



2015 ALAZAN PINOT NOIR

VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir
PRODUCTION	150 cases
ALCOHOL	14%
RELEASE DATE	October 2016
TYPE OF OAK	French
MONTHS IN OAK	10 Months
RATING	95 pts, James Suckling

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.

2015 was a challenging vintage. It was very hot throughout Chile. The Kingston Family vineyard is in the western hills of the coastal Casablanca Valley, only 10 miles from the Pacific. Our cooler setting allowed us to closely monitor ripening and pick before any signs of dehydration set in. As winemakers, Byron and I want a glass of Kingston Family Pinot Noir to express what it feels like to walk through our Casablanca vineyards. We want to share the true essence of the western Casablanca hills. This was particularly challenging to do in 2015, given the unusually warm weather.

I think the best winemakers have two feet firmly planted in the vineyard, and spend much of the year out among the vines. We anticipate our vines' response to different weather throughout the year, and adapt our farming methods whenever needed. We picked the first *hileras* of pinot noir on March 3rd. That's quite early---I can't remember ever harvesting pinot noir that early in the season. We also changed our approach to aging, using less new French oak and experimenting with some larger barrels.

I think our 2015 Alazan is the best example of what we do at Kingston Family to express the best of what Casablanca has to offer. When I uncork a bottle of our newest Pinot and swirl it in the glass, its fresh and vibrant energy comes shining through. It's an expressive wine, with bright, pure red fruits, rose petal high notes, and a powerful and mouthfilling texture. I think it's ready to enjoy now upon first release, but given how nicely it's already evolved in bottle, I believe with time we'll be even more surprised by what it has to offer.

- Amael Orrego, Winemaker

