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The Wine Advocate Tasting History



2008 Crazy Wines Triangle

A Cabernet Sauvignon Dry Red Table wine from Chile, Maule, Chile

Source	Reviewer	Rating	Maturity	Current (Release) Cost
Wine Advocate #213 Jun 2014	Luis Gutierrez	92	Drink: 2014 - 2018	(60)

The 2008 Triangle was given this name because it was the creation of three French winemakers; one of them has since left the project, which leaves only two of them. It's pure Cabernet Sauvignon from a 40-year-old vineyard on a sandy slope in the Cauquenes region in Maule from a cold, typical "La Nina" vintage, aged in new French oak for 24 months. The wine has a restrained 13.3% alcohol, something not common in Chile, and shows serious balance. The fruit seems to have absorbed the oak (I'm usually scared when I hear or read "two years in new oak barriques") and slowly shows notes of tobacco, cedar wood and coal, with a core of shiny black fruit, plenty of notes of flowers and aromatic herbs and underlying mint notes. It is medium-bodied, with fine tannins, a chalky texture and good freshness, with a spice-driven finish. This should be superb with a steak. 2,000 bottles produced. Drink now-2018.

Crazy Wines is a small venture looking for unusual or forgotten vineyards throughout Chile. It is owned by Jean-Pascal Lacaze, the French winemaker from Clos Quebrada de Macul in Maipo, better known for their superb wine, Domus Aurea (see elsewhere my note on the 2008), and another French winemaker. The philosophy is not to own vineyards, not to be tied to a specific place, and search for singular vineyards. They then help the grower to cultivate the vines, buy the grapes and produce around 2,000 bottles of wine. I tasted the two wines produced so far, a Cabernet Sauvignon and a Carignan, both from the Cauquenes zone. In 2011, there will be a Syrah from Choapa.

Importer: T. Edward Wines, New York, NY; tel. (212) 233-1504; www.tedwardwines.com

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About Maturity and Drink Dates: Most reviews in The Wine Advocate include a period during which the wine should ideally be consumed. We express it as a range of years (Drink Dates) and we use that range to calculate a 'Maturity' for the wine as of the current date. Maturity values are: Young - the early drink date is in the future; Early - first third of the drink date range; Mature - middle third of the range; Late - last third of the range; Old - the late drink date is in the past.

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