

DON MELCHOR 1994

Rating (Wine Club buying committee reported: 94)

Don Melchor was hailed the best Cabernet Sauvignon from Chile by both the Wine Spectator and Robert Parker. Named after the founder of the winery, Don Melchor de Concha y Toro, the wine has become a symbol of the best the land and the winemaker's hand can produce in Chile.

DON MELCHOR

Estate Bottled - Single Vineyard

Region: Puente Alto Vineyard, Maipo Valley, Chile

Grape Variety: Cabernet Sauvignon

Production Technique: Vines planted in 1979 are harvested by hand, and after fermentation, the wine is aged in French oak for 14 months (60% new, 40% used once). It is then bottle aged a further 12 months before release.

Description:

Color: Deep-ruby red.

Bouquet: Ripe plums, cassis, chocolate and tobacco, accompanied with notes of vanilla.

Taste: Elegant, full-bodied with mature tannins which make the wine complex and pleasant.

Alcohol Content: 13.6%

Total Acidity: 3.5 g/l

The Puente Alto Vineyard in the Maipo Valley has the perfect combination of climate and soils for producing world-class wine: the climate is ideal and predictable, and the soil is poor and gravelly to reduce yields and increase concentration naturally. After fermentation, the wine is matured in the finest French oak barriques for 14 months, followed by another year in the bottle before release.

Ripe fleshy fruit and berries lead off this highly aromatic wine. Later, the tobacco and chocolate come through and marry with the vanilla. Agreeable, mature tannins elegantly convey the best expression of the Puente Alto vines. The pleasant, long finish displays great harmony and balance.

The result is a rich, full-bodied wine with unmistakable character in the bouquet and on the finish. Drink with any hearty dish, lamb, steak, and strong cheeses.