



### 2018 BAYO OSCURO SYRAH \$42 / bottle / Production: 100 cases

Bayo Oscuro is one of the grandest and most delicious wines we make at Kingston Family Vineyards. The last time we made Bayo Oscuro was for the 2015 vintage. The 2018 harvest had its own challenges. It was very cold but with yields slightly higher than expected.

For those who have visited us in Casablanca, you may remember that we are located in the coldest part of the valley. A cold season with high yields can be detrimental to the maturity and development of the syrah.

Our expectations were not very high, but we had a surprising result of a spectacular vintage. It is among the best syrahs we have crafted. In some ways, it reminds me of the freshness and juiciness of our 2013 Syrah but this vintage has more texture, depth, and complexity. I really love how the wine drinks now but if you are patient, and wait a couple of years, you will reap the benefits.

Amael Orrego, Winemaker



### 2018 LUCERO SYRAH \$26 / bottle / Production: 500 cases

2018 in Chile paralleled 2018 in California—a good winter rainfall, long growing season and very “normal” conditions—not too much heat and a bit larger yield. Compared to the hot and fire-plagued vintage of 2017 (another parallel with California), 2018 was easy. Normal translates to balance in the wines. Alcohol, acid and tannin are all in harmony. The more you let the wine “make itself”, the purer the translation is from the vineyard to the glass. Our Syrah is on vinifera roots, grown in decomposed granite. The vines are 20 years old and still finding their voice. We have learned to stay out of the way with a light hand in the cellar.

What do the vines have to say? As always, the color is deep bright red. The cool Casablanca climate gives us bright acidity, unusual for New World Syrah which can be a bit dull. Aromatically we are always on the spicy, peppery end of the spectrum. This year Lucero combines ripe blackberry fruit with meatiness in the aromas; on the palate it’s juicy and mouth-filling without being heavy. The liberal use of whole clusters and stems adds a savory note and a pleasant fleshiness, although the overall tannin impression is quite soft.

Byron Kosuge, Consulting Winemaker



Our vineyards, first planted in 1998, consist of 350 acres nestled within the hillsides of our family farm. By the end of 2020, we expect our vineyard to be certified organic. We harvest at very low yields: typically two to three tons per acre — a necessity just to ripen our crop. We harvest a handful of special blocks for our own Kingston Family wines.



Sales/USA Import: 520 La Mesa Drive, Portola Valley, CA 94028 USA - phone: +1 (650) 854-4146  
Winery: Hijuela El Maitén, Casablanca, Chile

hello@kingstonvineyards.com  
www.kingstonvineyards.com



## SPRING '20

## TASTING NOTES

New Releases for Spring 2020

Amael Orrego, Winemaker  
Byron Kosuge, Consulting Winemaker





**2018 CUARTEL 8D PINOT NOIR**  
\$60 / bottle / Production: 100 cases

The part of our vineyard known as cuartel (or block) 8D produces some of our best wine. It is organically farmed and is one of the oldest blocks in the vineyard, planted in 1999 on vinifera roots. This block is often the backbone of our Alazan bottling, and we seldom bottle it by itself.

In 2018 we aged some of the wine from cuartel 8D in a 2000 liter oak foudre. Compared to a barrel, this larger oak vessel changed the way the wine developed over the 9 months of cellaring. The energy and purity of this particular lot was impossible to resist, and thus our new block series was born.

What does it taste like? A lovely combination of lively Pinot Noir fruit, whole cluster spice, and juicy acidity. Medium red color. Explosive aromatics. It shows beautifully now, but has room to grow.

Byron Kosuge, Consulting Winemaker



**2019 ROSILLO ROSÉ**  
\$28 / bottle / Production: 500 cases

At first I was skeptical that making a Rosé of Syrah would be the right move. Each vintage has exceeded my expectations and now I am a convert. Maybe it is because Syrah ripens so late in our vineyard (it's pretty cold late in the fall in Chile) that the wine is so bright and bracing. The abundance of red pigment in Syrah grapes gives Rosillo a beautiful bright pink color every year.

The 2019 Rosillo leaps out of the glass. The aromatics are squarely in the fresh red fruit camp, with just a hint of fresh flowers that makes it super refreshing. Bright acidity, a core of juicy fruit, and low alcohol make it highly quaffable; you might find yourself polishing off several glasses without even thinking about it!

Rosillo 2019 is the perfect picnic wine. The pink color looks great in the sunshine. The fresh fruitiness and lively acid would compliment all manner of light springtime fare. Almost every night after work, when I am down at the winery, we relax on the deck overlooking the vineyard with a glass of something refreshing and a bowl of salted peanuts. Rosillo is perfect for that!

Byron Kosuge, Consulting Winemaker



**2018 CJ'S BARREL SYRAH**  
\$50 / bottle / Production: 100 cases

Every bottle of wine we make at Kingston Family faithfully reflects that year's harvest. There is a memorable wine from each vintage. For me the 2018 CJ's Barrel Syrah is that wine. It is one of those wines that transports you to the cold and long 2018 season.

Each vintage is different and comes with its own unique set of challenges. 2018 was no exception. It was very cold with a long maturation period, which can often be challenging for syrah. Being located in the coldest area of the Casablanca Valley, it's not easy to mature this varietal and even more so in cold years.

Recently, we have dedicated ourselves to carrying out many experiments and trials, to draw out the syrah's unique expression of our vineyards. 2018 was finally the year. By using a higher percentage of a whole cluster (100%), the wine expresses itself as it never has before. Red fruits combine with spices and graphite notes. It has an earthiness that we have not previously achieved, and an elegant mouthfeel with a character, texture, and vibrancy that reflects the vintage.

Amael Orrego, Winemaker



**2019 CARIBLANCO SAUVIGNON BLANC**  
\$22 / bottle / Production 300 cases

2019 was my seventeenth vintage at Kingston Family Vineyards. The combination of experience and vine age has made us more comfortable taking what the vintage gives us, rather than bending the wines to our collective will.

The last several vintages of Sauvignon Blanc have been a fascinating study in the range of wines that our vineyard in Casablanca can produce, from ripe and fruity to flinty and austere. Because we use a range of fermenting and aging vessels we can fine tune our approach to suit the character of the vintage more easily than a winery that uses the same methods for all their wines. I like that we are able to let the vintage express itself.

2019 gave us Sauvignon Blanc that was a bit more on the austere side. Structured and racy, with saline notes that give it some gravitas. It is a bit more mineral and savory, less fruity. Maybe a bit more "textural" than previous Cariblanco's. The word "classy" comes to mind.

Byron Kosuge, Consulting Winemaker