Roberto Henriquez

Pais vines embody the culture, history, tradition and character of the Chilean terroir, and they are a driving force for the journey into winemaking for Roberto Henriquez.

Roberto Henriquez studied agronomy and enology at the University of Concepción. From there, he travelled and worked with winemakers in Canada, South Africa and finally in the Loire Valley with Rene Mosse. Rene had a profound effect on Roberto’s perspective on winemaking and his progression into organic and biodynamic farming. Roberto, originally from Concepción, returned home after his time in abroad to begin making his own wine. Returning to the traditional Pipeño methods of the original winemakers of Chile felt intuitive to the winemaking style he had adopted. The rest of his story to present is pure progression to the pursuit of the purest wines in a true Chilean context.

His vineyards were personally and carefully selected. Working with long term fermage agreements, he farms all the land himself (with the help of farming animals). To the north, in Itata, he is working with a vineyard of old vine Semillon and blends that with Corinto (aka Chasselas) and Muscat d’Alejandria producing an orange style wine. A little further south, in Bio Bio, he is farming Pais, from which he makes the Pipeño and the Santa Cruz de Coya.

Rivera del Notro

Blanco

Varietal/Blend: 32% Moscatel / 32% Corinto / 34% Semillón
Farming Practices: organic
Soil: granitic
Vine Training: bush
Harvest Technique: by hand
Year Vines Were Planted: 60-100+ year old vines
Yeast: ambient
Fermentation: de-stemmed / gentle crushing / wild ferment with punch-downs (no pump-overs) / no unnatural temperature control / 1 to 3 week fermentation / at dryness the free-run is separated and the skins are pressed
Maturation: 3 months on skins / 80% stainless steel / 20% renewed barrel
Sulfur: total 30mg/L // small amount added at bottling
Vegan: yes
Alcohol: 12.4%
Fined: no
Filtered: no
Country: Chile
Region: Itata Valley
Subregion: Tomé – Coelemu
Vineyard: personal vineyards and regional producers
Vineyard Size: 1 ha.
Production #s: 8,000 bottles

This blend is made with three traditional varieties from the coastal area of the Itata valley. Corinto is harvested first (earliest to ripen) then Muscat, then Semillon, last. Corinto is the same variety as Chasselas, and it is known for a higher acidity and minerality but with hints of bacon fat and pineapple. Semillon has a sense of cucumber, off but how it grows here. The varietals are fermented separately, then blended. The final wine has a floral and spicy character.

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