



OUR ESTATES

Bodega y Viñedos O. Fournier owns three estates some 15 km from the Andes Range, covering 286 ha. A total of 94 are currently planted with vines, some of which are over 30 years old.

1) FINCA SANTA SOFÍA

Finca Santa Sofía has a total area of 263 ha., out of which 74 ha. have been planted. There are plans to plant the remaining area in the near future as a part of an expansion programme.

The grape varieties used to date are Tempranillo, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Malbec and Syrah. The focus is on cultivating the Tempranillo variety due to its great potential for development in this area and the quality of its grapes. With the exception of the Malbec variety, the plants come from France and Italy and have been grafted onto American rootstock.

Although experimenting with other training systems, Bodega y Viñedos O. Fournier prefers "vaso," the traditional Spanish bush vine system as this method leaves the grape clusters exposed while protecting them from the intense solar radiation. It also results in a potential lower yield per plant, leading to more concentrated aromas and a better wine structure. Planting densities on the estate vary from 3,000 to 10,000 vines/ha.

2) FINCA SAN MANUEL

Finca San Manuel, located 2 km from Finca Santa Sofía, covers an area of 13 ha. Eight ha. of this estate were planted with Tempranillo vines over 30 years ago; in November 2001 the rest of the estate was planted with Tempranillo and Malbec. The planting density is 5,100 vines/ha.

3) FINCA SAN JOSÉ

Located next to Finca San Manuel, Finca San José covers an area of ten ha. of which seven have been planted with a density of 3,800 vines/ha. The vines are Tempranillo, planted in 1972, and Cabernet Sauvignon.

Bodega y Viñedos O. Fournier purchased the last two estates to allow it to meet 30 per cent of its grape requirements for the first harvests. It buys the other 70 per cent from high quality vineyards of local producers, with whom it has established long-term agreements. The company aims to acquire more old vineyards, bringing its total to 40 ha.

More information at en www.ofournier.com