

2012 Dominio de Es La Diva

A Pinot Noir Dry Red Table wine from Ribera Del Duero, Castilla Leon, Spain,

Review by [Luis Gutierrez](#)

WA # , #214 (Aug 2014)

Rating: 94

Drink 2015 - 2021

Cost: \$400

The 2012 La Diva is produced from a small plot in a zone called Valdegatiles in Atauta (Soria), from a north-facing, slope vineyard where Tempranillo is mixed with white Albillo (quite a significant amount in this case) on sandy soils with a pure chalk subsoil. This is the vineyard Sourdais considers a true Grand Cru, a vineyard that is able to balance the effect of the vintages. This is his favorite site in the village of Atauta, and he was lucky enough to purchase a small plot. The grapes fermented in a single 600-liter new French oak barrel. It starts really closed and hermetic, and requires time and swirling to get it going. Even if it starts quite muted, with time, it's clear that it has a very perfumed and exotic personality: the fruit is ripe, with aromas of prunes and raisins, slightly volatile verging on overripeness. It has high acidity, with ripe tannins and that chalky minerality that sticks to your teeth. This is a serious wine, long and persistent, that should live a long life in bottle. Unfortunately, quantities are truly miniscule, and it will be like that until he manages to purchase more vineyards in the zone. Drink 2015-2021. ES are the initials of Escudero and Sourdais, the two partners in this small project, Bertrand Sourdais (ex Dominio de Atauta, and Domaine de Pallus in Chinon) and his girlfriend. They own four plots of old vines in Atauta (Soria), the source for these wines. They are produced in tiny quantities and they are not cheap, but very good indeed. No known American importer.