



ARGENTINA: SALTA-MENDOZA-PATAGONIA



SALTA

(29' LATITUDE SOUTH; ELEVATION
FROM 5500FT TO 7,200FT)

Located at 29' Latitude South, this is one of the highest places in the world with grape vine production to produce one of the most beautiful and expressive wines. Unique character, traditional powerful and elegance.

VALLE DE CAFAYATE

Spring started normally but with only 4 inches of rain it became very hot in the beginning of February. This caused the wineries make the decision to harvest most of the grapes before March to keep good fruit expression. Regarding the vintage, Colo Sejanovich from Anko (Estancia Los Cardones), stated: "Tolombon, (Cafayate) in Salta always surprises with the great potential of grapes, when you understand and know when to pick. 2019 allowed us to pick all during February, keeping the savory expression and elegance in our wines"



MENDOZA

(33° LATITUDE SOUTH; ELEVATION FROM 2,600FT TO 4,900FT)

Located at 33° Latitude South, Mendoza is the main growing region in Argentina and produces 92% of the total grape production from Argentina.

Mendoza has great terroir for Malbec, Cabernet Sauv. Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Bonarda, and Syrah. Along with great whites such as Chardonnay, Sauv Blanc, Viognier and Torrontes. Two regions stand out: Lujan de Cuyo has a history of more than 100 years. With traditional terroir for Cabernet and Malbec, the oldest vineyards give us the most exquisite wines. Valle de Uco is located at the foothills of the Andes and starts growing at the middle of 90'. The drip irrigation revolution has allowed agronomists to find new and exciting terroir for the best wines, with big potential of growing.

LUJAN DE CUYO

A year with great potential for both quality and quantity of production, started with a cold winter and fortunately no late frost.

The few rains in March and the cold weather in April let the vines have a slow maturation with a good level of antocians and acidity, without producing higher levels of sugar.

Hector Durigutti of Lamadrid stated: "The 2019 harvest will be remembered as one of the best of this century."



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VALLE DE UCO

A great year with few rain showers spread along the vegetative cycle, which allowed ripening in its right time. Great sanitary year with just a couple preventive treatments. This gave the agronomist and winemaker the power to make their decisions without any pressure from the weather. Fabian Valenzuela from Tapiz/Zolo says "it will be a year comparable to 2006 or 2010"



PATAGONIA

(FROM 39° LATITUDE SOUTH TO 44°;
ELEVATION 150 TO 950FT)

In this region you can produce grapes from 39° Latitude South to 44°. It's main production in the Alto Valle de Rio Negro is divided into two areas, the traditional fruit area in the valley which is more protected and the new area of San Patricio del Chanar. The wines here have a different character with less power, but more elegance. The exciting new area, of San Patricio del Chanar is the only area in Patagonia with maritime influence, and one of the only two with this characteristic in Argentina. The rest of the country has Continental weather. This area has constant wind, good sun and the influence of the ocean, where the temperatures don't get above 80F.

ALTO VALLE DE RIO NEGRO (CONTINENTAL)

With only 7.8 inches of rain annually, no late frost or strong winds during budbreak, conditions gave us a good volume of production and great quality grapes. It was the ideal year for winemaker and agronomist. The winds continued during the whole cycle, keeping the great sanitary life of the vines, without any need of treatments. Agustin Lombroni, winemaker at Verum, stated "this year will be remembered as one of the most productive and with great quality"

SAN JAVIER (ATLANTIC INFLUENCE)

The Atlantic Patagonia had a normal amount of rain this year. It registered some high temperatures during January and February, but the influence of the ocean over the vineyards tempered it and allowed a good level of natural acidity and good structure.

As always, the constant winds helped with the vineyards, therefore not needing any kind of curation. Carlos Correas, Agronomist at Wapisa, stated: "2019 was really good without any weather issues and let us pick as we wanted. We're eager to continue learning from this great new terroir in Argentina, brimming with a lot of potential"



CHILE

(FROM 33° LATITUDE SOUTH TO 44°;
ELEVATION 150 TO 2,900 FT)

Chile has many different weather patterns and soil all along the West side of the Andes. With Continental and Maritime climate ranging from hot to very cold.

There are a lot of opportunities in this country to find real jewels.

Alto Cachapoal, 70km southeast of Santiago, is a small continental terroir with good altitude at 2,000ft with heterogeneous soil.

The nights are cold and the days have good sun exposure.

ALTO CACHAPOAL (CONTINENTAL)

A cold spring delayed the beginning of the growing season, followed by waves of high temperatures in January, gave the vines a little stress. This didn't affect wineries that harvest earlier than is traditional, while allowing good fruit and acidity. Fortunately, there was no rain during harvest, producing grapes without Botritis or Odio.

Most likely due to some of the high temperatures, the yield was low, in particular with Cab. Sauv. The quality is very good with alcohol close to 14% all while keeping great acidity and fruit expression.

Benjamin Leiva from Lagar de Codegua said: "I like this vintage a lot. Good structure, great red and blue fruit, with very attractive acidity."

