



Bodega de Forlong **'Petit Forlong' 2021**

Region: El Puerto de Santa Maria, Andalucía

Soil: Albariza, Tosca y Lustrillo

Elevation: 62-83m

Vinifera: 90% Syrah, 10% Tintilla de Rota

Capataz/Winemakers: Rocío Áspera and
Alejandro Narváez

Vineyard: Today, the young, vibrant couple owns 14 ha, planted between two large vineyard plots in Pago Balbaína Baja (Palomino, PX, Merlot, Syrah y Tintilla de Rota) and Pago de Grañina (Palomino only) both within the Puerto de Santa Maria designation. "Pago del Forlon" in Balbaína is 7km from the sea, comprised of pure Albariza (Tosca y Lustrillo) chalk and Poniente salinity.

Production: Early August, hand-harvested grapes arrive at the winery and are placed in a cold room at 40°F for 48 hours. Next, they go through a detailed hand selection and the chosen grapes are de-stemmed and placed whole into clay amphora where they begin to spontaneously ferment after 3-4 days. Occasional hand punch-downs. After fermentation is finished, the wine undergoes malolactic in clay *tinajas* (amphora) where it rests for 6 months and is then racked off into French barrique for another 6 months for a total of 6 months of aging. Minimal Sulphur is added only at bottling.

Vintage: 2021 was nothing short of spectacular for Bodega de Forlong. A perfectly rainy spring led to a perfectly warm summer with much more Poniente influence (cool Atlantic winds) rather than Levante (hot Eastern European winds trapped from Africa) which kept the 2021 vintage lower in alcohol and higher toned with more mineral structure and that salty Albariza nerve most notable in the reds. A perfect harvest that was "muy chula", especially for the hotter yielding Syrah.

Wine: This wine is incredibly complex and satisfying. This fresh 2021 vintage has a bright ruby color with gorgeous white floral notes of carnations and baby's breath that leads to red currants, deep cranberry fruits, and soft cocoa notes on the finish. The clay *tinajas* really elevate the soil components of the albariza here giving the wine a beautiful texture with fine, delicate yet firm friendly tannins. Organic Syrah planted in Albariza – this nugget is one of a kind!