



**KINGSTON**  
FAMILY  
VINEYARDS  
CASABLANCA CHILE

# TASTING NOTES



## 2011 ALAZAN PINOT NOIR

VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir
PRODUCTION	280 cases
ALCOHOL	14%
RELEASE DATE	September 2012
TYPE OF OAK	French
MONTHS IN OAK	10 Months
RATINGS	91 pts, Stephen Tanzer 91 pts, Wine Spectator

Kingston Family Vineyards is a boutique winery located on the farm that has been in our family for a century. We handcraft Pinot Noir, Syrah, Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay from our vineyards in Casablanca, Chile.

Kingston also collaborates in MOVI, Chile's Movement of Independent Winemakers, whose members make small lots of artisan wines by hand.

This summer I had the honor of speaking on a panel at the International Pinot Noir Celebration in Oregon. My assigned topic was "flying winemakers," a subject that I know a little bit about since I am one. It occurred to me that the popular image of the consulting winemaker is one of a sort of magician who travels around the world sprinkling enological fairy dust, leaving good wine in his or her wake. But the reality is my job is mostly the hard work of interpretation and nuance. I spend a lot of time pondering the best expression of fruit from the unique places where I make wine. Rather than put my personal stamp on it, I seek to let the vineyard reveal itself in the most compelling way.

This wine is a little slow to reveal itself. It has a core of sweet fruit and an almost cooling quality on the palate, but aromatically it's a bit shy. There is some cherry fruit and a touch of the earthiness that is always present in Casablanca wines, but it seems to be hiding something. I like that there is a little tension, some energy, that is not quite released.

In 2011 we played around with some "old school" fermentation techniques like whole cluster fermentation and some of that wine made it into this blend. I think it gives some aromatic interest, and takes the wine beyond the realm of dark fruit into something a bit more ethereal. We're also picking a little earlier, in an effort to retain more freshness. The wines are less forward and fruity, and not quite as big, but I think they are more harmonious and taut with energy.

- Byron Kosuge, Consulting Winemaker

