



DAKÉL

2022 CHARDONNAY

Viñedo Maricerro

ITATA VALLEY • CHILE

In the native language of the people of Southern Chile, DAKÉL means “to woo” or “to pursue romantically.” DAKÉL was at work when, after more than 25 years of exploring winegrowing sites in Chile, Don Hartford, Randy Ullom and Andrés Sánchez couldn’t help but be drawn to the cool, marine-influenced hillsides of the Itata Valley. This historic winegrowing region, located in the southern tail of the country’s narrow coastline, is now home to DAKÉL – the trio’s commitment to producing site-reflective single vineyard Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from Chile.

“There’s a lot of real passion to elevate Chile, without losing the identity.”—Andrés Sánchez, Winemaker

MARICERRO VINEYARD

Planted to Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, Viñedo Maricerro or Maricerro Vineyard lies in hills of the Cordillera de la Costa mountains – a gently receding, older range juxtaposed against the younger Andes. The name Maricerro pays homage to the nearby Pacific (mar means sea in Spanish) and the Andes Mountains (cerro translates to hill), which serve as a backdrop to the nearly 30 acres of hand-cultivated Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2022 vintage started with minimal rainfall continuing with moderate temperatures through ripening. A brief rain event in February tempered the air and soil, giving the vines ample energy to avoid fatigue while encouraging ripening at a slower pace. Continuous sea breezes allowed for optimal grape composition with intense and concentrated flavors.

WINE NOTES

At harvest, the grapes are hand-picked and placed into small boxes. In the winery, they are pressed as whole clusters to minimize skin contact time and to allow for a smoother, less phenolic finish. The juice was fermented in 20% new French barrels, 100 % malolactic fermentation and aged for 11 months.

The 2022 Chardonnay expresses bright aromas of green apple with hints of citrus flower and ginger. On the palate, notes of toasted hazelnut compliment the lush and creamy mouthfeel, delicately balanced with a vibrant freshness. The lingering finish exhibits a touch of salinity, influenced by the proximity to the sea.

COMPOSITION

100% Chardonnay

ALCOHOL

14.5%

WINEMAKING TEAM

Andres Sanchez, Randy Ullom, Don Hartford

PRODUCTION

1,546 bottles