

MONTES WINES **2015 Purple Angel**

Tasting Notes

Impressive deep purplish-red in color. The nose presents its habitual elegance with outstanding ripe red and black berries over a backdrop of sweet spices. Dark chocolate and mocha notes from aging in French oak combine very well with the variety's characteristic fruity aromas, resulting in a wine with tremendous aromatic complexity that continues to open with layer after layer of new and delicious sensations. The palate is well structured with soft, ample tannins. Acidity from the Petit Verdot lends juiciness and central nerve, qualities that predict excellent evolution and exceptional aging potential. The remarkable finish is elegant and very much in accordance with the nose. This is clearly an ideal wine to enjoy now—or in years to come.

Technical Data

Varietal: 92% Carmenere, 8% Petit Verdot
Alcohol: 15.1%
pH: 3.58
Acidity: 3.70 g/L
Region: Colchagua Valley

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Montes Purple Angel 2015

Rated 99, James Suckling, March 16, 2018

"This is perhaps the greatest Purple Angel ever. Full body, tight and compressed with an amazing texture and density. Fantastic fine tannins that are silky and polished. I love the energy and intensity. A blend of 92% carmenere and 8% petit verdot. One for the cellar but I can't wait to drink it again."

Available through Vintages +62364

Rated 99, Natalie MacLean, May 12, 2018

"There's a reason this Chilean wine has a cult following. Purple Angel will make you feel as though you've gone to heaven aloft a cloud of sensory pleasure. The 2015 vintage is a blend of 92% Caménère and 8% Petit Verdot grapes. Caménère was re-discovered only about 12 years ago, believed to be extinct after phylloxera hit its ancestral home in Bordeaux in 1880. That's why it's also called the "Jurassic Park" grape. The vines for this wine are planted on steep slopes. If you love full-bodied, juicy, fruit-forward wines, this is your apogee as it also has all of those other great hallmarks of superb wine: complexity, balance and finish. Pair with a juicy steak."

Available through Vintages +62364

Rated 95, David Lawrason, Wine Align, October 5, 2018

"There is a very fine sense of purity here, with vibrant aromas of blackcurrant, violets, evergreen and crushed black pepper. Oak is nicely background. It is full bodied, fairly dense and almost creamy yet buoyed by good acidity, firm slightly green tannin. The focus and length are excellent. I would age this another two or three years. Anyone who says they don't like carmenere needs to give this wine a chance"

Available through Vintages +62364

Rated 94, John Szabo, Wine Align, October 10, 2018

"92% carmenere, 8% petit verdot. Inky purple colour. Evidently ripe and concentrated, mixing the jammy purple fruit flavours of super ripe carmenere with the other side of the varietal coin, herbal-green-vegetable character, the two intertwined in generous oak influence, smoky-toasty-caramelized wood. The texture is plush and rich, with such supple tannins and modest acids that the wine fills every crevice, while 15% alcohol seems generous but integrated into the whole. A really exceptional wine in this vintage I must say, and while drinkable now, it will be so much more rewarding in 3-5 years."

Available through Vintages +62364

Rated 93, Vic Harradine, winecurrent.com, October 4, 2018

"This is exceptional even for this vaunted wine; you'll find depth, structure, balance, fruit-fueled flavour, firm tannin, excellent acidity and a welcomed absence of green leafy notes. Bramble berry, blueberry and baking spice provide segue for a full-Monty gusher of palate-coating flavour with black currant and juicy black plum interlaced with espresso roast and bittersweet chocolate. It spent 18 months in new French oak. There's good balancing acidity and supple tannin requiring attention; pop corks after careful cellaring 2021 to 2023."

Available through Vintages +62364

Rated 93, Michael Godel, WineAlign, May 12, 2018

"Carmenère as Purple Angel 2015 is from two terroirs, Marchigüe in Colchague and La Finca de Apalta Estate, the latter bringing the hedonism to match the aggression in Marchigüe. The remaining eight per cent is petit verdot, bringing an edge of acidity and tannin, or bones to the flesh of the carmenère. Very floral, candied violets, pure liquid celebration, 18 months in 80 per cent new oak and remarkably integrated. Quite spicy and with thanks to fruit that can handle the wood. Muscle, grip and calm. Drink 2021-2031."

Available through Vintages +62364

Rated "92 & Explorer's Selection", Michael Vaughan, Vintage Assessment, October 13, 2018

"Extremely deep intense purple colour. Intense, complex, rich, slightly spicy, ripe plum-cherry purée nose with lots of refined cedary notes. Dry, medium-full bodied, well structured, slightly spicy, quite complex, rich, plum-cherry flavours with a lingering, harmonious, gently cedary, intense, lifted finish."

Available through Vintages +62364