

NEW Chile and Argentina Report April 2019

GREAT PRESS

JAMES SUCKLING.COM 

James Suckling is an American journalist and wine critic with over three decades of experience. Prior to starting his website, JamesSuckling.com, he was the Senior Editor and European Bureau Chief, Wine Spectator.



■ CHILE REPORT

"Chilean viticulturists are pushing innovation to the limits and some of the highest-rated wines in their history are being released on the market. And they are joining the ranks of some of the best of the world, from balanced and structured cabernet sauvignons to subtle yet flavorful syrahs and pinot noirs."

Apaltagua Envero Carmenere 2017, 92 points

An impressive carmenere with the more usual peppercorn character cast across dark licorice, peppermint, dark plums and cherries. Full-bodied with ripe and round tannins.

Apaltagua Coleccion Pinot Noir 2016, Score 91

Fresh and lively syrah with dried-strawberry and orange undertones. Medium body, firm tannins and a juicy finish.

Gillmore Vigno Carignan Old Vines 2015, Score 94

I love the herbal complexity to this on the nose with dried rose petals, lilacs and sage. Very integrated on the palate with red fruit, rolling through medium chewy tannins and painting a delicate but complex picture.

Gillmore Mariposa 2016, 92 points

Fruity cherries, dried strawberries and cranberry compote. This attractive fruit character meets with juicy tannins and bright acidity that make this very drinkable and enjoyable. Lovely tension between fruit and acidity. A blend of 50 per cent merlot and 50 per cent syrah.

Gillmore País Rosé 2018, 89 points

A slightly lifted nose with some cranberry tea, citrus and orange blossom. Light body, intense acidity and a fruity finish.

Maquis Viola 2014, 92 points

Redcurrant-jelly, blackcurrant-pastille and dried-herb aromas, there's a nice tannin structure with a long, crisp and fresh finish.

Maquis Lien 2014, 91 points

A blend of cabernet franc, carmenere, syrah and petit verdot with dark berries, blueberries and walnuts. Medium body. Smooth.

Maquis Cabernet Sauvignon 2016, 90 points

Herbal and leafy array of cassis and redcurrants that offer a fresh and crunchy texture in the mouth.

■ CHILE REPORT cont'd

Calcu FUTA Cabernet Sauvignon 2015, 93 points

This is a rich and composed cabernet with a wealth of cassis and dark plums, leading to a layered palate that builds the fruit in focused style.

Calcu Cabernet Sauvignon 2016, 91 points

Freshly baked berry-pastry aromas with a wealth of ripe, fleshy plums on the palate here. The tannins are quite fresh and nicely defined.

Calcu GRAN RESERVA Cab Sauvignon 2016, 90 points

An array of blueberry and cassis with a fine and persistently fresh palate that carries crunchy dark-cherry and berry flavors.

Calcu Carmenere 2016, 90 points

An attractive coffee-bean note, as well as maturing plum and cranberries, give this some real character. On the palate this is quite cool and dry.

Albamar Pinot Noir 2018, 91 points

Aromas of cranberries and hints of lemon follow through to medium body. Clean and easy with a fresh finish.

■ ARGENTINA REPORT

"We looked for wines in our tasting that clearly communicate the provenance and quality of Argentina. The fact that it doesn't seem to matter what the grape type is makes it all the more exciting. This strong personality is the core of what makes Argentine wines so satisfying and fun to drink."

Ricardo Santos Semillón 2018, 91 points

A citrusy semillon with just a hint of gooseberry, then a really attractive interplay of waxy, creamy character with lively acidity, the finish long and dry. A flexible food-wine.

Funckenhausen Cabernet Sauvignon 2017, 91 points

Very fresh and focused with blueberry and currant aromas and flavors. Medium-bodied, balanced and refined. Pretty and satisfying. *One-liter bottle.*

Tercos Malbec 2017, 90 points

Very fresh, brambly red and purple berries lead to a fresh palate that has a juicy and alluring texture.

Tercos Torrontes 2018, 89 points

Smoke, green apples and lemons on the nose and the sleek, crisp palate. The finish is like biting into a green apple. Drink now. Screw cap.

Aniello Chardonnay Rio Negro 006 2018, 89 points

A lot of toasted white-bread character in the nose with a hint of char. The palate is rather creamy and quite elegant... Drink now. Screw cap.

