

LA DESPENSA

Boutique

WINERY



La Despensa Wines



Winemaker Matt Ridgway



Vineyards of La Despensa

Key Facts

Year Established

2016

Hectares

4.5

Grapes grown

Cabernet Sauvignon, Cinsault, Grenache, Marselan, Mourvedre, Pais, Sangiovese, Syrah, Marsanne, Roussane, Viognier.

Certifications

N/A

Condor Portfolio

4 wines

Producer

La Despensa Wines from Chile's Colchagua Valley is owned, organically-farmed and operated by Matt Ridgway, originally from Dorset, and his Chilean wife Ana. La Despensa is focused on varieties that are not what you'd typically expect from Chile, such as the traditional Rhône grapes of Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre and Cinsault. They also offer a rare example from Chile of Italy's signature grape Sangiovese and even rarer and very old-vine Pais from Colchagua, where there are just 50 or so hectares left of these ancient vines in the entire valley. La Despensa produces high-quality, fresh, unoaked and deliciously drinkable wines that invite a second glass.

Winemaker

The accidental winemaker! Matt never wanted to make wine. He never wanted to own a vineyard either. But life goes where it wants to and somehow he ended up finding himself in a job he feels he was always meant to do. After an idyllic childhood in Dorset, Matt's global adventures included selling real estate in multiple countries, a one-way cheap flight out of Ecuador to Buenos Aires and the purchase of a property 200km outside of Santiago in need of landscaping. Here, his love of Southern Rhône wines led him to focus on uncommon-for-Chile Mediterranean varieties such as Grenache, Syrah, Mourvedre and Cinsault, but with his own, personal preference for fresh and easy-drinking reds very much on show. Matt's desire to further differentiate his project from other Chilean wineries pushed him to plant one of the country's only Sangiovese vineyards, the results of which are very clear to see! With his constant search for new projects, Matt has now turned his hand to Rhône whites, with a very limited production of a blend of Marsanne, Roussanne, Viognier and Grenache Blanc now being made. Watch this space!

Location

Santa Ana, Colchagua, Chile



Colchagua, Chile



Santa Ana, Colchagua, Chile