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Argentina

posted April 8 2010

Mendel, like many wineries in Argentina, is still very young. Some new wineries purchase land with very old vines, some purchase land raw and plant it and some were growing and selling their grapes before starting to make their own wine.

Mendel is fortunate to have 80 year old vines in Lujan de Cuyo to draw from and to produce wines with, in their new Lujan de Cuyo winery.

Mendel Semillon, Altimira Uco Valley, 2009

this was a fantastic find - my first Argentine Semillon - and I wanted more. Dosed with a bit of Sauvignon Blanc it is a vibrant, zesty wine with lime oil, pineapple, minerals and loads of white blossoms. The palate too is lively - gorgeous and oily, herbs and honey flavours with some petrol and praline hints. 15% oak aged and Mendel claims to have the highest Semillon vineyards in the world at 1200 meters above sea level. A real treat!



Mendel Malbec, 2007 chocolate cherries and raspberry notes, hints of savoury grilled herbs and pristine purple flowers with vanilla and coconut - very feminine. The palate is brimming with plush ripe fruit, hidden power and nice extraction with sweet plump tannins.

Mendel Unus, 2007 is a blend of 30% Cabernet Sauvignon with Malbec. The nose is a potpourri of cedar chips and violets, cassis sweet herbs and pepper. The palate is plush yet juicy - refined and balanced with ripe, supple tannins.

Much more to come...

To read the complete article follow the link:

<http://www.winescores.ca/newsletters/ArgentinaIntro.htm>