



BAETTIG

Pinot Noir Los Parientes

For followers and fans of South American wines, Francisco Baettig will be quite familiar. After graduation from the University of Bordeaux in 2002, he began working at Viña Errázuriz, where he instituted various changes in the vineyards and cellar to make it one of the premier estates in Chile. The range from this estate is remarkably diverse, and many of the projects he created there and at Viñedos Chadwick were groundbreaking for their time, most notably the Las Pizaras Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. Now no summary of the best of South American wine or most talented winemakers is published that doesn't include the name Francisco Baettig.

If the name Baettig doesn't sound typically Spanish, then you would be correct as Francisco's ancestors are, in fact, Swiss. In the late 19th century, the Baettigs settled in Malleco, a province in Chile 600 km south of Santiago. While Francisco has spent much of his career further north, his pursuit of balance, freshness, and elegance with Chardonnay and Pinot Noir made him wonder if his birthplace might be better suited for these varieties. So, he returned home, rather than simply moving close to the ocean like so many others. In 2013, along with the assistance of his cousin Carlos de Carlos, Francisco Baettig began planting Viñedo Los Suizos, and Vinos Baettig was born. Today there are 9 hectares of Pinot Noir and 6.4 hectares of Chardonnay planted as Viñedo Los Suizos. Farming is manual and without any chemical inputs, and the harvest is conducted by hand. Despite the size, production remains limited as Francisco sells a portion of his fruit to some of the top names in Chile. Fermentations are all indigenous, and the wines are aged entirely in French oak barrels.

Los Parientes comes from 9 hectares of vines planted by Francisco Baettig on a loamy red clay soil over volcanic gravel and bedrock. On the same parallel as Patagonia in Argentina, Traiguén is about as far south as vines can be grown in Chile but where the cool climate is matched by less UV light regions further north. These facts alone would be reason enough for the location of this vineyard, but it also happens to be the place Francisco's Swiss ancestors settled in the late 19th century.

ACCOLADES

93 – 2021 Pinot Noir Los Parientes – James Suckling

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ORIGIN

Chile

APPELLATION

Traiguén

SOIL

Red clay-loam, volcanic

AGE OF VINES

Vineyard planted in 2013

ELEVATION

250 meters

VARIETIES

Pinot Noir

FARMING

Sustainable

FERMENTATION

Hand harvested, partially destemmed (92%), natural yeast fermentation

AGING

10 months in 300L French oak barrels, 10% new

