

# ¿POR QUÉ NO? SELECTIONS



## VIDAS (DOP Cangas)



### Siete Vidas Albarín Blanco 2019

**100% Albarín Blanco**

**Aging: Stainless fermented and aged**

**Vineyard: Organic in practice**

**Alcohol: 12.5% Alc by Vol**

**Production: 2,800 bottles**

**Background:** Visiting Siete Vidas is like traveling to the middle ages. Similar in many ways to Galicia, but more remote, Asturias is green and wet, with stone hovels and wood smoke always in the air. Cangas del Narcea and the surrounding areas were important viticulturally from the 11<sup>th</sup> century until 1950, when coal mining abruptly stopped cultivation, dropping from 3 million kilos of grapes per year to its current 100,000. Cangas native Beatriz Pérez is working to revive local wine culture. She cares for many of the few remaining plots of vines, entrusted to her by older locals, too old to tend them on their own, and is also planting new vineyards.



**Grapes:** Albarín Blanco is a rare grape of mysterious genetic origins (it is not Albariño). Like an exotic Muscadet in its youth, at 3 years of age, petrol-y, minerally aromas begin to develop, and become akin to a dry Mosel Riesling. These are wines to age. Though native to Asturias, it can be found in Galicia as Branco Lexitimo and Raposo.

**Soils/Climate:** Extreme viticulture in every way: rocky, slate soils which slip under your feet, steep slopes with as much as 75% grades, warm and wet in the summer, snow in the winter. One of three regions the government has designated as being of “heroic viticulture”, owing to the difficulty of grape cultivation. The Albarín Blanco is grown in the Ibias sub-region, south of Cangas, a bit warmer with dark slate.

**Viticulture:** Organic in practice, although every few years one or two of the plots may need non-organic spraying to save a crop.

**Winemaking:** Stainless fermented and aged. Low SO<sub>2</sub>.