

the drunken cyclist



I have three passions: wine, cycling, travel, family, and math.



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02/01/18

RITUAL



2016 Ritual Chardonnay, Casablanca Valley, Chile:

Retail \$20. Slightly golden in the glass with lemon, green apple, pineapple, and a bit of funk. Good fruit and acidity on the palate, without the hint of funk. The really rich fruit is bookended with a tart, racy, acidity, with hints of oak peeking through on the finish. Very Good to Outstanding. 88-90 Points.

2015 Ritual Pinot Noir, Casablanca Valley, Chile:

Retail \$20. When I opened the bottle, there was some serious funk on the wine. So funky, in fact, that I threw a stopper in it and tried again the next day. Much better. Fairly dark in the glass with plenty of black cherry and just a touch of that funk. Good acidity initially and all the way through to the finish. The fruit comes in on the mid-palate, as does some earth and funk. The fruit comes off a little sweet, though, which detracts a little. Still, for the tariff, this is a solid Pinot. Very Good. 87-89 Points.



2015 Ritual Sauvignon Blanc Casablanca Valley, Chile:

Retail \$16. Pale straw with a green tint, with plenty of pear and peach mingle with citrus notes. There is also a slight funk on the nose—not quite cat pee that is so common in New Zealand Sauvignon. No, this is more subtle, slightly meaty, and certainly savory. On the palate, the tartness is impressive—almost biting into a lemon type of strength. Great fruit and plenty of body and length persist from start to finish, I am far from a fan of the variety, but this is pretty darned good.



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