

Wine Review: Winemaking with Sumoll

By Trevor Langley

Sumoll is a very old red grape variety, suited to dry, hot climates and is recognised as being part of the history of Catalonia, where it is indigenous, and the Penedès region of Spain.

Sumoll grapes are utilised for producing exceptional wines including still, sparkling and dessert wines. The multi award-winning Mont Rubí winery is located in L'Avellà, in the Penedès regions and was founded during 1984. This was the first winery to produce wines made from 100% Sumoll grapes. The region has centuries of viticultural knowledge and experience. The excellent wine productions of Heretat Mont Rubí have become well-known and are widely appreciated.

Gaintus Radical has a bouquet of ripe, dark fruits. This superb red wine is a luscious production with a splendid palate. Gaintus Vertical I found to have a most wonderful, very impressive aroma and powerful mouthfeel. For a rosé, the Gaintus One Night's Rosé has a beautiful pale rose colour, that entices to the bouquet and pleasures on the fresh mouth with great inducement. The sparkling Gaintus Espumoso Tradicional has many followers and is often chosen for events and al fresco dining-adding that 'extra touch' to an occasion. The selected harvest of grapes leads to this eventual smooth production that pleases many. The perlage is perfect, as is the flavour, of this very popular rosé wine. The end of a meal or dining occasion calls for a dessert wine and Gaintus Sobremadurado 'ticks the boxes' for this slot perfectly. The selected fruits are from 60 years' old vines. The grapes are transported to an ancient barn and then hung for 4 months, until the desired sugar level is reached. Absolutely, the complete finish to any dining occasion.



The black grape of Sumoll; an old grape variety grown in Spain (Image: www.thebuyer.com)

I found these wines, which are just some of their range, to be wonderful when accompanying food too. The reds pair extremely well with red meats, plus lamb, cured meats and game, etc. Also meaty-type fish dishes are enhanced with these along with other dishes. For more information see www.montrubi.com. UK stockists include Jeroboams, a leading wine merchant and drinks specialist. Jeroboams has outlets at Holland Park and Notting Hill as well as others in the London. www.jeroboams.co.uk