



Wine Club Tasting Notes

November 2007

2006 Haras Estate Sauvignon
Blanc

2006 Haras Estate Chardonnay

2004 Haras Estate Cabernet

Sauvignon

Maipo Valley, Chile

In recent years, there a couple of grape varieties that really stand out in Chile's portfolio. As far as the whites go, Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay are definitely really starting to shine. THE Chilean red grape is Carmenere, but with certain producers Cabernet Sauvignon is making waves. A lot of producers are still having trouble with this grape, but Haras has managed to make a pleasantly smooth wine that doesn't have so much of the 'green' characteristics that many Chilean Cabernets can have. Additionally, they are estate-grown and bottled. All in all, all three of these wines are easy-drinking, well-crafted, straightforward wines. Think of it this way, you've got a nice little Thanksgiving party pack put together for you in the nick of time! (Or a Christmas party pack, depending.)

The **Sauvignon Blanc** – The fruit was harvested at optimum flavor ripeness, pressed and cold settled for 48 hours. The blend was fermented in stainless steel tanks for 15 days. Upon completion, the wine was left on light fermentation lees (the dead yeast cells), which helps make a more complex wine. The lees were stirred once a week until bottling in the month of June. The end result is a bright greenish-yellow wine with intense nose of grapefruit, lime and lemon, with subtle mineral notes and an underlying grassy character. The palate is fresh and young, crisp, with lively, balanced acidity and presents mineral and citrus flavors, finishing quite elegant and fine. 7000 cases made.

The **Chardonnay** – This wine is 100% Chardonnay, is stainless steel fermented, with 50% of the juice of being barrel-aged for 6 months oak in 1-2 year old French oak barrel. It's a pretty, light golden straw in color with melon, grapefruit and hints of toasty oak on the nose. This medium-bodied Chardonnay displays more melon and citrus notes on the palate with hints of butterscotch and a smooth, smooth finish. 7000 cases made.

The **Cabernet Sauvignon** – The blend is 85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 9% Syrah, 3% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc. The grapes were lightly crushed to fermentation tanks where they were pumped over softly to extract color, ripe tannins and intense fruit flavors, and ultimately aged in French barrels over a 12 month period. It has a pretty dark purple red color with violet reflects. This wine has a generous fruity and

cedar-y nose, with fresh mint and spicy notes with a touch of leather. This medium-bodied Cabernet has smooth tannins and lush, concentrated black and red fruit characteristics, with a hint of mint, mineral and spice on the finish. 15000 cases made.