

HAWKSHEAD WINES – FOCUS OFFER

VINA VENTISQUERO, CHILE

Vina Ventisquero began making wine in 2000 and is led by a young, creative team who give the winery a boutique and innovative outlook. Compared with the giants of the Chilean wine industry Ventisquero is a small winery and their aim is to create distinctive, high quality wines exclusively from their own vineyards in the Casablanca, Colchagua and Maipo valleys.



As part of this they have undertaken extensive research to understand their Chilean terroir and have an almost fanatical commitment to sustainability and care of the environment. For example, the use of gravity flow in the winery reduces the amount of electricity needed for pumping, water consumption is kept to a minimum and the water that is used is treated on site and then re-used for vineyard irrigation. In the vineyards, vines have been planted around existing trees to preserve habitat, though the downside is the need to install special nets to prevent rabbits devouring the grapes!

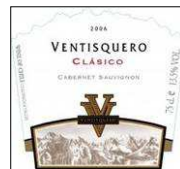


There is a team of three winemakers, led by Felipe Tosso (pictured left) and assisted by the renowned John Duval, the winemaker for Penfolds Grange until his retirement in 2002. This has allowed the winery to produce a wide range of wines split into four quality levels, Clasico, Reserva, Queulat or Gran Reserva and Grey. The state-of-the-art winery allows the wines to be handled as delicately as possible and each wine is kept separate in tank or barrel to preserve its distinctive character. We were impressed by the quality and individuality of the wines and especially the balance between ripe fruit and structure. The reds in particular are not the simple, obvious wines that are so typical of Chile, but have a depth and complexity that gradually reveals itself through the course of a bottle.

These are interesting and exciting wines that we are delighted to feature in this focus. There is a wide range of styles and price points and we are offering free delivery on orders containing at least 12 bottles of these wines. We also have six-bottle sampler cases, one for white wines, the other red discounted by £5 each. If you take two sampler cases you get free delivery as well, giving a saving of up to £17. So why not take advantage and treat yourself to some rather special wines?

Clasico Range

This is Ventisquero's entry level range with the wines made with grapes from all the winery's vineyards. Since these are only situated in premium regions the resulting blends provide excellent quality at this price point.



CL1100W Ventisquero Clasico Unoaked Chardonnay 2010, Central Valley 13%

£6.99

Light straw colour. Aromas of peach, apricot and minerals with a hint of vanilla spice. Ripe stone fruit flavours with mineral acidity and notes of butterscotch. Good weight and balance with plenty of crisp flavour without appearing fat or over-ripe. An impressive wine, particularly at this price. Drink to 2013

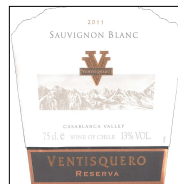
CL1119R Ventisquero Clasico Cabernet Sauvignon 2009, Central Valley 13.5%

£6.99

Attractive aromas of red cherry, cassis and tobacco leaf. Silky, savoury berry fruit flavours with notes of plum, pepper and vanilla spice. Good concentration and intensity whilst retaining structure, balance and elegance. A good value wine to enjoy now or keep to 2013.

Reserva Range

With the Reserva range Ventisquero move from multi-regional blends to wines from a specific area. This results in an increased level of typicity in addition to the expected improvement in power and complexity. These are wines that provide the very best combination of character, quality and value.



CLI490W Ventisquero Reserva Pinot Grigio 2010, Lolol Valley 13% £8.49

Ventisquero have just a small planting of Pinot Grigio vines in the Lolol Valley, a side valley off the Colchagua river and technically within the Colchagua appellation. We felt the style and flavour was more akin to Pinot Gris than Pinot Grigio, but it seems the US market prefers the Grigio name. Light straw colour and vibrant aromas of melon, guava, whitecurrant and lemon grass. Crisp stone fruit intensity with rounded mouth-feel and zesty finish. Good balance with a touch of spice and flinty minerality. This is more of a fuller-bodied Pinot Gris style than the usual Grigio. Drink now to 2013.

CLI481W Ventisquero Reserva Sauvignon Blanc 2011, Casablanca Valley 13% £8.49

The Casablanca Valley has the climate that really suits Sauvignon Blanc, producing a style midway between that of the Loire and New Zealand's Marlborough. The grapes for this wine were fermented at a closely controlled 13-15deg°C with batonnage or lees stirring to give increased flavour and complexity. Pale straw colour and lively gooseberry and cut grass aromas with hints of currant leaf. These characters are mirrored on the palate balanced by finely integrated acidity and subtle mineral notes. Pure clean and refreshing with good, measured intensity and lingering herbaceous finish. To 2015

CLI518R Ventisquero Reserva Merlot 2008, Maipo Valley 14% £8.49

Merlot is the speciality of the Maipo Valley and this wine shows why. Full-bodied with good structure, two thirds of the wine spent 10 months in French oak barrels. Ruby-red colour with complex aromas of ripe plums, black pepper, cinnamon, clove and a hint of vanilla. Lovely mouthfeel with good freshness and flavours of black cherries, plum, chocolate and long, spicy finish. Enjoy through to 2014.

CL0838R Ventisquero Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon 2008, Colchagua Valley 14% £8.49

There is 15% Syrah included in this Cabernet for additional aromatic complexity. Both varieties are grown on warmer sites, lower down the valley sides. A third of the wine was left unoaked and the remainder aged 10 months in French barriques. Damson, black cherry and cassis aromas with notes of exotic spices. Initially shows ripe berry fruit flavours on the palate with additional secondary characters emerge, suggesting mocha, woodsmoke and tobacco leaf on airing. Medium to full-bodied with plenty of ripe fleshy fruit, gentle savoury tannins and good freshness. An impressive wine to enjoy to 2015.

Gran Reserva Range - Queulat

Though Felipe Tosso is the head winemaker, the Queulat (pronounced kay-oo-lat) Single Vineyard wines are the creation and responsibility of his colleague Sergio Hormazabal. His intention from the beginning has been to craft wines that will compliment fine cuisine. So whereas the Grey wines are very much Chilean in style and character, the Queulat wines are more understated and European in style. The name Queulat is taken from Chile's most spectacular hanging glacier, a sight that is both dramatic and beautiful. Extensive research on terroir in Casablanca (for whites and Pinot Noir) and in the Maipo Valley (for reds) has enabled each variety to be grown in its ideal situation, with oak ageing as a backdrop for each grape's unique personality.

CL1438W Ventisquero 'Queulat' Chardonnay 2008, Casablanca Valley 13.5% £10.49

This rich, full-bodied Chardonnay was fermented in French oak barrels and then kept a further 8 months in barrel with regular stirring of the yeast lees to give additional flavour and complexity. Light gold colour with intense aromas of ripe melon, papaya, passionfruit, lime and vanilla pods. Full bodied with rich, buttery mouthfeel balanced by fresh acidity. Tropical fruit flavours, pear and mineral notes and very long, tangy finish with attractive aromatic lift. Enjoy now through to 2013.

CL0848R Ventisquero 'Queulat' Carmenere 2008, Maipo Valley 14.5% £10.49

This is a remarkable Gran Reserva that takes times to open up in the glass. Sergio Hormazabal has included 15% Syrah to give aromatic lift and an attractive spiciness and then to add further complexity the wine was aged 14 months in a mixture of French and American oak barrels. It has a deep red/black colour and damson and blackberry aromas with notes of black pepper, vanilla and soft smokey tones from oak ageing. Its rich structure and velvety tannins make it a perfect match for red meats and cheese. *'Purple; pepper; herbs, incense, lavender; blackberry; forward, easy-going, lengthy finish. 91 points'* Jay Miller, The Wine Advocate



Enjoy now to 2015

CL1508R Ventisquero 'Queulat' Pinot Noir 2008, Casablanca Valley 13.5% £10.99

Pinot Noir is something of a speciality for Ventisquero. Their vines are planted in the Casablanca Valley, a relatively cool region normally associated with white wines. Winemaker Sergio Hormazabal has focused on a ripe, accessible style with the balance and structure to permit cellaring through to 2014. Medium ruby colour and attractive raspberry, red cherry and cranberry aromas with a touch of spice. plenty of juicy summer fruit flavours with silky texture. Good ripeness and beginning to develop some complexity. Impressively smooth, elegant and attractive style.

Grey Range



The idea behind the Grey range is that of *terroir*: The grapes that make up each wine come from a specifically defined block within the vineyard, which for these two wines is Apalta in Colchagua. Compared with say Bordeaux and Burgundy these are early days in Chile's search for site specific wines but Felipe Tosso has already identified those vines that produce the best grapes year on year. Grey is his own particular project and he controls every detail of production from the working in the vineyards and selecting the fruit through to the barrel ageing and creating the final blend from amongst the best barrels. These are rare wines, unique to the combination of climate, soil and grape type that produced them. Given all this, what is even more remarkable is the price, especially when compared to recent Bordeaux vintages!

CL1457R Ventisquero Grey Merlot 2007, Apalta Vineyard, Colchagua 14.5% £11.99

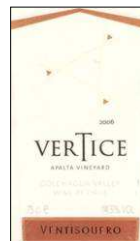
This is a serious structured wine, ripely fruited but potentially long lived. The grapes were cold soaked pre-fermentation to maximise extraction of colour and fruit expression and the final wine aged 18 months in French oak. Deep, dark cherry colour showing no sign of age. Nicely perfumed aromas of ripe plum, cherry and raspberry with a touch of vanilla oak. Initially rather restrained on the palate, after a while this opens up beautifully to reveal ripe, rounded flavours of cherry, damson, mocha, liquorice and hints of dark chocolate. Full-bodied and intensely flavoured with the powerful fruits overlaying good tannic structure and balance. Impressive ageworthy red, best decanted if opened now or keep to 2017.

CL1448R Ventisquero Grey Syrah 2008, Apalta Vineyard, Colchagua 14.5% £11.99

This Syrah comes from a small section of the Apalta vineyard with the wine aged 18 months in French oak barrels. Remarkably dark, inky purple colour with glycerine tears on swirling. Liquorice damson and black cherry aromas with notes of pepper and vanilla spice. Rounded, mouth-filling mocha and berry fruit flavours, balancing acidity and ripe, chocolatey tannins. Notes of exotic spices come through on the long finish. Tremendous extraction and concentration without being heavy and over-done. Enjoy for the bold, rich fruit or keep to 2018 for increasing complexity. Rated 90 points by Stephen Tanzer

Premium Wines

In collaboration with John Duval, Ventisquero produce three premium or icon wines, Pangea, made from Syrah, Heru, from Pinot Noir and Vertice, a blend of Carmenere and Syrah. Whilst all three have been well received by wine critics to date we have only tasted the Vertice and can very happily recommend this outstanding wine.



CL1466R Ventisquero Vertice 2006, Apalta Vineyard, Colchagua 14.5% £18.99

This is an equal blend of Carmenere and Syrah, the result of a creative partnership between John Duval and Felipe Tosso. The approach seeks to highlight the best characteristics of each variety then combine them to create something completely new. The grapes are sourced from the most elevated section of the Fundo Roblería estate in the Apalta Valley, where lot 23 for Carmenere and lot 25 for Syrah intersect at right angles of each other, each with its own distinctive terroir. Fermented and aged 18 months in French oak barriques before blending, the time in barrel is hardly noticeable amidst the rich fruit flavours of the finished wine. Deep, almost opaque garnet colour and fabulous aromas of ripe plum, blackberry, cherry kirsch, liquorice, ground pepper and a touch of treacle. Full and rich on the palate with intense berry fruit flavours, soft ripe tannins and remarkable freshness. Impressively long finish with a warm, spicy lift. Good complexity and flavour integration with plenty of body and alcohol. This vintage won a Gold medal in the Wines of Chile awards.

'The 2006 Vertice Apalta Vineyards is a glass-coating opaque purple with superb aromas of wood smoke, mineral, spice box, earth notes, and blueberry. This leads to a full-bodied, opulent wine with complex flavors, outstanding concentration. 92 points' Jay Miller, The Wine Advocate To 2020+

SIX-BOTTLE SAMPLER CASES

Our Six-Bottle Sampler Cases have a saving of £5 per case. We give Free Delivery on 12 bottles or more and so if you order two Sampler Cases you can save up to £17!

CLC008W	Ventisquero Whites Sampler Case	£49.94
2 x CL1481W	Ventisquero Reserva Sauvignon Blanc 2011, Casablanca Valley	8.49
2 x CL1490W	Ventisquero Reserva Pinot Grigio 2010, Lolo Valley	8.49
2 x CL1438W	Ventisquero Queulat Chardonnay 2008, Casablanca Valley	10.49

CLC009R	Ventisquero Reds Sampler Case	£49.94
2 x CL0838R	Ventisquero Reserva Cabernet Sauvignon 2008, Colchagua Valley	8.49
2 x CL1518R	Ventisquero Reserva Merlot 2008, Maipo Valley	8.49
2 x CL0848R	Ventisquero Queulat Carmenere, Maipo Valley	10.49