuvee Sensation is like a baby Chateauneuf-du-Pape with 15% aged in French oak barrels for 12 months.



Ripe Grenache grapes.

2007 Cotes du Rhone Cuvee Sensation (50% Grenache, 25% Syrah, 20% Carignan, 5% Cinsault)



● DOMAINE DE CHATEAUMAR (Rhone Valley)

Castel Chateamar has been a family estate for over 3 generations. Today they are cultivated by father and son Jean and Frederic Souret, who practice integrated (sustainable) farming on their 16 hectares of vineyards. The estate is located in the heart of the production area for AOC Cote du Rhone, with its stony, clay-limestone soil. Absolutely no chemicals are used in farming, the soil is turned several times during the year to provide aeration, and traditional vinification is carried out in the cellar. Cuvee Bastien is 100% old vine Grenache from a single vineyard aged for 8 months in concrete tanks before bottling with minimum filtration. The perfect expression of Southern Rhone Grenache.

2007 Cotes du Rhone Cuvee Bastien (100% Grenache)

● **DOMAINE DES GERBEAUX** (Burgundy)



Domaines des Gerbeaux is a small estate created in 1896 by Jean-Michel Drouin’s grandfather. A 7-hectare estate, 5 of which are located in the Pouilly-Fuisse appellation, with vines of an average age between 35 and 45 years, and parcels as old as 90 plus years. Jean-Michel Drouin, current owner and winemaker, controls his yields in the vineyards with a very short cut in *guyot* and the estate is farmed following strict biodynamic criteria. Domaine des Gerbeaux applies passion, a constant drive for perfection, and innovation in their winemaking process to make wines of exceptional quality, often superior to its neighbor in northern Burgundy, for a fraction of the price. The wine presented is 100% Chardonnay, a baby Pouilly-Fuisse, made from vines from a higher elevation on hillside vineyards (Les Longeays is one of three best areas within the appellation) with a southern exposure. Aged for 6 to 8 months in old French oak barrels.

2008 Pouilly-Vinzelles Les Longeays (100% Chardonnay)

● **LE DRUNK ROOSTER** (Languedoc)

Le Drunk Rooster is a custom project from the Bourgeois Family, the brand’s importer. The state bird of France is the rooster and Le Drunk Rooster Chardonnay is aptly named for the revered symbol of national pride, Le Coq. The rooster is used to symbolize vigilance, as roosters are known to crow at the expectation of the sunrise. The Chardonnay is made with older vines (20+ years old) , un-oaked, aged in stainless-steel tanks for eight months, including three months on its fine lees. The red offering is a blend of 65% Grenache (40+ years old vines) and 35% Syrah (15 years old), aged in stainless steel tanks for 8 months. The result is packed with ripe red berries and a spicy lingering finish. A lot of wine for the money!

2008 Chardonnay
2007 Grenache - Syrah

Germany

● **KNIPSER** (Pfalz)

The Knipser winery is run by the talented and genial brothers Werner and Volker Knipser in the small village of Laumersheim, in the Pfalz region of Germany. They own approximately 22 hectares of vineyards, including the famous Laumersheimer area. Soils are sandy loam,

partly with gravel, on a limestone subsoil. The Knipsers are considered one of the top red wine houses of Germany, excelling with Pinot Noir, Cabernet, Merlot and Syrah. They also produce highly-rated white wines. The Knipsers make excellent dry Rieslings, but also cultivate other varietals such as Pinot Blanc, Pinot Gris, Chardonnay and Gewurztraminer.



The Knipser bothers during harvest.

2007 Gewürztraminer / Riesling
2007 Riesling Laumersheimer Kabinett Trocken
2006 Blauer Spatburgunder (Pinot Noir)

● **SCHMITGES** (Mosel-Saar-Ruwer)



The small town of Erden, where the Schmitges family has been making wine since 1744, is tucked neatly into one of the Mosel river's many dramatic bends, which give vineyards their unique microclimate. Andreas Schmitges, took over the family estate from his father in 1990. Joined by his wife, they were determined to turn the then fairly unknown Weingut with its excellent vineyard holdings (especially in the Erdener Treppchen and Erdener Prälät sites) into one of the Mosel's top wine estates.

The vines are grown organically and yields are kept low in order to let the wine speak of its place. At harvest, the grapes are hand-picked, gently pressed with pneumatic presses and fermented in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks. After fermentation the young wines spend time on their lees before they are filtered and bottled. Andreas Schmitges' goal is to intervene as little as possible during the vinification process.

Today the Weingut Schmitges is one of the finest in the Middle Mosel. The wines show clean, refreshing fruit but for me it's their crisp acidity along with the pronounced mineral character that makes these wines stand out.



Steep vineyards along the Mosel river.

2008 Rivaner Dry (100% Muller Thurgau)
2007 Riesling Halb-TrockenWA:89
2007 Riesling Grey Slate 'Grauschiefer'.....WA:87
2007 Riesling Erdner Treppchen Spätlese.....WA:93

New Zealand

● JULES TAYLOR (Marlborough)

Jules Taylor is a fairly recent project. Jules grew up in this wine region and has experienced first hand the transformation that the wine industry has brought to the area and, with this life long association, she brings to her winemaking an intimate understanding of the interplay between the grape and Marlborough's variety of climates and soil. Although she calls this wine region 'home' Jules has also spent much time wandering the globe's other wine producing areas. In 2000 Jules settled back into life in Marlborough and continued her day job as winemaker at Kim Crawford and later at Constellation NZ. Very recently she decided to concentrate full time on her new Jules Taylor label. Jules is passionate about the flavors, the consistent fruit quality found in Marlborough, and creating unique wines from these grapes.

- 2008 Pinot Gris
- 2008 Sauvignon Blanc
- 2008 Pinot Noir

Oregon

● CLAWSON CREEK

Angela Pinot Noir is the product of an exceptional site, the Savannah Ridge in the Yamhill-Carlton District in Oregon. Life long friends Antony Beck and Robert Rosenstein embarked in this project and thanks to the assistance of famed Oregon producer Ken Wright, who is now the winemaker, they found the right vineyard site and now make this limited production Pinot Noir.

- 2007 Angela Pinot Noir

South Africa

● GRAHAM BECK

Mining tycoon Graham Beck has one of the most modern and dynamic wine operations in the Cape. His is a two-centre winery, with Graham Beck Robertson and Graham Beck Coastal operating out of wineries in Robertson and Franschoek, respectively. These cellars draw on fruit from



an impressive 360 ha of vineyards, located on four farms. These wines are made in a thoroughly modern, new world style, and include varieties that would not immediately be associated with South Africa, such as Viognier and Shiraz. The quality is very high across the board.



Robertson vineyards.

- NV Brut (54% Chardonnay , 46% Pinot Noir).....IWC:89
- NV Bliss Demi-Sec (Chardonnay, Pinot Noir)
- 2006 Brut Rose' (80% Pinot Noir, 20% Chardonnay)
- 2008 Rose' (Malbec, Sangiovese)
- 2003 Blanc de Blancs (100% Chardonnay).....IWC:88
- 2008 Sauvignon Blanc.....WS:87
- 2008 Viognier.....IWC:87
- 2008 Chardonnay
- 2008 Chenin Blanc Gamekeeper Reserve...WE:88 - IWC:89
- 2008 Pinotage
- 2004 Shiraz
- 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Gamekeeper Reserve
- 2006 The William (62% Cab Sauv, 27% Pinotage, 11% Cab Franc)
- 2003 The Ridge Syrah (100% Shiraz)
- 2003 Coffestone Cabernet Sauvignon.....IWC:87
- 2008 Dual Varietal Chardonnay / Viognier
- 2007 Dual Varietal Cabernet / Shiraz.....WE:88

Spain

● BODEGA TIKALO (La Mancha)

Tikalo is a young bodega, created only in 2002, but working with an extremely large base of medium to old vine material in the Villamanrique area of La Mancha. Owing over 990 acres, the property is committed to dry farming in this very dry area with an average annual rainfall of 490 mm. Most of the parcels were planted in the early 1970's with some older parcels of ungrafted vines still being cultivated.

Winemaking at the estate focuses on preserving the purity of the raw material without trying to introduce additional complexity with heavy-handed usage of wood. Fermentation is always at low temperature to preserve natu-

ral aromas and the wines age in tank or in wood for only a short time. Maturity levels are higher than at most estates in the zone, and is demonstrated with unctuous flavors of black fruit and jam. Natural acidity levels are quite high as the altitude allows for very cool nights.

2007 Albaliza Tinto (65% Tempranillo, 35% Garnacha)

2007 Rubens (100% Tempranillo)

2004 Kios (100% Tempranillo)

Passion goes Green

The ever-growing awareness and interest in preserving our environment has been felt the world over, particularly recently. This movement toward “green” practices and organics has been steadily increasing in all realms of agriculture, and in the wine industry as well. It's been a long time coming. A number of Vias producers are currently practicing some level of green farming, from sustainable, to organic to the more wholistic biodynamic approach.

Below is a list of all the Vias non-Italian green producers with an indication of their “level of greenness”:

Allram (Austria) - Sustainable
Bodega NQN (Argentina) - Certified Organic
Bodega Noemia (Argentina) - Certified Biodynamic
Clos Cristal (France) - Certified Organic
Clot de l'Oum (France) - Certified Biodynamic
Graham Beck (South Africa) - Sustainable
Josef Ehmoser (Austria) - Sustainable
Domaine de la Berthete (France) - Sustainable
Domaine de Chateaumar (France) - Sustainable
Domaine de Gerbeaux (France) - Biodynamic
Schmitges (Germany) - Organic

(in alphabetical order)

Please request a copy of our Portfolio & Ratings publication for a complete list of our Italian producers and their wines.

You can also download all our publications and POS directly from our website at www.viaswine.com