

Wine Advocate's Robert Parker Review

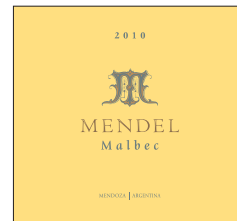
October 31st, 2012

The Wine Advocate
Tasting History



2010 Mendel Malbec

A Malbec Dry Red Table wine from
Mendoza, Argentina



Source

Reviewer

Rating

Maturity

Wine Advocate #203
Oct 2012

Neil Martin

93

Drink: 2012 -
2020

The 2010 Mendel Malbec comes from un-grafted 82-year-old vines in Mayor Drummond and Perdriel that undergoes a tripartite aging in new, second and third year oak (Taransaud). It has an expressive bouquet with scents of blackberry, raspberry and dark plum infused with thyme and touches of wild mint. The palate is medium-bodied with crisp, beautifully defined tannins. This is a very natural Malbec, imbued with finesse and poise, with an almost effervescent freshness and vitality on the finish. It encapsulates everything great about Mendoza Malbec. Drink now-2020+.

Alongside Nicolas Catena, the late Raul de la Mota was considered the forefather of modern Argentinean viticulture and his son, Roberto de la Mota, has himself become one of the country's most respected vigneron. It was Roberto's knowledge and expertise that Mendel's proprietor, Anabelle Sielecki, whose father immigrated to Argentina, sought when looking for a partner, and it was a pleasure to meet both at this small winery. The first thing to catch my eye was a sign indicating the age of the vines in Lujan de Cuyo. Mendel is a bijou winery that does not rely on modern technology to conjure impressive wines. They come from the small, specially selected ancient parcels that are combined with a simple, intuitive approach to winemaking courtesy of Roberto and vineyard manager, Santiago Mayorga. These are splendid, intellectual Mendoza wines. The highlight for this writer was the fabulous Mendel Malbec rather than the premium Unus and Finca Remota. But I begin with the solitary white, one well worth seeking out.