

ESTANCIA LOS CARDONES - SALTA

ANKO

Los Cardones, Tolombón, Salta, Argentina

THE BEST EXPRESSION OF AN EXCITING SALTA TERROIR



Anko means “high water” in the native Indian language of Salta, located in the northwest corner of Argentina. Wine Enthusiast quoted Anko winemaker Jeff Mausbach as follows: “Salta is a land of extremes—extreme beauty, extreme altitude, extreme sunlight. These extremes make for a singular expression of Malbec—powerful, structured wines with a savory minerality that is very different from other regions in Argentina.”

In this rugged, mountainous desert, an “Anko,” or high altitude oasis, was treasured as a precious sanctuary, protection from the harsh elements of nature.

Our estate vineyards in Estancia Los Cardones, named for the area's majestic cacti, which can grow as tall as 30 feet, are indeed an oasis amid the surrounding jagged landscape. The head winemaker is Diana “La Tana” Bellincioni; the co-winemakers and co-owners are Jeff Mausbach and Alejandro “Colo” Sejanovich; the other co-owners are the Saavedra Azcona family.

Anko Cabernet Sauvignon Flor de Cardon

Sourced from the Tolombon district of Salta, the northernmost winemaking province of Argentina. Located just south of the town of Cafayate, Estancia Los Cardones is located at 5,700' elevation, high on the eastern slope of the Valle de Calchaquies.

92 points, James Suckling ('22); **92 points, James Suckling** ('19)

Anko Malbec

In Los Cardones, Malbec produces a very unique expression. The very intense sunshine at 5,600' elevation produces concentrated dark fruit flavors. The cold Andean nights lend floral and sweet spice aromatics. The stony soil profile provides excellent structure.

90 points, James Suckling ('23); **90 points, Vinous** ('21)

Anko Malbec Flor de Cardon

Local legend holds that a young Indian princess, escaping through the desert with her lover, was scratched by the sharp thorns of the Cardon cactus. Her blood, spilled on the spines, blossomed into beautiful white flowers.

92 points, James Suckling ('19); **90 points, Wine Spectator** ('18)

Anko Torrontés

Salta's intense sunshine and cold andean nights produce a bright, refreshing style of Torrontés, with intense floral aromatics, citrus fruit flavors and a stony minerality.

90 points, Wine Spectator ('21); **90 points, Wine Advocate** ('21)



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Vino del Sol's wineries are all estate-grown, sustainably-farmed, and family-owned.



Tigerstone

The first grape plantations date back to 2009. The most planted varietal is Malbec, however you can also find lots with Petit Verdot, Garnacha, Cabernet and Marsanne.

The soil profile of Estancia Los Cardones is unique in the Calchaquí Valleys as it is a very shallow rocky soil with abundant chipped slate stone on the surface, full of disintegrated mica.

The climate is dry throughout the year, except for some occasional rains during the summer season. Warm days and cold nights with thermal amplitudes greater than 25 degrees. The orientation of the vineyards, the intense sun and the stony soil favor the earliest maturity of the grape, being the first estate to be harvested in the entire Calchaquí Valley.

Tigerstone Garnacha

The bluish slabs of soils that cover the upper part of our Tolombón vineyard was what prompted us to plant this variety in the most stony area of our vineyard. A small production that brings the Garnacha from Argentina to your glass.

92 points, *James Suckling* ('21); 92 points, *Vinous* ('20)

Tigerstone Malbec

Exceptional concentration. The harvest takes place a month before the rest of the wines to add a better acidity and freshness.

**93 points, *Wine Advocate* ('19);
94 points/Top 100 Argentine Wines of 2021, *James Suckling* ('18)**



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