

UPC# 8 538910 0212 3 12pk/750ml

## **JUNTOS MERLOT** 2023

**BODEGAS Y VIÑEDOS RAFA CAÑIZARES** Bodegas Y Viñedos Rafa Cañizares celebrates traditional Spanish wine culture by showcasing its variety, depth and unique terroirs. We concentrate on cultivating Spanish indigenous varieties such as Monastrell, Tempranillo, Merseguera, Macabeo and Moscatel from the regions of La Mancha, Alicante, Valencia, Jumilla and Almansa – each wine telling the unique story of these regions.

Bodegas Y Viñedos Rafa Cañizares was founded in 2004 by fourth generation winemaker, Rafael Cañizares, who was instrumental in the Spanish wine boom of the 1990's. Today, he produces wine under different labels from a variety of DO's. He is passing his winemaking philosophy of diversity, uniqueness and tradition while focusing on quality fruit and minimal intervention to the next generation of the family.

In English Juntos means, together. Many things come together to create a great wine. The harsh continental climate and the chalky sand soils of Merlot. Finally, the talent and dedication of the winemaker come together to produce a wine of exceptional quality and finesse. The classical structure of the wine emphasizes the deep red fruit and long silken tannins on the finish.

**APPELLATION:** D.O. Alicante **GRAPE VARIETAL:** 100% Merlot

**VITICULTURE:** Traditional dry farmed viticulture. Goblet trained vines. Cultivated completely by hand, with minimal human intervention. Harvested by hand.

**ALTITUDE:** 2,100-2,450 ft.

**SOILS:** The soil is dry and shallow, and is primarily composed of limestone, which is the mother rock. The soil is intermixed with large chunks of pure chalk. The largest marble quarry in Europe is located near our vineyards, testament to the chalky quality of the soils. Marble is the product of chalk, or calcium carbonate, that has been compressed over a very long period of time.

**CLIMATE:** Continental, with some Mediterranean influence. A very unique microclimate that is the result of the convergence of the three mountain ranges, combined with the high altitudes, that are unique to this subregion of Alicante.

**HARVEST:** Middle of September

**TASTING NOTES:** Notes of cassis and red fruit on the nose. In the mouth the wine is silky with structured tannins, light spice, and slightly dry. Medium bodies with red berries and violet notes, and a sweet finish.

