



**KINGSTON**  
FAMILY  
VINEYARDS  
CASABLANCA CHILE

# TASTING NOTES



## 2016 CJ'S BARREL SYRAH

VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% Syrah
PRODUCTION	150 cases
ALCOHOL	12%
RELEASE DATE	March 2018
TYPE OF OAK	French
MONTHS IN OAK	18 Months

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.

When we tasted through the 2016 Syrah, only a few barrels stood out. They were not bigger and richer, but they had such a density of flavor and purity of aroma that it was not hard to identify them. There was not enough wine to make a Bayo Oscuro, but there was enough for a CJ's. Sometimes the CJ's blend is an experiment in the winery that turns out well. Other times, a certain block in the vineyard cries out to be bottled separately. This year, it was individual barrels, spread out over three different lots, that told us what to do.

Like the 2015 CJ's Syrah, the 2016 has a touch of saltiness on the palate that is reminiscent of Old World Syrah. The fruit, however, is unabashedly New World. I don't say this often about Syrah, but the 2016 CJ's is pretty, in the way that Pinot Noir can be pretty, although it doesn't taste anything like Pinot Noir. The alcohol is just 12%, but the wine does not seem underripe. It is definitely NOT a big jammy Syrah. Like the Lucero, it's light on its feet. It has a lot of flavor, but is still sprightly. Right now, the aromatics are subdued, the fruit on the palate a bit tightly wound. It is compact, in a good way. And it has so much energy, I can't help but think that it will age well. Lay it down and see for yourself.

- Byron Kosuge, Consulting Winemaker

