



T A P I Z

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(SEPTEMBER 2017) Tapiz is pleased to announce their inclusion as one of *Wine & Spirits' 2017 Top 100 Wineries* in the world, culminating 14 years from inception to global recognition as a major quality, terroir-driven brand out of Argentina.

Founded by former medical doctor Patricia Ortiz, Tapiz has gained fast U.S. distribution and quality recognition in the U.S. under importer Vino Del Sol, and with the help of famed former winemaker of Petrus, Jean Claude Berrouet. Berrouet, who previously presided over 44 vintages at the revered Bordeaux winery Petrus, has been consulting winemaker at Tapiz since 2012.

Tapiz exclusively crafts wines from estate vineyards in Uco Valley. One of their marquee sites is San Pablo, which lies at 4,600 feet above sea level as one of the highest vineyards in Mendoza. The altitude extremes impart intense concentration and natural acidity to the wines, as demonstrated by the single vineyard Tapiz Alta Collection. Throughout the entire range of wines, the Tapiz team works together to create a beautiful tapiz (tapestry) of unfiltered fruit and oak aging, producing full-bodied yet elegant wines.

Founder Patricia attributes the fast rise of Tapiz to the incredible quality for value offered by each, and the consistency that they are able to maintain in each vintage.

“We believe in our programs of state of the art technology in the winery, and close care in the vineyards. By utilizing only estate grown fruit, we can ensure that top vineyard practices are maintained year-round. Most of our wines are from single vineyards and all wines are from handpicked grapes,” says Patricia Ortiz, President, founder, and owner of Tapiz.

ALSO UNDER THE TAPIZ UMBRELLA: ZOLO AND WAPISA WINERIES

Patricia Ortiz launched Zolo in 2004 as a separate expression of Luján de Cuyo terroir, which is another of Mendoza's top sub-appellation. Zolo is one of the most technologically advanced wineries in Argentina. Zolo wines are made entirely from estate vineyards in Agrelo, Alto Agrelo, and Luján de Cuyo. Residing close to the Andes at various altitudes, each of these vineyard terroirs benefits from intense diurnal temperature variations and alpine winds that allow for slow ripening and acid retention.

Patagonian winery Wapisa was introduced by Tapiz to the U.S. in the fall of 2017. Located just 25 miles from the Atlantic Ocean on the banks of the Río Negro, it is the only winery that exists in this coastal Argentine Patagonian terroir. The site's climate and soil composition bear strong similarities to Bordeaux in France. Wapisa is the third in the Tapiz family of wineries, owned and founded by Patricia Ortiz. The winery launched with Wapisa Sauvignon Blanc and will release additional varietals including Malbec, Pinot Noir, and Cabernet Sauvignon in 2018.

Jean Claude Berrouet is also consulting winemaker at Zolo and has overseen the entirety of the Wapisa project.

SUSTAINABILITY AND GIVING BACK

Tapiz as the parent company is certifiably sustainable in grape growing and winemaking production. Under Ortiz, the team is heavily involved in increasing organic practices, and recycling bio compost from winery waste. The company invests in research and development as well. Current investigations include inquiries on indigenous yeasts, vegan wine clarifying alternatives, the restoration of native plants, and the potential for white wines to age similar to Old World counterparts.

Tapiz is very involved with the local community, providing university grants to employees and local students. Ortiz donates her time once a week to nearby schools to teach about the importance of education. To her, education is the "key to freedom." Tapiz is also involved in wine moderation programs that educate workers and the community on responsible alcohol consumption.

The preservation of local identity has always been part of the mission of the winery. One such exemplary project is the restoration of a historic ranch home, now called Club Tapiz, which hosts guests for immersive wine and olive oil making experiences.

ABOUT WINE & SPIRITS TOP 100 TASTING

Celebrating the 14th anniversary; *Wine & Spirits* Top 100 Tasting Event honors those wineries from around the world that delivered the best overall performances in *W&S* tastings throughout the year. Since its inception, the event has been produced in San Francisco, with Bay Area chefs and local artisanal purveyors serving signature specialties to complement the premier bottlings of the honored wineries. This highly anticipated annual event honors the 100 wineries along with Bay Area's *New & Notable* Restaurants and Artisan Purveyors.

Tapiz will be participating in Wine & Spirits' tasting event in San Francisco on October 10, 2017.

For more information about Patricia Ortiz, Tapiz, Zolo and Wapisa wineries, please reach out to evaughen@everlycomm.com.

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