

## When the vine stands the test of time

By Andrew Jefford

Two of the company's three top reds are pure Malbec, based on different old-vine vineyards in the Major Drummond sector of Luján-Maipú and the Altamira sector of the Uco valley. **The 2007 Mendel Malbec** (based on fruit from 80-year-old vines in Major Drummond) has commanding aromatic complexity and inner structure giving its chocolate-robed black fruit authority. **The 2007 Mendel Finca Remota** (from 70-year-old vines in Altamira) is a little gruffer at this stage but maybe even better in the long run, with splendid precision, depth and vividness. Age itself, or the respect age inspires? I don't know, but whatever it is, it works."