Bodega Garzón Reserve,

Cabernet Franc 2023

Garzón, Maldonado, Uruguay





Grape Varieties	100% Cabernet Franc
Winemaker	Germán Bruzzone
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	13.5%
Residual Sugar	3g/L
Acidity	5.4g/L
Wine pH	3.62
Bottle Sizes	75cl

PRODUCER

Bodega Garzón is a family-owned winery in Maldonado on the Atlantic coast in southern Uruguay. They pioneered viticulture in this area over 10 years ago, and have since become the standard bearer for premium wines from Uruguay. In November 2018, their pioneering status was recognised by Wine Enthusiast with the 'New World Winery of the Year' award. The vineyards at Bodega Garzón are a patchwork quilt of 1,150 individual plots of around 0.2 hectares in size, each plot carefully chosen for a specific variety according to its soil and microclimate. The winery is specially designed to operate as sustainably as possible, and is the first winery outside North America to pursue LEED certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). Built on natural terraces, the winery uses cutting-edge technology and operates using a gravity system to ensure quality and energy efficiency at every stage of production.

VINEYARDS

Located 11 miles from the Atlantic Ocean, the estate has more than 1,000 small vineyard blocks covering hillside slopes, which benefit from varying microclimates, different levels of humidity and intense canopy management. Well-draining granitic soils and cooling Atlantic breezes allow the grapes to ripen steadily. The vineyards are surrounded by lush forests, palm trees, rocky soils and granite boulders.

VINTAGE

The 2023 vintage was almost two weeks shorter than usual. Spring started off dry and cool, providing ideal conditions for flowering and berry set. However, a historic drought persisted from spring to summer, requiring nighttime irrigation from September until harvest time. This careful water management was crucial to achieve the desired yields and ripeness for each grape variety. Despite the challenges, the 2023 harvest developed wines of extremely high quality with excellent complexity and structure.

VINIFICATION

The hand-harvested grapes were fermented in 150 hectolitre cement tanks for 10 days at 28-29°C. The wine was then aged for 6 to 12 months on the lees in 50 litre untoasted French oak casks, before being bottled in November 2024.

TASTING NOTES

This Cabernet Franc Reserva is a wine of great typicity and very defined personality, revealing aromas of forest fruits, wild herbs, peppery spices and chocolate with subtle smoky notes. The palate has layers of ripe blackberries, prunes and fresh herbs. Soft tannins add to the complexity and structure.