



## LA CATA DEL BARRIO DE LA ESTACIÓN

••• HARO STATION WINE EXPERIENCE •••

PRESS RELEASE

### Josep Roca, 2020 Haro Station Wine Experience Engine Driver of the Year

- The sommelier of the three-star Celler de Can Roca will be the official spokesperson for the great wine and food event and lead an exclusive master class on 19 June as the starting gun for the new edition of the Haro Station Wine Experience.
- Roca takes over from Masters of Wine Tim Atkin, Pedro Ballesteros and Sarah Jane Evans in the position.



**Haro, November 2019.-** The **Haro Station Wine Experience** returns on 20 June 2020, again with a relevant personality from the wine and food sector to assume the title of **Engine Driver of the Year**. For the coming edition, the sommelier of the three-Michelin-star Celler de Can Roca, **Josep Roca**, will be in charge of guiding and driving the great wine and food event.

“I am very happy to be the 2020 Engine Driver of the Year at the Haro Station Wine Experience. The Experience is a key event for wine and food lovers worldwide and should definitely go on your calendar if you wish to enjoy it, surrounded by living references of the history of Rioja wine and Spanish wine,” says Josep Roca.

One of the great novelties of this edition is an exclusive tasting to be led by Josep Roca himself on the eve of the event, 19 June. It will be an exclusive master class requiring a different ticket to that of 20 June, shortly to be on sale at the Wine Experience website: [www.lacatadelbarriodelaestacion.com](http://www.lacatadelbarriodelaestacion.com)

The the previous three editions of Haro Station Wine Experience were led by the Masters of Wine **Sarah Jane Evans** (2018), **Pedro Ballesteros** (2016) and **Tim Atkin** (2015). Each left their mark on the district, turning their respective editions into an unforgettable event.

### **Josep Roca Biography**

Josep Roca (Girona, 1966) is maître-sommelier and co-owner of *El Celler de Can Roca* (Michelin 3\*, Girona). Together with his two brothers, Joan and Jordi, respectively chef and pastry chef, he grew up among dishes in the kitchen in his parents' restaurant, *Can Roca*, where their passion for cuisine flourished. In 1985 he finished his studies at *l'Escola d'Hosteleria de Girona* and, on the following year, he partnered with his brother Joan to open *El Celler de Can Roc*, next to his parents' restaurant. The first Michelin star arrived in 1995 and the second, in 2002. They received the National Gastronomy Award in 2004. In 2009 they attained the third Michelin star, the same year that Josep Roca published the book *Vins Compartits* together with the journalist Marcel Gorgori, with whom he appeared on the *En Clau de Vi* show on Channel 33. In 2012, they received the award for Best Wine List in the *Revue du Vin de France*, as well as that of Personalities of the Year. In both 2005 and 2011, Josep received the *Prix au Sommelier* from the *Académie Internationale de la Gastronomie*, while in 2010, he won the National Gastronomy Award in the Best Sommelier category. In 2013 and 2015, Restaurant Magazine named El Celler de Can Roca the best restaurant in the world, while in 2013 it was named *S. Pellegrino World's Best Restaurant*, year in which it also won the *Gueridón de Oro* prize.

### **The Haro Station Wine Experience**

Every two years, the Station District opens its doors with a great celebration that brings together the wineries CVNE, Gómez Cruzado, La Rioja Alta, S.A., Viña Pomal Bodegas Bilbaínas, Bodegas Muga and Bodegas RODA, on an unparalleled day where DOCa Rioja wine and gastronomy are the true key players. After three successful editions, the wineries are again putting the District on the wine and food event calendar. The event has been very well received by the national and international press and critics, winning the Innovative Wine Tourism Experiences Best of Wine Tourism award given by the Great Wine Capitals Global Network in 2015, the Prize for the Best Wine Tourism Experience at the International Wine Challenge Awards Spain, the Rioja Capital Award for a Unique Initiative Linked to Food and Agriculture Resources, granted by the Government of La Rioja in 2016 and, most recently, the title for Best Wine Tourism Initiative 2018 from Wine Routes of Spain.

### **Further information:**

Official website: [www.lacatadelbarriodelaestacion.com](http://www.lacatadelbarriodelaestacion.com)





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