



2016 CHILENSIS RESERVA CHARDONNAY

WINEMAKER: Carlos Gatica
REGION: Maule Valley, Chile
VARIETALS: Chardonnay
MATURATION: 15% aged for 8 months in French oak
ANALYSIS: 13.1% alc/vol | TA: 5.35/L | pH: 3.38

VINEYARD:

The grapes for the Reserva Chardonnay come from nine-year-old vines from Chilensis' estate San Rafael vineyard in the Maule Valley (162 miles south of Santiago and 12.5 miles from the Andes Mountains range). The valley is geographically diverse, with a Mediterranean climate. Summers are warm and dry with a significant day-night temperature variation. Winters are cold and rainy. Most of the vineyard's alluvial soils are loam to clay-loam in texture with a moderate fertility. Vigilant canopy management and cluster thinning during the growing season led to a yield of just over three tons per acre.

WINEMAKING:

The grapes were hand-picked in March and then immediately whole cluster pressed to preserve the natural aromatics and retain varietal freshness without emphasizing phenolic characters. The juice was fermented in stainless steel and aged on lees for eight months. 15% was aged for eight months in French oak barrels. No malolactic fermentation took place and the wine was lightly filtered before bottling.

TASTING NOTES:

This Chardonnay presents a bright straw-yellow color and high aromatic intensity. The nose features notes of tropical fruits such as banana and pineapple as well as white fruits such as pear and white peach. The use of seasoned barrels and lees ageing lends complexity and texture. The approachable palate has great volume, breadth, and natural acidity leading to a long, fresh finish.

CRITICAL ACCLAIM:

Not yet reviewed. 2015 vintage: **89 pts** Wine Spectator

ABOUT CHILENSIS:

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 100% 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 – Chilensis is one of only three wineries in Chile to be certified sustainable under Wines of Chile's Sustainability program in all categories - their wines showcase Chile's "viticultural" paradise.



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