



KINGSTON
FAMILY
VINEYARDS
CASABLANCA CHILE

TASTING NOTES



2020 BAYO OSCURO SYRAH

VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% Syrah
PRODUCTION	132 cases, organic
ALCOHOL	13.5 %
RELEASE DATE	March 2022
TYPE OF OAK	French Oak Barrel
MONTHS IN OAK	14 Months
RATING	95 pts, La Cav

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

2020 brought a year of unprecedented challenges across the globe. Making good wine relies on planning and precision, two luxuries that we were not afforded in a time of such uncertainty. However, a bit of serendipity allowed us to move forward with wine production even as the world shut down, and we ended up with an assortment of vintages as varied and complex as the year itself.

In a spot of good fortune, 2020's unexpectedly warm climate resulted in an early harvest: all of our grapes were in the winery by March 23rd, just about a week after the reality of the pandemic came to a head across the globe. Then, the agricultural exemption we received from the government allowed us to continue wine making operations even while the country was under strict lockdowns. Those employees who were allowed to travel to the winery from their homes were warriors in seeing the wine making process to completion.

Like the 2020 Sauvignon Blanc varietal, the 2020 Bayo Oscuro Syrah benefitted from the warmer year. While the Syrah varietal is always the last to be picked at Kingston, warmer temperatures ensured the grapes ripened more quickly and were ready to be harvested by the end of the season. As compared to the 2020 Lucero Syrah, which also benefited from the season's unusually warm temperatures, the 2020 Bayo Oscuro Syrah is a bit darker and spicier, with more power and structure in the mouth. This is due in part to the fermentation process, as the Bayo Oscuro Syrah is fermented with a higher amount of whole cluster grapes (close to 100%). The result is a more concentrated wine. However, because the Bayo Oscuro comes from higher in the vineyard than the Lucero, the soil contains less clay. Instead, the roots of the Bayo Oscuro vines come into more contact with decomposed granite, making the texture of the wine less creamy and a bit thinner.

The delicate texture of the 2020 Bayo Oscuro Syrah complements its strong flavor and structure, producing a beautiful tension that grabs the mouth and doesn't let go. Pairs well with gamey meats, such as lamb, as well as dishes with mild spiciness, including indian curry.