

**The Monte Xanic Estate**

**Founded:** 1987 by Hans Backoff and a group of 4 friends. It is heralded as the first boutique winery in Mexico.

**Winery Location:** The winery is located in Valle de Guadalupe near its northern end, abutting the steep slopes found on the north side of the valley.

**Vineyard Details:** The estate has vineyards at the winery proper as well as vineyard sites in other sections of Valle de Guadalupe, and significant holdings in Valle de Santos Tomas and Valle die Ojos Negros. Elevations vary from 900 ft in Valle de Guadalupe to over 1,800 in Valle de Ojos Negros. Soils are a mixture of Granite, clay and decomposed sandstone. (Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Pinot Noir, Petit Verdot, Merlot, Malbec, Syrah, and Grenache)

**Notes:**

- Many attribute the move by Monte Xanic to make wine from its own grapes (and their subsequent success) to the trend in Valle de Guadalupe for small farmers to make wine from their small parcels of estate owned grapes.
- With a large quantity of land under vine in all of the major wine growing valleys of the region, they are by far the most prolific of the boutique wineries in the region.
- Their vineyard sites are farmed organic and their winery operates as a model of modern eco-friendly design.
- The "X" in Xanic is pronounced like a "sh", so Xanic sounds like "shan-eeek". Xanic is the name of the white flower that is one of the first to bloom in spring in Valle de Guadalupe. When the spring rains are just right, the mountainside behind the winery is cloaked in their blooms.

**Total production: 18 wines, 100,000 cases**



**2022 Gran Ricardo - Monte Xanic**

**Tasting Notes and Drinking Window:**

The 2022 follows in the footsteps of the 2021 with winemaker Oscar Ganoa showing his increasing command over the grapes coming in from all of the various vineyards of the estate. Intent on getting the best from each vineyard, he is overseeing multiple harvests at each and vinifying all harvests separately, leaving himself maximum options for blending in the end. Gran Ricardo is the premium red blend from this estate, but it's also recognized as one of the top red wines from Mexico where it outsells wines such as Vega Sicilia and Lafite. Always a Bordeaux look-alike, this vintage, which received more rain and was colder than usual showcases the elegant more feminine expression to be found in these grape varieties, a characteristic that makes it more accessible in its youth but which is in such a balance that it will age gracefully for many years to come.

**2,500 cases made**

**Drinking window: Upon release - 15 years**

**Vintage:**

2022

**Blend:**

55% Cabernet Sauvignon, 36% Merlot 5% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petit Verdot 3%, 1% Malbec

**Producer:**

Monte Xanic

**Winemaker:**

Oscar Gaona - Mexican, lives in Valle de Guadalupe

**Vineyards:**

Granite and clay mix

**Winemaking:**

Fermented in stainless steel tanks for a period of 3 weeks, racked off the less and left to age in 1st and 2nd use barrels from a broad diversity of French forests for maximum complexity. In this vintage wood from Vosges, Allier, Nevers, and Troncais were used. Total time in barrel was 16 months. 35 ppm sulfites added at bottling.

**Farming:**

Organic

**Alcohol:**

13.9%