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For 2007**

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Of Value and Price**

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By Region**

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JAN. 31 - FEB. 28, 2007
\$4.95 US \$5.95 CAN



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TOP SCORES

2006

The 2006 Ultimate Buying Guide: Around The World

► ARGENTINA

Argentina is improving rapidly -**there are now dozens of outstanding wines on offer**, compared with the small handful of desirable bottlings available even a few years ago. The best reds are **dominated by Malbec**, now fully established as the country's signature grape. But even as **the top tier expands**, the bottom level remains stubbornly mediocre, so be choosy. The best Argentinean Malbecs feature vivid dark fruit flavors, racy acidity and minerality. They combine the best of both worlds- hedonistic style and authentic *terroir*.

Argentina is realizing its greatness thanks to a bevy of old-vine vineyards now being optimized by quality-conscious growers. The Mendoza region leads the way, but intriguing bottles from Patagonia in the south and Salta in the north are also available. Recent vintages (since 2002) have been strong, with 2005 potentially the best yet **James Molesworth**.

Winery		Score	Release Price
ACHAVAL FERRER	Finca Altamira	95	\$112
ACHAVAL FERRER	Finca Bella Vista	95	\$112
ACHAVAL FERRER	Finca Mirador	94	\$112
CATENA ZAPATA	Malbec Alta 2004	94	\$45
NOEMIA	Río Negro Valley 2004	94	\$145
ACHAVAL FERRER	Quimera	93	\$48
ALTA VISTA	Alto 2004	93	\$60
CATENA ZAPATA	Viña Adriana lote 3 2003	93	\$45
CATENA ZAPATA	Viña Altamira lote 1 2003	93	\$45
BODEGA COLOME	Reserva 2003	93	\$90
O FOURNIER	Alfa Crux 2002	93	\$42
NOEMIA	Río Negro Valley 2003	93	\$150
CATENA ZAPATA	Cabernet Sauvignon Alta 2002	92	\$45
O FOURNIER	Alfa Crux 2003	92	\$42
LUCA	Beso Dante	92	\$50
MENDEL	UNUS 2004	92	\$48
BODEGA RENACER	Mendoza 2003	92	\$50
TIKAL	Malbec	92	\$31