

**Bodega 202: Biographies**

**Kathleen, Francis and Michael Rooney**

Francis and Kathleen Rooney met while attending Georgetown University in Washington, DC, where they discovered their mutual interest in Spain, its history, culture, food and wine. Years later, as they walked the Ebro River Valley on the Camino de Santiago, they experienced first-hand the extraordinary richness that defines Rioja Alavesa.

In 2014, following an exhaustive search for old vines and high-altitude vineyards, Francis and Kathleen purchased their first small vineyard. The construction of a small winery began in 2015 and a year later the estate vineyards were expanded to 20 hectares, spread across five heritage sites in Rioja Alavesa (Salinillas de Buradón, Cripán, Lanciego and Elvillar). The aromatic and supple 2016 vintage reflects the quality of the vineyards and the elaboration of the wines from soil to glass.

Bodega 202 is a personal and family endeavor. Together with their son Michael, who directly looks after the operation, the vision is clear — Bodega 202 is a boutique vineyard-based winery which applies the best technology and technique in wine growing and wine making for the sake of quality not quantity.



Michael Rooney and Luis Güemes

**Luis Güemes, Winemaker**

Winemaker Luis Güemes became enthusiastic about the vision for Bodega 202 from his first conversation with Rooney's. As an Agronomical engineer, Luis specialized with a Master's degree in Viticulture and Enology from the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid. He brings an interdisciplinary approach to wine making, combining empirical science and best practices with his own creative professional experience. Like the Rooney family he possesses a passion for quality and a keen eye for detail.