



**May 2011**

**2008 Alvaro Palacios Camins del Priorat**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Priorat,Spain

**91 Points – Wine Advocate – Issue #194, May 2011**

Palacios' entry-level, the 2008 Camins del Priorat is composed of 60% Carinena, 30% Garnacha, with 10% Cabernet Sauvignon and Syrah. The wine spent 3-4 months in barrique followed by tank and cask aging. It offers up an alluring perfume of smoke, spice box, incense, black cherry, plum, and blueberry. Intense, savory, and smooth textured, it has the structure and the fruit density to drink well for a decade. However, no harm will come to those who choose immediate gratification. **It is a great value in Priorat wine.** Alvaro Palacios established his namesake winery in 1989. The flagship L'Ermita made its debut in 1993. Finca Dofi and L'Ermita vineyards are farmed biodynamically. All of the wines are bottled without filtration. In 2008 Palacios was the last grower in Priorat to harvest, waiting out rains that diluted other growers' fruit. It appears that 2009 was a slightly more successful vintage for Alvaro Palacios (and most Priorat producers) than was 2008

**2009 Alvaro Palacios Camins del Priorat**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Priorat,Spain

**(91 – 94) Points – Wine Advocate – Issue #194, May 2011**

The 2009 Camins del Priorat is more perfumed than the 2008 as well as more structured.... *It appears that 2009 was a slightly more successful vintage for Alvaro Palacios (and most Priorat producers) than was 2008. All of the 2009s were tasted from barrel samples at the Bodega in January 2011.*

**2008 Alvaro Palacios Les Terrasses Vinyes Velles**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Priorat,Spain

**92 Points – Wine Advocate – Issue #194, May 2011**

The 2008 Les Terrasses Vinyes Velles is the same blend as the Camins cuvee but is aged for 12 months in 20% new French oak. It offers greater complexity both aromatically and on the palate. Smoothly-textured, intense, plush, and spicy, it opens up nicely in the glass with floral (lavender), mineral, pepper, and black cherry notes reappearing in the robust finish.

**2009 Alvaro Palacios Les Terrasses Vinyes Velles**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Priorat,Spain

(91 – 94) Points – Wine Advocate – Issue #194, May 2011

The 2009 Les Terrasses displays a lovely nose of exotic spices, black fruits, and liquid minerals. It offers greater depth, aging potential, and length than the 2008

**2008 Alvaro Palacios Gratallops**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Priorat,Spain

93 Points – Wine Advocate – Issue #194, May 2011

The 2008 Gratallops (one of the 8 villages of Priorat) is made up of 70% Garnacha with the balance Carinena and Syrah. The nose proffers brooding black fruits, wood smoke, mineral, lavender, and spice box. On the palate it is full-bodied, savory, and concentrated with a deft interplay of elegance and power. This lengthy effort has the balance to evolve for 3-4 years and will offer a drinking window extending through 2023 if not longer

**2009 Alvaro Palacios Gratallops**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Priorat,Spain

(93 - 97) Points – Wine Advocate – Issue #194, May 2011

The 2009 Gratallops continues the theme of more complex aromas, greater structure, as well as a better blending of power and elegance.

**2008 Alvaro Palacios Finca Dofi**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Priorat,Spain

93 Points – Wine Advocate – Issue #194, May 2011

The 2008 Finca Dofi, sourced from a relatively youthful single vineyard, is composed of 60% Garnacha with the balance Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, and Merlot aged in 100% new French oak. Aromas of sandalwood, Asian spices, incense, and black cherry lead to a forward, sexy offering with plenty of spice and floral notes. This lengthy effort is one of those rarities than can be approached now but will drink well for another 20 years.... Finca Dofi and L'Ermita vineyards are farmed biodynamically. All of the wines are bottled without filtration

**2009 Alvaro Palacios Finca Dofi**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Priorat,Spain

(94 - 97) Points – Wine Advocate – Issue #194, May 2011

The 2009 Finca Dofi is an exotic, slinky beauty with tremendous structure, proportion, and length. It will benefit greatly from 8-10 years of cellaring. Alvaro Palacios established his namesake winery in 1989. The flagship L'Ermita made its debut in 1993. Finca Dofi and L'Ermita vineyards are farmed biodynamically. All of the wines are bottled without filtration.

**2008 Alvaro Palacios L'Ermita**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Priorat,Spain

96 Points – Wine Advocate – Issue #194, May 2011

The flagship, the 2008 L'Ermita, comes from a remarkably steep 4.4 acre, 70-year-old vineyard planted to 100% Garnacha and is aged in 100% new oak. It delivers a profound perfume of exotic spices, kinky wild berry aromas, incense, liquid minerality, black raspberry, and black cherry. In this vintage it is relatively forward with considerable elegance, a sophisticated personality, great depth and balance, and a pure, fruit-filled finish. It is one of the benchmark wines of the DO. Alvaro Palacios established his namesake winery in 1989. The flagship L'Ermita made its debut in 1993. Finca Dofi and L'Ermita vineyards are farmed biodynamically. All of the wines are bottled without filtration. In 2008 Palacios was the last grower in Priorat to harvest, waiting out rains that diluted other growers' fruit. It appears that 2009 was a slightly more successful vintage for Alvaro Palacios (and most Priorat producers) than was 2008.

**2009 Alvaro Palacios L'Ermita**

A Proprietary Blend Dry Red Table wine from Priorat,Spain

(97 – 100) Points – Wine Advocate – Issue #194, May 2011

The 2009 L'Ermita is a candidate for perfection once it is bottled. It is complete in every way marrying power, elegance, and longevity. It should see its 30th birthday in fine form. I also was able to taste the 2010 Finca Dofi and 2010 L'Ermita at this early stage. Palacios seems very pleased by his material and I see no reason to doubt him. Alvaro Palacios established his namesake winery in 1989. The flagship L'Ermita made its debut in 1993. Finca Dofi and L'Ermita vineyards are farmed biodynamically. All of the wines are bottled without filtration. In 2008 Palacios was the last grower in Priorat to harvest, waiting out rains that diluted other growers' fruit. It appears that 2009 was a slightly more successful vintage for Alvaro Palacios (and most Priorat producers) than was 2008. All of the 2009s were tasted from barrel samples at the Bodega in January 2011.