



Viña Los Vascos, Chile

A MOUNTAIN IN CHILE

Viña Los Vascos, «L'Esprit Lafite» from Chile.

Twenty years ago Domaines Barons de Rothschild (Lafite) chose the Los Vascos vineyard in the Colchagua Valley to make their pioneering ambition in Chile become a reality. This was the beginning of an adventure in terms of both land knowledge and human effort. In short, the birth of a great wine.

Exclusive interview with Baron Eric de Rothschild.

Why did you choose Chile and Los Vascos for your first experience outside Bordeaux? A move like that was a real challenge twenty years ago.

« We wanted to extend our 'savoir faire' and expertise abroad. Chile was known in the past as a place where one had made good wines and the non existence of the phylloxera bug made us investigate this country in priority. We made a thorough surveying of many Chilean vineyards. 'Los Vascos' vineyard (whose name means 'the Basques' – a tribute to the first owners'



Baron Eric de Rothschild

origins) presented a collection of exceptional assets: good sun exposure, water resources, soil aridity and a temperate climate due to proximity to the ocean which tipped the balance in its favour... All these factors made **the conditions particularly**

favourable for the production of great wines.»

A great wine is not made in a day. Could you explain the successive stages which enabled you to produce these fine wines?

« **It has certainly been an amazing adventure, both in terms of wine-making and human effort...**

It has taken 20 years of work – introducing the technology, training the technical teams, understanding the soil and the cepages, a lot of passion and fairly major investment – to obtain today what is probably this region's benchmark vineyard in terms of quality. The vineyard, located in the heart of a large estate where the untamed natural beauty is carefully protected, currently covers 580 hectares.»

The wines of Los Vascos are often associated with Lafite. You must be proud of this achievement?

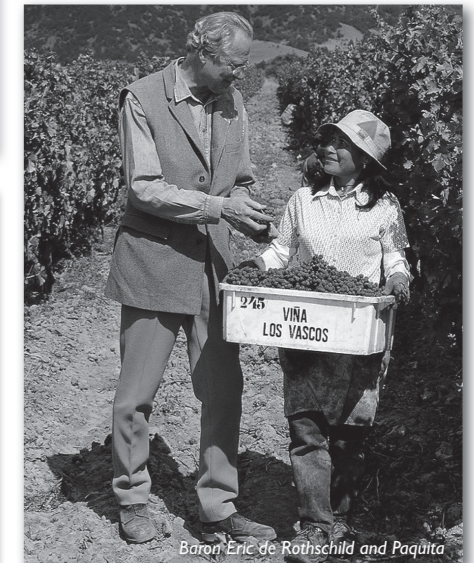
« If Los Vascos wines are known around the globe today, it's because we have always applied the same rigorous methods we use at Lafite and at our other estates in order to achieve excellence. At the same time, we respect the 'savoir faire' of others, the particularity of each region and try to share our mutual experiences. The latest vintages of 'Le Dix' and the 'Grande Réserve' have reached a remarkable level of elegance and concentration. **They offer all the pleasure of those great wines that are accessible and easy to drink.»**

L'ESPRIT LAFITE FOR BARON ERIC:

« *The Spirit of Lafite to me means that every bottle of Los Vascos is made with high standards delivering wines of elegance and finesse in the tradition of our great Bordeaux house - Château Lafite Rothschild.* »

The wines of Los Vascos are a secure asset. What promises does the future hold?

« The same pioneering spirit will prevail. We will increase the vineyard to cover new demand, we will experiment with other cepage to complement our Cabernets. Los Vascos is well equipped to continue its quest for excellence with a single objective in mind: **the pleasure of both making and sharing great wines, generation after generation.** »



Baron Eric de Rothschild and Paqitta

The wines of Viña Los Vascos

Le Dix

The first great cuvée, named Le Dix was created to commemorate the 10 years of DBR (Lafite)'s work in Chile. Since then, in years of exceptional quality Cabernet Sauvignon, this special cuvée is selected from vines of over 70 years old located on the parcel known as "El Fraile".

This is a very complex wine, well balanced and elegant, with powerful tannins and aromas of very ripe black fruits enhanced by notes of spice, cedar, laurel and eucalyptus.

Grande Réserve

The Grande Réserve is the reference point for pure Chilean elegance and finesse. It is a blend dominated by Cabernet Sauvignon and the product of traditional wine-making methods.

This wine is characterised by its persistent and complex bouquet: black cherry and black currant (from the Cabernet), strawberry (Malbec), raspberry (Syrah) and plum, with notes of laurel leaves and black pepper (Carmenère). The wine is absorbing and harmonious, intensely delicious and entertaining.



Cabernet Sauvignon

The Cabernet Sauvignon of Los Vascos made the estate famous. Its style has been consistent throughout the vintages. It is characterised by its supple and fleshy structure, ripe fruit and fresh aromas.

The colour is a brilliant ruby red and the nose is marvelously fruity with aromas of black cherry, raspberry and prune complemented by delicate spices. This is a silky wine full of flavour with soft, supple tannins. A great classic.

Chardonnay

The Chardonnay of Colchagua valley is complemented by a selection of grapes from the Casablanca valley, which is located further north, between Santiago and Valparaiso.

This wine is savoury, fresh, and pleasing, with a nice fruity character and a long finish. The nose boasts a true explosion of melon, banana, grapefruit and other exotic fruits.

Sauvignon Blanc

The Sauvignon Blanc of Los Vascos is made from vines situated in the Casablanca and Curicó regions.

The vintages all share a liveliness on the palate brought by the pure fruit flavour. The nose is very expressive with aromas of lemon, grapefruit and exotic fruits enhanced by the characteristic Sauvignon aroma of boxwood.



For further information see: www.lafite.com