



## 2018 ALAZAN PINOT NOIR

VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir
PRODUCTION	450 cases
ALCOHOL	12.5%
RELEASE DATE	September 2019
TYPE OF OAK	French Oak Concrete Egg Vat
MONTHS IN OAK	8 Months
RATING	92 pts, James Suckling

Kingston Family Vineyards is a boutique winery located on the farm that has been in our family for a century. We handcraft Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Syrah, and Sauvignon Blanc from our vineyards in Casablanca, Chile.

Kingston also collaborates in MOVI, Chile's Movement of Independent Winemakers, whose members make small lots of artisan wines by hand.

Over the years, two blocks have emerged as the most reliable performers in the vineyard: Block 8d, an old Chilean selection planted in 1999, and the newer Cantera, planted in 2004 on a very steep hill of decomposed granite. These two blocks are the mainstay of the Alazan year in and year out. One old Chilean selection and one newer French selection.

We embrace the contrast of the old and the new at Kingston. Winemaking is an old craft, but we are modern in our approach. Not high tech, just open minded and forward-thinking. Often that leads us towards old techniques, like large wooden casks for aging or uninoculated fermentations, both of which we have used for many years.

We are drawn to wines that seem to straddle the old world and the new, with the mineral notes and tension that old world wines often have (and new world wines can lack) along with generous, forward fruit like the best of the new world. There is a bit of that in the 2018 Alazan, which opens with an iron and mineral note that is followed by an underlying pretty, almost candied-but not cooked-red fruit. On the palate, it's vibrant—ripe fruit with fresh acidity, and a lingering sweet grapiness. It's surprisingly plush for having just 12.5% alcohol. Delicious.

- Byron Kosuge, Consulting Winemaker

