



The  
**Juan Carlos Sancha**  
Single vineyard Rioja 2017 case



Recently voted viticulturist of the year and declared one of his 'First Growths' by Tim Atkins in his respected 2019 report. The wines that comprise the case scooped some of the very top scores, beating wines costing many, many, many times more.

**6 bottle case - £145**

These wines are only available as part of this case

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**97 pts - Peña El Gato Garnacha 2017**  
Ruben Olarte

Ruben Olarte's vineyard at 620 metres in Badaran is unusual in the Peña El Gato line up for having three different expositions. The resulting wine has blackberry and bramble fruit, deftly integrated oak and the concentration that comes with a 108-year-old parcel. Another stunning release from Rioja's Señor Garnacha. **2022-32**

**97 pts - Peña El Gato Garnacha 2017**  
Fernando Martinez de Toda

As well as growing fantastic grapes, Fernando Martinez de Toda is one of the leading academic viticulturists in Spain. This is one of the great Grenaches of the world, not just of Rioja, sold at a ridiculously affordable price. Old vine concentration, amazing length and tension and effortless balance. **2020-30**

**96 pts - Peña El Gato Garnacha 2017**  
Jose Luis Martinez

Jose Luis Martinez's 108-year-old vineyard is located on clay and limestone soils with a high percentage of iron. Does this add a bloody, ferrous note to this stunning wine? It certainly seems to. Powerful, plush and tannic, with considerable grip, intense, wild herb aromas and stunning concentration. **2022-35**

**96 pts - Peña El Gato Garnacha 2017**  
Jacinto Lopez

Jacinto Lopez - no relation to Manolo, apparently - farms this 112-year-old vineyard in Banos de Rio Tobia. Despite being south facing, it sits at 750 metres and is often the freshest, most mineral of the Peña El Gato range. Pepper spice, red cherry, damson and cranberry fruit and underlying grip. **2022-30**

**94 pts - Peña El Gato Garnacha 2017**  
Manolo Lopez

There's only one barrel from this 0.2-hectare parcel, alas, so do your best to track some down. The vineyard is 107 years old and slightly lower, at 620 metres, than some of Juan Carlos Sancha's array of old vine parcels. Serious, firm and stony, this needs more time in bottle to shine, but will do so. **2022-30**

**93 pts - Peña El Gato Garnacha 2017**  
Ruben Lique

New to the Peña El Gato line up in 2017, this hails from a seemingly inexhaustible supply of 100-year-old-plus vineyards and is situated at 610 metres in Badaran. Thyme and lavender notes waft from the glass leading you into a ripe, plush, mulberry and black fig-like palate. **2020-25**

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**All 100% Garnacha, old vine, single vineyard, and only one barrel of each wine is produced. Each plot is tended by a different neighbour, the wines being made by Juan Carlos Sancha.**

Bodegas Juan Carlos Sancha is a winery located in Rioja Alta, one of the best-known wine-producing regions of Spain. This winery, operated in the town of Baños de Río Tobía (Rioja Alta) by Juan Carlos Sancha, a professor of enology at the University of La Rioja, is situated on five hectares of land along the border of D.O.Ca. Rioja, and in the coldest zone of this wine denomination.

Having championed these low intervention, uniquely expressive wines at WoodWinters for some time now, we are delighted to see them gaining the recognition they richly deserve.