

Tabalí Talinay Vineyard Chardonnay



Producer: Viña Tabalí
Winemaker: Felipe Muller
Country of Origin: Chile
Region of Origin: Limari Valley
Grapes: Chardonnay 100%
ABV: 13.5%
Case Size: 6x75cl
Vintage: 2014
Suitable For: Vegetarians and Vegans
Closure Type: Cork



The One-Liner

Burgundian in style, this is pure and precise and without doubt, one of Chile's best Chardonnays.

Tasting Note

The nose shows the unique mineral character of the Talinay terroir along with citrus and tropical fruit notes. Thanks to the perfect phenolic ripeness of the grapes there is balance of freshness and fullness with a boney mineral character from the Talinay chalk. The wine finishes with a sappy tang reminiscent of a ripe Chablis.

Producer Details

Situated in one of the northernmost vineyard regions in Chile, approaching the edge of the Atacama Desert, Tabalí commands a unique location in the heart of the Limarí Valley. The local 'Camanchaca' fog blankets the Limarí area each morning and afternoon coastal breezes bring cool air which moderates the ripening of the grapes. The result is a range of truly distinctive wines with elegance, restraint and minerality. The dynamic young team lead by Felipe Muller (winemaker) and Hector Rojas (viticulturalist) have already scooped a cabinet full of the wine world's most prestigious trophies. Tabalí Chardonnay is widely regarded as one of Chile's finest but we would also single out their Syrah (IWC Gold and 2 Decanter trophy's in 2007) as one of the emerging stars from this new region, with its fine structure and peppery black olive fruit profile. Tabalí has the honour of stewardship of the Limarí Valley's most significant archaeological sites, the mystical 'Valle del Encanto' ('Enchanted Valley') which borders their vineyards. A sacred site of the ancient Molle and Diaguita culture, the many rock drawings and carved Tacita stones depict an ancient way of life. The Tabalí mask logo has been taken from one of these rock carvings, which can only be seen at certain times of day when the sun's alignment makes them magically appear. The leading Chilean newspaper El Mercurio, published an article on January 10th 2014 naming the two best winemakers of Chile. In the article, Felipe Müller is honoured for his ability to understand Tabalí's distinctive terroir and use it to create remarkable wines, unique for Chile. According to the newspaper: "Today, more than ever, the wines of Tabalí are among the best wines produced in Chile". For his achievement Felipe Müller is nicknamed "The Interpreter" and chosen as "Best Young Winemaker".

In The Vineyard

The vineyards are located just 12 km from the Pacific Ocean, hidden away in a small valley of Limarí. This unique location provides truly excellent conditions for cool climate viticulture and is the only vineyard site in Chile to be planted over pure chalky limestone soil – producing elegant and refined wines. The constant breeze that drifts from the ocean and over the vines creates the coolest vineyards in Limarí. Maximum average temperatures in the summer months never go above 23.5°C so the harvest is 2-3 weeks later than other Chilean coastal regions. The small grapes were gently ripened by the cool summer days,

Food Recommendations

Roast chicken, creamy fish and pasta dishes.

freshened by the coastal breeze and "irrigated" by the local autumn mist, the famous "Camanchaca". Proximity to the Atacama desert means that the vineyard is virtually rot and disease free.

In The Winery

The fruit was hand picked in April and underwent a careful bunch selection by the viticulture team. Fermentation took place in French oak barrels. The wine was then aged for 11 months with daily batonage in order to enhance the volume, quality and character of the wine.

Awards & Press

2013 Vintage: Sommelier Wine Awards 2015 - Bronze.

2012 Vintage: Sommelier Wine Awards 2014 - Bronze

2011 Vintage: IWC 2013 - Bronze

2010 Vintage: Decanter World Wine Awards 2012 - Bronze

2013 Vintage: "A mineral Chardonnay with refreshing fruit, soft herbal notes, a hint of sweet spices and lovely minerality. Clean, fresh and restrained. Brave, hands-off winemaking giving nice purity." 90+ Points. Decanter, Oct 2015

2013 Vintage: "On the slopes of a coastal range, the Talinay vineyard is bathed by Pacific breezes, its soils chalky and poor in nutrients. All this is expressed in freshness, an almost saline minerality and with a strong presence on the palate. A Chardonnay that seems to be made of rocks instead of grapes." Patricio Tapia - My Top Three. Decanter, Oct 2015

2013 Vintage: "'Lean and elegant, with freshness and good texture,' began team leader Laura Rhys MS, continuing: 'A little oaky, but well integrated in a cooler-climate style.'" Sommelier Wine Awards 2015, Judges Comments

2013 Vintage: "Lime cordial nose and very ripe citrus and apricot fruit, Melon notes on the palate and reasonably intense broad flavours. A good expression of Chardonnay with excellent oak balance." Decanter Magazine - March 2015. Best Chardonnays in the world (outside Burgundy).

2010 Vintage: "'Some real classic Chardonnay characteristics, with complex aromas. The palate finishes with a saline minerality,' Richard Knight. 'This is a very rich wine, yet is very dry on the finish. A well-made wine, with good fruit, acidity and oak' Bernie Malloy." Imbibe magazine, May/June 2013

2010 Vintage: "Elegant lemon and mineral palate with toffee, nuts and flinty notes." Decanter magazine, October 2012