

Nicolasa

HUASCO - ATACAMA DESERT



*This vineyard has **3.66 ha.**, which were planted in 2010 with varieties like **Syrah, Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc and Viognier.** The vines are drip-irrigated with water from the River Huasco. There is a lot of salt at the surface, which needs to be treated with long, abundant watering in order to keep the plants in good health.*



ALTITUDE

238 metres above sea level.



CLIMATE

Year-round desert climate with little or no rainfall in winter. The average temperature is **15°C-16°C**. This vineyard is less windy than Longomilla because it is further from the River Huasco ravine. As a result, the average minimum temperatures in winter do not drop below **8°C**, while the maximum temperatures in summer between December and February are close to **27°C**. The rainfall is similar to **Longomilla**, not exceeding **45mm** each season.



SOILS

The topography is almost flat. The soil has a clay texture with more than **40% clay** in its profile. The surface is not stony but, at a **depth of around 60cm**, there is a stony matrix that is calcareous in origin. This is decomposing because of the strong action of the minerals in the soil. The soil has very good water retention and porosity. **pH 8.2** Alkaline with a high sum of exchangeable bases with minerals like magnesium, potassium, sodium and, above all, calcium.



PLANTING DENSITY

2.667 plants per hectare.



RAINFALL

45mm per year. Most rain falls between **May and August**.



LOCATION

Nicolasa is in the Huasco Valley **21km** from the Pacific Ocean and **25km** inland from Vallenar. Its proximity to the coast means that there is a maritime influence during the ripening period, which regulates the maximum temperatures in summer. During most of the grape-ripening period, a morning sea fog tends to appear, known locally as Camanchaca.