Sauzal Vineyard
Empedrado, Maule Valley
Carignan / Garnacha / Mataró
2o16
- Lot 75

Broad shouldered, well-braced. Perfume and earth.

Alcohol: 13,7
pH 3,32
Acidez: 7,13
Azúcar residual: 1,82
(S02 8)

1901 bottles filled

3 barrels Carignan
2 barrels Garnacha
1 barrel Mataró

The Vineyard:
- very very old - undocumented
- 1.5 hectares
- old bush-head vines
- granitic soils
- 1,2 kg per plant / 2,5oo - kgs per hectare
- on the Coastal Range of mountains (not the Andes) much older and more importantly much slower to cool than the Andes ie crystals granite quartz …

In a nutshell:

- 1 of 11 wines we make from single parcels
- Grower / partner Nivaldo Morales (and his wife Otelia!)
- Ancestral farming cultivating vineyard by hand and horse
- Sauzal Vineyard is found on the Coastal Range of mountains (much older and slower to cool than the Andes) Soils are granitic and sub-soils have cracked granite that allow roots to get deep into cracks.
- Vineyard is on the sides of a gully and thus fresher due to less early morning and late afternoon sunshine.
- A tribute to the resilience of the ploughmen farmers of the Maule who have been

stewards of the vines since colonial times.

Characterístics of this Vintage:

- Maule in 2016 was an almost optimal year. What began with worries about the lack of rainfall turned into a terrific quality fruit. On our parcels specifically improvements with control of mildew on the Carignan (Oidio) made for improvements which offset less rain falling which should have led to lower yields in the secano. If one manages parcel by parcel, culivating the soil properly, the rains of any given year do not have the heightened pendulum effect many asume they should.
- In 2o15 we began a our transition from limited experiments with whole stems in fermentation lagars to a broader production using this technique-- less pisoneo more raqui. Whilst 2015 should be the year to taste this change, we think many will see 2016 as the watershed year.

Denominación de Origen: Sauzal / Empedrado / Maule Valley (Secano Interior)

Color: Heaps

Type: Broad shouldered, well-braced. Perfume and earth.

Tipo de uva: Carignan, Garnacha & Mataró field-blend

Características de los viñedos:
Carignan aprox 75 yrs
Garnacha & Mataro grafted on roots of Pais 150 yrs +

Elaboración:

- Ancestral farming by hand and horse
- Naturally fermented with native yeasts
- Open top fermenters. Caps were punched down by hand. Pressing manual.
- Small portion was made with whole stems stomped with clean feet—this part was more tannic and with higher VA and complemented the rest of the barrels.
- Aged in barrels over two winters— barrels third use or more.
- Yeasts native (we add Sauzal wine from previous vintage to a pie de cuba)
- No temp control (besides opening closing windows) open tank, no nada
- Pinch of sulfites after Malolactic that normally finishes a full 7 months after harvest with next summer´s heat

Crianza:

- Aged in barrels over two winters— barrels third use or more.
- various cooperages (Sylvain, Berger, Nadalie – Alliers Noisette toast, and some Burgundy barrels

¿Cuántos lotes hay de este vino? (en caso de haber más de uno, por favor, explique cómo se manejan los diferentes lotes)

- Lot made from a small single parcel with ancestral farming (there was no monkey business nor tweaking with other bits we had around bodega from other parcels)
- When we find a barrel marks the blend too much we reserve the right to remove it before we blend for bottling. (We store these barrels for a 3rd and or 4th winter in oldest barrels and eventually include in Perverso our solera blend second wine.

- The 75th wine we have bottled produced since 2001 it is marked Lot # 75

Tasting Notes

House note:

Tantalizing aromas of blueberries, violets, orange peel, raspberry leaf and aniseed with a touch of aromatic herbs that provide freshness. The palate is electric, with pulsing acidity, ultra-fine tannins and very good length. Both rustic and elegant, wild and subtle. It has precision, elegance, balance and life. Shows no alcohol nor wood. A fresh, Mediterranean blend from a vineyard that was forgotten, revived, regenertaed and today shows what the Maule is capable of.

Ageability

2016 vintage is rather well braced and will age 10-15 years, but the wine is approachable today with proper decanting.

Best drinking

2020-2035 (RP 2018-2028)

Critics Notes

Robert Parker's Wine Advocate # 239

Sauzal Vineyard Maule Valley Carignan, Garnacha & Mataró Field-blend 2016 - Lot # 75 – 95 Pts

As with other wines where I had the chance to taste the 2015 and 2016 versions side by side, the 2016 Sauzal Vineyard is more elegant and has more finesse and a nice texture, and even if the tannins are there, the quality is amazing. 2016 was not an easy year; it was challenging, but they picked these grapes two days before the rain. It's very fresh, and analytically, it has a lot of acidity. This is just great. 1,901 bottles were filled in November 2017. It's lot #75. – Luis Gutierrez

Notes on Previous Vintages from this parcel

Descorchados 2017 Patricio Tapia

Sauzal Vineyard Carignan/Garnacha/Mataró Field Blend 2015 Lot #65 – 95 Pts

Sauzal Vineyard Lot 65 Carignan, Garnacha, Mataró 2015 De un viejo viñedo de carignan en la zona de Sauzal, en donde también había país que se ha injertado con garnacha y monastrell o mataró, este es una verdadera mezcla mediterránea y funciona como tal. Llena de notas florales, a frutas negras intensas, y una acidez que marca los contornos de la lengua y una profundidad deliciosa. Es un vino tremendo en porte, pero a la vez tremendo en frescor. Déjenlo en la cava por unos 2 a 3 años, cuando menos.

Descorchados 2017 Patricio Tapia

Sauzal Vineyard Carignan/Garnacha/Mataró Field Blend 2014 Lot #55 – 95 Pts

De aromas un tanto más maduros y algunos leves torrados. La boca es recia y jugosísima, ideal para esos cerdos cocidos a la llama por horas y horas.

Robert Parker's Wine Advocate # 239

Sauzal Vineyard Maule Valley Carignan, Garnacha & Mataró Field-blend 2015 - Lot # 65 – 93+ Pts

A field blend of Carignan, Garnacha and Mataró, the 2015 Sauzal Vineyard is produced with grapes from the vineyard of Nivaldo Morales in the village of Sauzal. It's an expressive, powerful, very Mediterranean vintage for this wine. This has quite a lot of other grapes, but the imprint of the Cariñena seems to be quite strong. This lot #65 was put into 1,908 bottles in November 2016.

Robert Parker's Wine Advocate # 23o

Sauzal Vineyard Maule Valley Carignan, Garnacha & Mataró Field-blend 2014 - Lot # 55 – 93 Pts

The 2014 Sauzal Vineyard is also a field blend of Carignan, Garnacha and Mataró (Monastrell) from the vineyard of Nivaldo Morales in Sauzal on degraded granite soils that allow roots to get deep into cracks. Tannins in 2015 were a little bit firmer than normal and the wines in general a little denser. Nivaldo cultivates his vineyards in an ancestral way, by hand and horse. A small portion of the grapes were kept with whole stems and stomped by feet and resulted in more tannic and slightly higher volatile acidity that complemented the rest of the barrels. It's more powerful, with flowers, spices and something earthy, resinous even. The palate is medium to full-bodied with balance in a slightly XL way, lifted by great acidity. 1,694 bottles were produced from three barrels of Carignan, two of Garnacha and one of Mataró. It was bottled in November 2015. **Drink 2017–2027 - Luis Gutierrez**

James Suckling .com May 25th 2017

Sauzal Vineyard Maule Valley Carignan, Garnacha & Mataró Field-blend 2014 - Lot # 55 – 93 Pts

Soulful red with juicy and earth with meat and berry. Full body and beautiful. Long and flavorful. Juicy and intense.

Robert Parker's Wine Advocate #222 Dec 2015

Sauzal Vineyard Carignan/Garnacha/Mataró Field Blend 2013 Lot #45 – 94 Pts

I visited an amazing vineyard from a grower called Nivaldo Morales with Derek Mossman, an old vineyard planted mostly with País and some Carignan, and some País vines were regrafted to Garnacha, Mataró (Monastrell) and Garnacha (Grenache). The 2013 Lot #45 Carignan Garnacha Mataró Field Blend is sourced from that Sauzal vineyard in the Maule Valley. A very similar wine is also sold in the United Kingdom as The Ploughmen. The nose is fresh and has tantalizing aromas of blueberries, violets, orange peel, raspberry leaf and aniseed with a touch of aromatic herbs that provide freshness. The palate is electric, with citric acidity, ultra-fine tannins and very good length. This is both rustic and elegant, wild and subtle. None of these wines show any alcohol or wood. This is a superb, fresh, Mediterranean blend that shows what the Maule is capable of. Bravo! Around 2,500 bottles were produced. **Drink 2015 – 2021 Luis Gutierrez**

Descorchados 2016 Patricio Tapia

LOT # 45 SAUZAL VINEYARD Carignan, Garnacha, Mataró 2013 Dominado por una acidez deliciosa, este tinto se mueve con nervio por la boca, como su tuviera su propia luz. Delicioso. **93 pts Patricio Tapia**

Each parcel / farm has a working link for pictures of the recent works and shots throughout the year. Not all but many are available in high-res if you send us which particular image you need.

See :

https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/gwcosauzalvineyard/

Sauzal Vineyard
Empedrado, Maule Valley
-35.703678, -72.115787

Story of Sauzal Vineyard :

The face of our grower Nivaldo Morales is well known in the wine world today but a decade ago no one recognised.

We met Nivaldo in 2010 after the earthquake in 2010 we developed a boot strapping programme to get small farmers back on their feet by making fine wine from their unrecognised / un_____ Carignan.

has been a tremendous partner grower over the years.

Special bottling for Bibendum made with en primeur funding provided by Bibendum ethical trading fund

- Part of a boot strapping programme developed by GWCo after the quake in 2010
- Grower / partner Nivaldo Morales

1 - Vineyard positioned where in Chile,

Google Lat Long + Elevation

2 - The Vineyard:
Plant age
Size Hect
terroir
Soil
Yield
quantity total of this vineyard
harvest per plant

The Vineyard:
- 116 yrs old
- 2 Hectares (8 Hectares in total— we sell the rest of the fruit)
- old-bush head vines (see story)
- Alluvial soils, round stones at 40-50 cm
- 3rd alluvial terrace of above the Achibueno River (see map)
- 1,2 kg per plant / < 3,5oo kgs per hectare

Alluvial soils, round stones at 40-50 cm
3rd alluvial terrace of above the Achibueno River
1,2 kg per plant / < 3,5oo kgs per hectare

? style ?

story behind,

quantity of bottle,

your taste impression,

House note

Ageability of the wine

When to drink best,

Story

Garage
WINE CO.