



LA JUNTA AMIGO PERRO MERLOT 2020/\$11.99



DESCRIPTION

Bordering the Coastal Range in the west, and stretching as far east as the foothills of the Andes, the Curicó Valley has two major mesoclimates that allow it the potential to offer a great diversity of high quality wines. In the east around Molina and north of the Claro River, the chilling winds coming off of the Andes make this part of the valley cooler. In the west, the Coastal Range protects inland wine growing areas from the Pacific Ocean, making it hotter and drier. The valley can support a large range of grape varieties within these climatic variations.

In 1979 Miguel Torres, Spain's largest family-owned producer of premium wine based in Penedès in northeastern Spain, invested heavily in the area. By introducing many modern technologies, Torres put the Curicó Valley on the international wine map and strengthened Chile's presence in the global wine market.

Curicó is one of the southern appellations of the greater Central Valley wine growing region, which includes from north to south: Maipo, Rapel, Curicó and Maule.

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The Merlot grapes are harvested in mid-April and they are taken to the winery in 450 kg bins. The clusters are destemmed and the berries crushed and deposited into temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks and chilled to 10°C (50°F) for 2 days of pre-fermentation maceration to extract the full fruit character. A classic vinification follows, with maceration through pumpovers over the course of 7 days. A pneumatic press separates the solids without pumping to preserve the full character and balance achieved. Finally, a portion of the

new wine is aged in French oak. Conditions are then controlled to encourage malolactic fermentation and the wine is stored in temperature-controlled tanks prior to bottling.

Tasting Notes

Nose:

Bright ruby-red in color. Clean, crisp, and very fruity on the nose, with strawberries and plums foremost, mingling with ripe fruits and spices.

Palate:

Smooth on the palate with noble, semi-sweet tannins that balance perfectly with the acidity.

Pairing:

Pasta, sauces with mushrooms, and mature cheeses.

Winery Website: [Viña La Junta \(juntawinery.com\)](http://Viña La Junta (juntawinery.com))

Fun Facts

Blueberry, plum, tobacco and citrus-zest aromas. It's medium-bodied with firm, tight-grained tannins. Fresh and juicy with good structure. Drink or hold. –**James Suckling 92 Points**

D.O. Curico Valley, Chile

