

`Tocao` 2013
Bío-Bío Valley, Chile

CLOS^{DES}
FOUS



PRODUCER

Clos des Fous is an exciting project between four Chilean friends: Pedro Parra (the viticulturalist), François Massoc and Paco Leyton (the winemakers), and Albert Cussen, who looks after the business. Pedro now makes wines under his own label but was originally one of the four 'Fous', the French word for 'crazy men', a reference to what their peers described as their 'craziness' in crossing the traditional vineyard boundaries of Chile to source grapes from vineyards in the extreme conditions further south and east. The winery is based in Maule, to the south of the main vineyard area, where the 'Fous' make an enviable range of top quality varietal wines.

VINEYARDS

The Clos des Fous Tocao is a mesmerizing Malbec from a vineyard planted in 1914 in the southern Bío-Bío Valley, producing fruit with marvelously fresh acidity and fine tannins. Today there are only 27 hectares of Malbec in San Rosendo and Clos des Fous farm four of them. Funnily enough, the word 'Tocao' means 'a bit touched in the head', as nobody else would be crazy enough to work with Malbec in this area!

VINTAGE

2013 will be remembered as one of the coolest vintages for Chile in the past decade. A slow, cool growing season made for elegant, aromatic wines with lower alcohol levels and fresh acidity. With cooler temperatures from start to finish, early-ripening varieties struggled to reach full maturity. Expert growers were more aggressive with their leafing after fruit set, when the berries were about pea-sized, to get light to the clusters early, both to encourage flavour development and to get the fruit acclimatised to more light. A delayed harvest lasted from mid-March to late May.

VINIFICATION

The grapes are hand harvested and transported to the winery. Traditional fermentation took place in concrete vats. The wine is aged in French oak from the Allier forest, 30% of which is new. It spends almost two years ageing in oak and is not racked.

TASTING NOTES

An incredible wine with ripe and rich fruit, boasting aromas of dark berries and mahogany. It is full bodied on the palate with ripe, well-structured tannins and long, intense finish.

Grape Varieties	80% Malbec
Winemaker	François Massoc
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	14%
Acidity	5.56g/L
Wine pH	3.21
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Sustainable, Vegetarian, Vegan