

X-Tasis Reserve

CARMENÈRE - MERLOT 2016

Origin

Denomination of Origin: Maule Valley

Vineyard of Origin: San Rafael

Sector: San Rafael

Composition Varieties:

60% Carmenere

40% Merlot

Analysis

Alcohol: 13.5% by Volume

pH: 3.54

Total Acidity: 5.6 g/l

Residual Sugar: 3.2 g/l

Aging

50% of the final blend was aged in previously used French and American oak barrels for 10 months.

Winemaker's Notes

The grapes were hand picked and transported to the winery in 400-kg bins. The fruit was destemmed but not crushed to minimize astringent flavors and prevent excessive berry breakage. The Merlot underwent a 5-day pre-fermentation cold maceration at 10°–12°C. Alcoholic fermentation lasted 15–22 days at 27°–29°C (81°–84°F) with 3 pumpovers per day depending on density and enological tastings. Total maceration time was 21–25 days. The wine cold stabilized naturally over the winter and was filtered prior to bottling.

Harvest Report

The 2015–2016 season began with a cold, dry spring with average temperatures that were lower than in a normal year and rain that fell at the end of the season. Summer temperatures were higher, but autumn was also cold and wet. All of this resulted in reduced yields and slow phenological development throughout the entire season, which finally resulted in a delayed harvest, lower alcohol, and higher acidity levels. The white and rosé wines are generally very fresh with intense aromas and moderate alcohol levels.

Tasting Notes

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Our Carmenere-Merlot offers a delicious blend in which the black fruits and spices of the Carmenere meld with the red fruit and structure of the Merlot. The nose is expressive, with black plum aromas and notes of green and black pepper. The Carmenere lends smooth texture on the palate, while the Merlot contributes tannic structure that sustains the wine. Good acidity delivers freshness and enhances the persistent flavors.

Food & Wine Pairing

Pastas with cream and mild sauces, Indian dishes, and spicy but non-fatty dishes in general.

