

VIÑA  
**MAQUIS**  
UNIQUE EXPRESSION BETWEEN TWO RIVERS

**VIÑA MAQUIS: 100TH ANNIVERSARY**

Founded December 22, 1916



Colchagua Valley, Chile. It's early in the morning and Ricardo Rivadeneira, Managing Director and fourth generation owning Viña Maquis, is taking his children to school before he goes to work in the vineyards. He is thinking about the story of Maquis and a lunch he had with the baroness Phillipine de Rotschild in Chile a few years back. That day, the baroness was speaking about the story of her vineyard and the difficulties she faced, finishing her thoughts saying, "Making wine is actually a quite simple business. Only the first 200 years are difficult." Ricardo always smiles when he recalls that story. He likes it because it expresses his vision of Maquis. They are in it for the long run.



Now, in 2016, the Maquis estate celebrates 100 years of ownership by Ricardo and his family. This is actually quite unusual for wineries in Chile. It all started in the 16th century, when Spanish conquerors registered the first vineyard plantation in the Colchagua Valley in the place where now Maquis is settled. During the 18th century, the vineyards were acquired by the Jesuit Order, a religious congregation of the Catholic church, probably to produce the sacred wine for the holy mass. Later, by the end of the 19th century, Federico Errázuriz Zañartu inherited the property, and Federico Errázuriz Echaurren after him, both former presidents of Chile.



Early in 1916, José María Hurtado Larraín bought the place and started planning the construction of the cellar. His engineer son, Ignacio Hurtado, helped him with an innovative design, allowing for the production of many outstanding wines, often based on the elegant Cabernet Franc grape. Since the beginning, José María Hurtado understood that creating high quality wines was a long-term project, emphasized by their 60-year bank loan! The endeavor survived the economic crisis between the two World Wars and the partial expropriation of the land in the 70s. As recently as 1995, the Hurtado Vicuña family acquired back most of those plots, reuniting the Maquis estate, and replanting Malbec, Petit Verdot, Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Carménère and Cabernet Franc.



Recently, always keeping in mind the long-term project, the family recruited important consultants such as the viticulturist and winemaker Xavier Choné and master blenders, Jacques and Eric Boissenot, to further improve the quality of the wines. Relatively quickly, the Maquis wines began receiving impressive accolades from the world wine press such as the 94 points in the Wine & Spirits Magazine awarded to 2010 Maquis Lien. Maquis "Franco" Cabernet Franc has been recognized three years in a row as the finest Cabernet Franc in Chile by Descorchados Wine Guide, and the Wine Advocate gave 93 points to Maquis Franco 2010 and 2011.



One hundred years have passed since Maquis was founded. As Ricardo Rivadeneira likes to say, "to obtain the finest quality in the right place you just need passion, talent, hard work... and time."



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