



2013 CHILCAS RESERVA MERLOT

WINEMAKER: Camilo Viani
REGION: Curicó Valley, Chile
VARIETALS: 92% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc, 2% Malbec, 2% Petit Verdot
MATURATION: 100% aged for 14 months in oak (85% French, 15% American)
ANALYSIS: 14.0% alc/vol | TA: 3.50 g/L | pH: 3.50

VINEYARD:

The grapes come from Chilcas' Los Niches vineyard in the Curicó Valley (6 miles west of the Andes at over 1,000ft above sea level.). The soil is alluvial with a mixture of rounded river stones, silt and sandy loam on the surface and at depth. It is deep with good drainage. The climate is Mediterranean and is influenced by the Andes Mountains, with cold nights, hot summers and high solar radiation. Proximity to a major river creates a microclimate that moderates the extremes of temperature.

WINEMAKING:

The grapes were hand-picked during mid-April and immediately transported to the winery for sorting and gentle de-stemming. The fruit was then cold macerated for six days followed by a warm ferment lasting three to four weeks. Punch downs took place three to four times daily. The wine was then aged for 14 months in French and American oak barrels, 10% of which were new. The wine was lightly filtered before bottling.

TASTING NOTES:

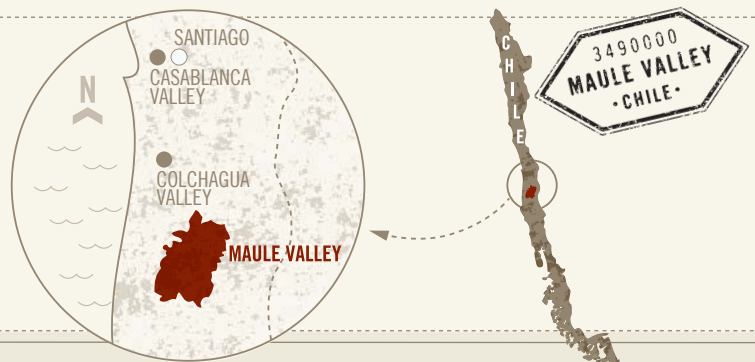
The 2013 Reserva Merlot displays a bright, intense cherry-red color. The nose presents saturated aromas of blackberries, red cherries, and sweet plums, along with notes of spice such as black pepper and cinnamon. Oaky aromas round out the complex nose. The palate has firm texture and soft tannins that come together in an elegant wine with a long finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

Not yet reviewed

ABOUT CHILCAS:

Nestled in the foothills of the Andes Mountains, in the shadow of the Descabezado Volcano, lies the Chilcas flagship Maule Valley San Rafael Vineyard. Named for a native Chilean bush with fine pigment that grows in the region, Chilcas wines exude a sense of place and strong varietal expression. With an emphasis on the Maule Valley, Winemaker Camilo Viani aims to produce the finest wines from the estate vineyards in the Maule, Itata, Colchagua and Casablanca Valleys and across three tiers of wines - Reservas, Icons and Single Vineyards. A true steward to the land, Chilcas is intensely committed to sustainability and, as part of the VIA Wines family, has been certified sustainable under Wines of Chile's Sustainability program.



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