



A Premeir Wine Making Center  
**www.Sodanowine.com**  
California Varietals  
Chilean Grapes

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## Chilean Grape Offering

### Malbec

The ripe, lush black grape variety Malbec was once popular in Bordeaux as a blending component. It's still used for blending with Bordeaux varietals worldwide and at times, in varietally labeled bottlings in the U.S., but now it's better known on its own. South America, where wine drinkers like potent reds, have made Malbec into a real regional specialty. Malbec's rich, inky color and fat, juicy personality make it brilliant with mellow, long-simmered dishes like braised red meats and stews. The deep legendary "black" wine of Cahors is traditionally matched to hearty rib-sticking dishes.

### Carmenere

Carmenere is a member of the Cabernet family of grapes originating in Medoc, Bordeaux. At optimal ripeness, the wine is fruity (cherries), crimson in color, full-bodied, with spicy, earthy notes. The after taste is particularly long; with Integrated tannins allow early consumption, although the wine ages well.

On the nose there is a slight gamey aroma (sometimes referred to as beetroot) intermingled with ripe red fruits. The flavors are earthy and fruity and, on the finish, you may find the hint of a pleasant metallic flavor that I've encountered only in carmenere. Not available in Bordeaux but now enjoying a resurgence in Chile.

### Merlot

Powerful fruit and spice flavor with mellow tannins for a velvet finish. Will develop quicker than the Cabernet and will stand up to similar food pairings.

### Cabernet Sauvignon

Just as big and bold in Chile as in other regions of the world! As the king of the red grape this produces a wine that is rich in color, intensely flavored, and tannic with hints of mint, blackberry, and black currant.

### Syrah

Also known as "Shiraz" in Australia, this grape will produce a dark, rich, full-bodied wine with a chocolate aroma. Chile has come a long way in growing high quality grapes in this varietal. If you love syrah, this is a great choice; the flavor characteristics in the "Chilean Version" are more bold and pronounced.



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## Chilean Blends

*The possibilities are endless but here are some suggestions.*

### **Malbec/Carmenere**

70% Malbec and 30% Carmenere. Carmenere will soften this wine and add a hint of sophistication. This has the possibility of being a Chilean Bordeaux.

### **Carmenere/Malbec**

70% Carmenere and 30% Malbec. Malbec will add more depth of color and complexity to this truly Chilean Blend

### **Merlot/Carmenere Blend**

Made with 80% Merlot and 20% Carmenere. All the softness of the Merlot with a bit more sophistication and an added depth of flavor and color.

### **Cabernet Sauvignon/Carmenere Blend**

The blending of 70% Cabernet Sauvignon with 30% Carmenere makes for an intense wine with plenty "strength of character". This is a good solid wine for the Cab-Lover. The Carmenere really adds a "Chilean Style" to the wine.

### **Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot**

The classic Bordeaux blending of 80% Cabernet and 20% Merlot, produces a bold wine with lots of tannic structure, with the added smoothness and character of Merlot.

### **Merlot/Cabernet Sauvignon**

Bordeaux style with a blend of 80% Merlot and 20% Cabernet. This wine will be able to be consumed young and still have some of the tannic balance contributed by the Cabernet.

### **Syrah/Malbec**

70% Syrah and 30% Malbec. The Malbec adds earthy tones to an already spicy Syrah producing a very "heady" wine.

### **Syrah/Cabernet Sauvignon**

Made by blending 70% Syrah with 30% Cabernet Sauvignon. The Cabernet brings a bit more stability the sometimes feral character of the Syrah.

### **Syrah/Merlot**

Made by blending 50% Syrah with 50% Merlot. This is an excellent wine for the Merlot fan looking for a little excitement. The Merlot really softens the wine while the Syrah adds that spice!