

2022 Catena Zapata Malbec Argentino

MALBEC

VARIETIES



SCAN TO VIEW ONLINE
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● 100% Malbec

ABOUT THIS WINE

The epic tale of the noble Malbec grape is like no other, and the label for Catena Zapata Malbec Argentino pays tribute to the variety's history in France and its rise in Argentina. Four female figures embody different landmarks in the history of the grape. Eleanor of Aquitaine represents the birth of Malbec. She is a strong, Old World presence, lingering at the bridge in Cahors, where Malbec came into its own. Next, the Immigrant symbolizes the movement to the New World and the unknown explorers and adventurers who connected Europe with the Americas. Phylloxera personifies the death of Malbec in the Old World, which enabled its rebirth in the new. Finally, there is Bodega Catena Zapata, represented by Adrianna Catena, who depicts birth, earth, and motherhood, sharing the riches of the New World. Today, the Catena family's fourth generation leads the high-altitude renaissance in Argentina. We are returning Malbec to the sky... where it belongs.

No matter what the vintage, this wine is really more than 100 years old. It represents a family's journey to produce an Argentine Malbec that can stand with the great wines of the world. Malbec Argentino is a blend of Catena Zapata's historic Malbec vineyards Adrianna and Nicasia.

TASTING NOTES

APPEARANCE

A saturated dark violet color with ruby reflections.

NOSE

The nose offers cassis, blueberries and violets, along with a strong suggestion of soil tones.

PALATE

It combines density and sweetness on the one hand, with gripping, lightly saline flavors of mocha, dark berries, spice, and minerals; a palate-staining finish dominated by sweet black and blue fruits.

TECHNICAL

ABV	PH	TA
13.8%	3.6	6.1 g/L

WINEMAKING

VINEYARD

"The vines from the Angélica Vineyard (planted 1922-24) and from the Nicasia Vineyard are a daughter- mother combination. The 100-year-old massale selection of ungrafted Malbec was planted in Nicasia in 1996. Both vineyards are ungrafted and their incredibly diverse massale selection is the same. The practice of planting ungrafted and massale has virtually disappeared in most regions outside Argentina, so these are both incredibly unique vineyards. The reason we blend in the Nicasia is because the plant material is the same, and Angélica is in a slightly warmer climate, so Nicasia contributes natural acidity and cool climate texture, which is slightly different from Old Vine texture. In fact, I am realizing that we have discovered a method for preserving Old Vines in climate change situations by blending in a small percentage of the same vine selection planted in a cooler climate. Also, we wanted this wine to be a classic and authentic representation of Malbec, and through this blend we have one ancient massale selection representing the most traditional region - Lunlunta in the Primera Zona - and a second representing the currently more famous region - the Uco Valley." – Dr. Laura Catena

2022 was an exceptional year at Catena Zapata from every possible qualitative standpoint. Alejandro Vigil, Catena Zapata's Head Winemaker says: "This is the best year that I have lived through". Yet, it was a roller coaster sort of year with unpredictable weather patterns that required deep knowledge of every region and vineyard. Thanks to the abundant glacier water, we were able to maintain a healthy canopy and yields were not reduced beyond the effects of frost. The autumn, with cooler temperatures than usual, allowed the grapes to ripen slowly and fully, contributing to the exceptional concentration and balance of this vintage.

Angelica Vineyard: 3,018 ft (920 m). Lunlunta District, Maipú Region, Mendoza, Argentina. Adjacent to dry river bed. Light gravel, loam and clay. Planted between 1922 y 1924 (102 years). 20% of the wine comes from this vineyard.

Nicasia Vineyard: 3,593 ft (1,095 m). Altamira in La Consulta District, Uco Valley, Mendoza, Argentina. Very shallow loamy topsoil with surface gravel and gravelly (large stones) dry river bed subsoil - optimal drainage. Malbec. Plant selection: Catena Cuttings malbec selection.

WINEMAKING

This wine goes through an extensive cold maceration (10 - 30% Whole Cluster) of 2-10 days at less than 50oF (10oC) to extract

aromas. The juice is then fermented for around 17-28 days with a total maceration of approximately 25-38 days.

Wine Director: Alejandro Vigil Winemaker: Ernesto Bajda

AGING

Elevage: 15-18 months in French Oak barrel. First, second and third use barrels.

BODEGA CATENA ZAPATA

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