El Escoces Volante Spain - Aragon

Founded in 2003, El Escocés Volante – "The Flying Scot" – is based in Aragón, Spain. The operation is dedicated to the production of high-quality wines, with a particular focus on the native varieties, especially Garnacha.

Owner Norrel Robertson has been making wine in Spain for over 10 years and is currently the only Master of Wine living in Spain. He was born and raised in Scotland and, after graduating from Aberdeen University with a MA Honours degree in Politics and International Relations, has worked in the wine industry for the last 20 years, starting in sales before moving on to buying and product development.

In the 1990's Norrel decided to pursue a career in winemaking & committed to learning from the cellar up. He worked vintages in Italy (Chianti), Portugal, Australia, France and Chile. In 1998, Norrel embarked on the Master of Wine Course and became a Master of Wine in November 2000, winning the Robert Mondavi Award for the best overall theory performance in the exam.

In 2002-2003, Norrel studied the Postgraduate Viticulture and Oenology course at Lincoln University in Christchurch, New Zealand, obtaining his postgraduate qualification with distinction. He moved to Spain in 2003, as Winemaker for International Wine Services, and quickly fell in love with the old Garnacha vineyards in the area of Calatayud. He decided to start making his own wines, and he released his first in 2004.

Norrel now produces many award-winning wines made from select high altitude-vineyards in Aragon. He also has winemaking projects in Murcia, Andalucia and Galicia. His own wines are sold in over 15 markets, and he consults for many high profile wineries in Spain, as well as importers in the UK.