

Cousiño-Macul Dama de Plata Cabernet Sauvignon Maipo Valley Chile 2018

Selected by: Master Sommelier Evan Goldstein, Master Sommelier Madeline Triffon, and Master Sommelier Tim Gaiser



Final Deductions

VINTAGE 2018

GRAPE Cabernet Sauvignon/
Blend

GEOGRAPHY Not Europe

COUNTRY Chile

LARGER REGION Central Valley

SMALLER REGION Maipo

Rationale

With a wine history going back to the Spanish conquistadores of the 16th century, this area changed when Bordeaux grapes--Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon--were imported from France in the 19th century. Situated not far from the capital of Santiago in Chile, Maipo Valley is where the first commercial vineyards in the country were planted. Maipo is predominantly a red wine region, producing some of the finest Cabernet Sauvignon in Chile. Although it is not one of Chile's largest wine regions, its proximity to the capital and the quality reds have made it a famous sub-region globally.

The valley is divided into three growing areas: Alto Maipo, with its alluvial gravel soil, produces some of the country's best Cabernet. The Entre Cordilleras area is characterized by its location--equidistant between Chile's Coastal Mountains and the Andes. The Pacific Maipo, due to its proximity to the Pacific Ocean, is known for producing wine varieties like Sauvignon Blanc.

Maipo's rich, fruit-driven Cabernet Sauvignon is undoubtedly its most celebrated wine style, displaying a balance of fruitiness (Black cherry, plum, red currant), structure, with notes of dark chocolate, pepper, fennel/licorice and rich dark earth.

Founded in 1856, Cousiño-Macul is the only 19th-century winery in Chile that remains in the hands of the original founding family, which is now in its seventh generation. All Cousiño-Macul reserve wines are estate-grown, vinted, and bottled. 100% of this wine comes from a specific vineyard in Alto Maipo's Buin, specially managed and dedicated to the best Cabernet Sauvignon of the winery.

Sight

BRIGHTNESS Day Bright

CLARITY Clear

COLOR DEPTH Medium

COLOR Ruby

RIM VARIATION Pink
Stained Tears: Low

Structure

RESIDUAL SUGAR Dry

ACID Med+

ALCOHOL Med+

TANNIN Med+

TEXTURE Phenolic / Astringent

FINISH Long

COMPLEXITY Med+

Aroma & Taste

RED FRUIT Strawberry • Red / Sour Cherry • Red Plum *Condition: Fresh, Ripe*

BLACK FRUIT Black Plum • Black Raspberry • Black Cherry *Condition: Fresh, Ripe*

FLORAL Lavender • Violet *Condition: Fresh*

GREEN VEGETABLE Green Peppers • Dark Leafy Greens • Jalapeño

OTHER VEGETABLE Rhubarb • Beet / Beet Root • Cola Nut • Mushrooms (Brown)

HERBAL Thyme • Tobacco Leaf • Laurel / Bay Leaf • Tea Leaf / Bergamot

OTHER SPICES Star Anise • Green Peppercorn • Licorice (Black) • Licorice (Red)

ORGANIC EARTH Turned Dirt / Potting Soil

ANIMAL Leather

OAK AGING Yes *Oak Intensity: Medium*

OAK INFLUENCE Smoke • Coffee / Bean • Baking Spice • Cinnamon

OXIDATION/NUTTINESS Pistachio • Walnut