

MONTES **Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon**

TASTING NOTE

A leader among Chilean Cabernets, aged for 12 months in French fine grain Allier oak barrels. Intense ruby colour, with blackcurrant, chocolate and cigar box aromas; balanced with well-integrated oak. Great complexity of flavours in the mouth; mid-palate is full-bodied and balanced, with remarkably long finish. A superb wine ready to drink now, it can also be chosen for cellaring for future enjoyment.

FOOD PAIRING

Highly recommended with red meats, Mongolian beef, pork ribs, spaghetti with Bolognese sauce, pan-roasted veal chops with cabernet sauce, dark chocolate.

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

90% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Merlot

APPELLATION

Colchagua Valley

ABV

13.8%

OAK

12 months in new and used French oak barrels

ACIDITY/pH

3.50 g/L / 3.50 pH

RESIDUAL SUGAR

2.99 g/L

VEGETARIAN / VEGAN

Yes / Yes

SEE REVIEWS ON NEXT PAGE

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2015
Rated 91, Steve Thurlow, WineAlign, June 2018

"This is an intense fruity fragrant cabernet with a nose marked by cassis fruit with black olive and pencil shavings plus some smoke, jam and herbal tones. Full bodied with velvety tannins and lots of fine balancing acidity making it seem lighter. There is some elegance. Expect a dry mildly tannic finish. Very good to excellent length. Try with a steak. Best 2018 to 2024"

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2015
Rated 90 Michael Godel, WineAlign, March 2018

"It will be next to impossible to find a comparable VINTAGES Essential cabernet sauvignon at this price point with more complex appeal than the Montes Alpha 2015. There is a clay induced richness that really drives the fruit to dance over the dustiness and which really stays put and beneath the dark black fruit surface. So unaggressive but certainly spicy, though tasted side by side with Kaiken Ultra this might be considered chalky, taut and relatively aggressive. Great length from an impressive vintage means good business. Drink 2019-2022"

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2015
Rated 90, David Lawrason WineAlign, September 2018

"This deeply coloured purple-ruby cabernet has a lifted, piquant nose of blackcurrant infused with menthol/pine and supported by supple oak vanillin,pepper and toast. Well integrated aromatics. It is medium-full bodied, energized by acidity, minerality, green notes and fine but firm tannin, yet still has a fairly smooth, calm mid-palate. The length and focus are great for the money. Best 2019 to 2023."

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2014
Rated Highly Recommended, Sean Wood, Quench, April 2018

"Lively scents of blackcurrants and red berries with a whiff of green herb and background smoky notes shifting to rich blackberry flavor supported by velvety tannins and deftly balanced acidity. Finishes with harmoniously integrated fruit, spice and a dash of milk chocolate."

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2014
Rated 91, Steve Thurlow, WineAlign, January 1, 2018

"Most Chilean cabernet sauvignon comes from the Maipo Valley but Montes produces this wine from the warmer Colchagua Valley. 50% comes from the home vineyards in Apalta and the rest from Marchigue. The intense nose shows typical Chilean cassis, mint and eucalyptus with dark chocolate tones to the fruit plus blueberry fruit; a marker for Marchigue for me. It is very pure and fresh with good focus and very linear with fine tongue tickling tannins. It is well balanced and juicy with excellent length. There is a mineral freshness to the finish. Best 2018 to 2025."

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2014
Rated 89, Michael Schachner, Wine Enthusiast,
November 1, 2017

"Prickly, cool aromas of herbal berry fruits and eucalyptus open this wine. It's dense, tannic and chewy, with dark black-fruit flavors along with herbal notes and tobacco. A meaty, almost salty finish is tannic as nails, so let this breathe as much as possible before drinking."

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2014
Rated 91, Natalie MacLean, September 4, 2017

"Terrific richness and depth on this robust Chilean Cabernet with aromas of ripe black plums and some mint or eucalyptus. This winery practises sustainable dry farming. This wine was aged for 12 months in French oak barrels. Pair with roast beef."

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2014
Rated 91, David Lawrason, WineAlign, August 6, 2017

"The back label talks about gains made through intensive irrigation research over recent years - a critical factor in regions where growing season rainfall is scarce. This has a typical Chilean cabernet nose of cassis, blueberry (a warmer Colchagua nuance perhaps), mint/eucalyptus, dark chocolate and pepper. It is quite full bodied, with some creaminess, underpinned by firm acidity, alcohol warmth and a real sense of minerality on the finish. Tannins are chalky fine. Very focused with excellent length. Best 2018 to 2024."

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2014
Rated 88, Kim Marcus, Wine Spectator, July 31, 2017

"The flavors of red currant and dried cherry stretch out nicely, with notes of sage and cream. Dried savory accents linger on the finish, with white pepper hints. Drink now through 2019."

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2014
Rated 92, James Suckling, May 29, 2017

"A beautiful and balanced wine with blackcurrant and sweet tobacco character. Medium to full body. Stone and currant. Rose petal. Always excellent. Drink now."

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2014

Rated 4 Stars, Vic Harradine, winecurrent.com, May 22, 2017

"Ripe, juicy, red cherry/berry fruit, exotic spice and grilled savory herb aromas abound. It cuts a broad, complex swath across the palate with a nicely textured, medium-plus bodied flow of bramble berry and juicy black cherry mingling with sweet vanilla, baking spice, cracked black pepper and a wisps of soft, ripe tannin. The balanced finish and aftertaste is robust, lengthy and mouth-watering good."

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2014

Rated 89, Luis Gutierrez, Wine Advocate, April 28, 2017

"The 2014 Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon showed harmonious and with some restraint, quite classical and with varietal characteristics. The palate is consistent, medium-bodied with noticeable tannins, in need of food."

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2014

Rated 90, Descorchados 2017

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2013

Rated 90, Beppi Crosariol, The Globe and Mail, July 14, 2016

"Classic Chilean cabernet that fuses sunny ripeness with sturdy structure. Pure cassis and strawberry flavours are joined by hints of mint, tobacco and savoury oak, set on a tight structure, with well-integrated tannins and fine-tuned acidity."

Montes Alpha Cabernet Sauvignon 2013

Rated 93, James Suckling, May 12, 2016

"Real cabernet character with sweet tobacco, currant and chocolate aromas and flavors. Medium to full body, silky tannins and a long finish. Fantastic quality for the money. Drink now."