

ERRAZURIZ

FAMILY WINES SINCE 1870

Errazuriz Merlot Estate

CURICO VALLEY

2013



Alcohol:

13.5%

pH:

3.52

Total Acidity:

5.66g/L

Residual Sugar:

2.4g/L



ESTATE

Don Maximiano Errazuriz founded Viña Errazuriz in 1870 in the Aconcagua Valley, 65 miles north of the capital, Santiago. Recognizing that this valley, with its hot, dry summers and moist Pacific Ocean breezes, was ideal for growing grapes, Don Maximiano sent for the finest clones from France and with tenacity and perseverance transformed this barren land into a world-class vineyard. Today, the tradition of quality lives on with Don Maximiano's descendant, Eduardo Chadwick.

WINE

The Merlot Estate 2013 comes from vineyards in the Valle de Curicó, where the regional climate features rainy winters and dry summers. The vineyard is planted in the deep clay-loam soils of our Valle Curicó terroir. The vertically trained, drip-irrigated vines allow the winery to maintain strict control in the vineyard to produce low, balanced yields.

VINTAGE

The 2012-2013 season was cold, especially in the northern areas, with rainfall in the spring and a lower total heat summation recorded in all areas. Compared to last season, both the maximum and minimum average temperatures were lower between October and January; February was warmer than the historic records, and there was more precipitation during the whole period. This resulted in red wines of vivid colors, nice acidity, moderate alcohol content and good fruit intensity.

VINIFICATION

The grapes were handpicked in April and taken to the winery, where they were destemmed, crushed, and deposited in stainless steel tanks to ferment. Fermentation was carried out at 26°–28°C (79°–82°F), with two pumpovers daily. Contact with the skins during post-fermentation maceration lasted 10 to 25 days, depending on the development of each individual batch. The wine was aged in a mixture of French and American barrels for 8 months, to round out the wine and add a sweet sensation to the palate. The final blend was then fined, stabilized, and lightly filtered before bottling.

“Of a bright ruby-red color, our 2013 Merlot Estate Series shows aromas and flavours of red fruits, such as strawberries and cherries, along with balsamic notes of bay leaf, spicy hints of pepper, all framed by toasted shades of mocha and bitter-sweet chocolate. On the palate it has a fresh acidity, a soft texture and a persistent ending.”

– Winery Tasting Note

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