

# Chardonnay 2015



# THE VINTAGE

Warm temperatures in spring and lower than average rainfall resulted in an early start to this challenging yet balanced 2015 vintage. The conditions produced an early harvest, with overall small to average berry sizes giving excellent flavour concentration and structure to the wine.

# THE VINEYARD

The grapes used to produce this wine come entirely from our Aconcagua Costa estate, from specific blocks with metamorphic rock, specifically slate. The temperature differences in this cold climate location and the uniqueness of its soils and elevations enable each small block to ripen at its own pace. Because of its proximity to the cold Pacific Ocean and its well-drained soils with abundant slate, this vineyard gives rise to Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Syrah with exceptional complexity, depth, minerality and natural acidity.

#### WINEMAKING

The grapes were hand-picked on the morning to ensure the fruit was cool when it reached the winery. All of the fruit was pressed whole-cluster, and the juice was clarified by cold decanting, without the use of enzymes, before being racked to French oak barrels to be fermented with native yeasts. To preserve the fresh character of its origin, just 50% of the blend underwent malolactic fermentation. The wine was aged for 11 months in 400-litre French oak barrels, 15% new.

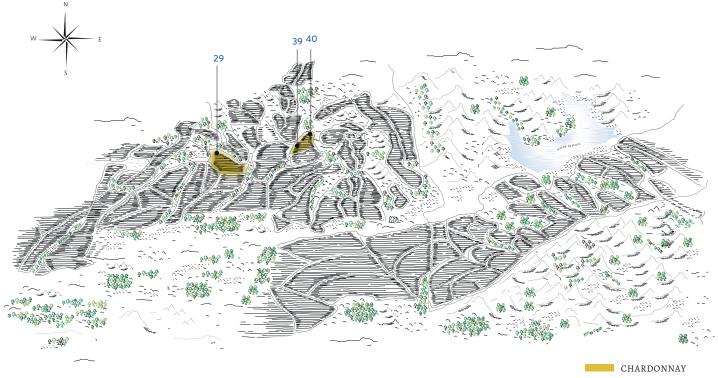
#### THE WINE

"Light straw colour. Expressive aromas of citrus zest and lime-blossom are highlighted by honeysuckle and subtle notes of fine pastries. The palate is heightened by a compelling, site-specific coastal minerality, textural salinity, and precise acidity that expresses its origin. This a structured wine that shows balance, tension and precision from start to finish, something unique to Aconcagua Costa." FRANCISCO BAETTIG, TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

# **TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

Composition: 100% Chardonnay Alcohol: 13% pH: 3.12 Residual sugar: 1.14 g/L Total acidity: 8.9 g/L Ageing: 11 months in French oak barrels, 15% new

## ACONCAGUA COSTA - ESTATE MAP - CHARDONNAY PLOTS -



## PLOT 29 (PEDREGAL NORTE) 3.2 ha

Located halfway up an east-facing slope, with a gentle to steep rise.

The substrate is a metamorphic rock of volcanic origin (basalt and andesite). The soil is coarse-grained, with a clay-loam texture.

### PLOT 39 (HORNO CHICO) 1 ha

Located on a flatter, southwest-facing section halfway up the hillside, with a slope ranging from gentle to steep. The substrate is a metamorphic rock of volcanic origin (basalt and andesite). On the upper part of the slope, the soils are very coarse and clay-textured, while the midsection has shallow soils with a loamy texture and the lowest part features coarse soils with a clay-loam texture.

#### PLOT 40 (HORNO GRANDE) 0.7 ha

This block is located halfway up the hillside facing east and features a gentle to steep slope.

The substrate is composed of metamorphic rock of volcanic origin (basalt and andesite). On the upper slope, the soils are very coarse with a clay texture; those on the middle slope are very shallow and loamy; and the soils on the lower slope are coarse and alkaline, with a silty-clay-loam texture.

