



KINGSTON
FAMILY
VINEYARDS
CASABLANCA CHILE

TASTING NOTES



2017 Merlot

VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% Merlot, organic
PRODUCTION	100 cases
ALCOHOL	13.5%
RELEASE DATE	April 2019
TYPE OF OAK	French
MONTHS IN OAK	14 Months
RATINGS	94 pts, Descorchados

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.

Our newest wine is a Kingston Merlot! For longtime followers of our family's wines, this might come as a surprise. But for those of us at the vineyard, it was only a matter of time.

Our focus has been -- and remains -- on Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, alongside Sauvignon Blanc and Syrah. That said, years ago we planted Merlot as a test. For years, we sold the grapes to other wineries. I've always wanted to tell the Kingston Merlot story through our own wine. Here goes:

In 1999 we bought vines from a local nursery and planted our first Merlot. After a couple of years we were surprised to find that the Merlot vines weren't actually Merlot, but also Cabernet Franc and Zinfandel intermixed throughout the rows! It took us five years to gradually remove the uninvited lurkers and finally have a block of 100% Merlot.

Fast forward to 2017. Walking through each row of the block I found four rows under an imposing native *Quillay* tree. It was, without a doubt, the place to source our first four barrels of Merlot.

For many varietals, 2017 was very hot - but not for the Merlot. Full of aromas of red fruits and spices, this wine's freshness, acidity, and natural tension are striking. It shows the purity and potential of Merlot in the Casablanca valley. Try the Lucero with it some time; you won't be disappointed.

- Amael Orrego, Winemaker



MOVI

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