



CHILENSIS

Maule Valley, Chile



Carlos Gatica

Chilensis is the true reflection of Chile's diverse terroirs; wines that show the fruit and aromas of Chile, internationally known as a 'viticultural paradise.'

FOUNDED: 1998

WINEMAKER: Carlos Gatica

SIZE: 600 acres

HARVEST: Mid-March to mid-May

CLIMATE: Mediterranean with warm, dry summers and winter rains

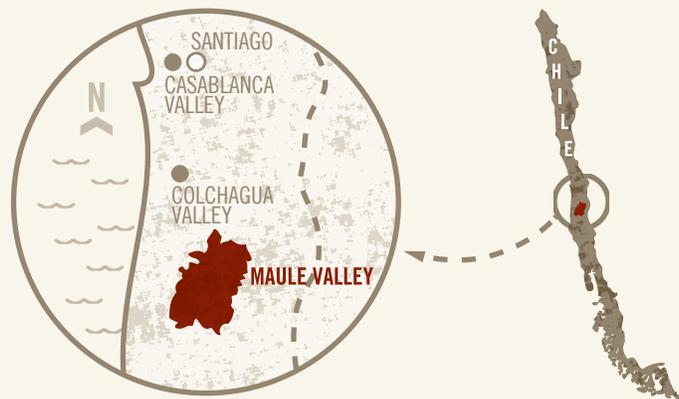
SOILS: Predominantly alluvial, with a mix of clay, silt and sand

VARIETIES PLANTED: Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Carmenere, Malbec, Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir, Merlot, Petit Verdot

WEBSITE: www.chilensis.cl



The San Rafael Estate in Chile's Maule Valley.



PROFILE: Chilensis is the epitome of Chile; the word itself means Chilean or coming from Chile. Based in the Maule Valley, Chilensis produces estate wines that are an authentic reflection of Chile's most prestigious wine appellations, including the Maule, Casablanca and Colchagua Valleys. As part of the VIA Wines family, Winemaker Carlos Gatica and his team farm 600 acres of estate fruit that they hand-craft into wines that reflect the typicity of each grape variety and individual region's terroir. Managed under sustainable principles with minimal intervention – the winery is one of only three wineries in Chile to be certified sustainable under Wines of Chile's Sustainability program – Chilensis wines offer natural expressions of the grapes, showcasing the fruit and aromas of Chile's "viticultural" paradise.

VITICULTURE: Fruit is sourced from VIA's own vineyards in some of Chile's most respected wine regions. A Mediterranean climate and broad range of soil types result in a diversity of flavors and styles in the wines. Yields are kept low through canopy management, with careful leaf plucking and fruit thinning. Technified restrictive precision irrigation is also used for vigor control. Sauvignon Blanc comes from the Tapihue Vineyard in the cool Casablanca Valley, while the Nilahue Vineyard in the Colchagua Valley produces excellent Cabernet Sauvignon. Through years of meticulous labor, VIA's viticultural and winemaking teams have worked to identify the varieties that match the estate soil characteristics of the San Rafael Estate Vineyard in Maule Valley, finding a balance between variety, soil and climate that best expresses the typicity of each grape.



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THE WINES

Chilensis wines are a true reflection Chile's diverse terroirs; these wines show the fruit and aromas of Chile, a country known as a viticultural paradise. The Reserva wines are single varietal bottlings, expressing the typicity of each grape variety and the region it comes from, such as Maule Valley Pinot Noir, Casablanca Valley Sauvignon Blanc and Colchagua Cabernet Sauvignon. The icon Lazuli is a blend, made from what the winemakers believe to be the best and most representative varieties in a given vintage.

RESERVA

Pinot Noir: Deep, bright purple, with intense red fruit aromas of strawberry, raspberry and cherry and subtle floral notes. Smooth and elegant on the palate, with vibrant juiciness.

Malbec: Deep red in color, with aromas of raspberry, black currant and plum, with notes of vanilla and caramel. Medium-bodied, soft and elegant on the palate, with firm structure and a long finish.

Sauvignon Blanc: Pale greenish-yellow, with an intense nose of citrus. Medium-bodied, persistent palate with pronounced acidity and mineral character.

Cabernet Sauvignon: Deep red in color, with aromas of black fruit and plum. Barrel aging offers spice and toasted oak on the structured and elegant palate.

Chardonnay: Bright golden-yellow in color, with aromas of pear, tropical fruit and subtle notes of white peach and vanilla. Medium-bodied and delicate on the palate, with high acid.

Carmenere: Dark red in color, with aromas of blackberry, blackcurrant and blueberry and a delicate touch of chocolate and tobacco. Medium-bodied, with soft, elegant tannins, good structure and a fine finish.

Merlot: Ruby red, with aromas of plum, blackberry and spicy black pepper. Juicy and velvety tannins on the palate lead to a long finish.

ICON

Lazuli: Deep, dark ruby-red in color, with aromas of blackberries, red currants and spice. Lively on the palate, with juicy tannins, good structure and a long finish.

WINEMAKING: Chilensis practices winemaking with minimal intervention to allow the grapes to express their natural flavors and aromas, as well as their terroir. Fruit is hand-harvested to ensure that grapes are picked at optimal ripeness. Each varietal is fermented and aged independently, with Winemaker Carlos Gatica determining the appropriate length of time for maceration and fermentation to obtain maximum aroma extraction and quality. His objective is that each bottle reflects the characteristics of its terroir, as well as the freshness, fruitiness and aromas inherent in the grape variety. Fermentation takes place in stainless steel, with various combinations of stainless steel, French and American oak barrels for aging. Both punchdowns and pumpovers are commonly used to enhance extraction for red wines. All wines are bottle aged before release. The VIA Wines commitment to sustainability extends to the cellar, reflected in the winery's limits on water use, materials management efficiency, energy use and waste management.



The scenic view of the tasting room overlooking the lagoon.



Chilensis' commitment to farming sustainably includes encouraging the surrounding natural habitat to thrive.



Interior of the Chilensis tasting room