

Domaine Nico

Domaine Nico Grand Père is an elegant, classic Pinot Noir from Villa Bastias in the Uco Valley, honoring the wisdom and love of the elder generation with complex red fruit and refined structure.

Grand Père Pinot Noir 2020



Region and Vineyards

Mendoza, Argentina



The **Villa Bastias vineyard**, located in Tupungato, within the **Uco Valley** of Mendoza, Argentina, sits at an altitude of **3,675 feet**. Planted in **1993 with Dijon clones**, this 5-hectare site benefits from a cool, shaded microclimate that is less exposed to direct sunlight than the adjacent Grand Mère parcel. The soils here are a mix of **gravel and clay-loam**, providing excellent drainage and adding mineral complexity to the wine. The shaded, high-altitude conditions allow the grapes to mature slowly, resulting in delicate red fruit flavors and lively acidity.

The low-yielding vines of this older vineyard express a unique balance and intensity, with careful hand-picking and sorting to capture the nuanced fruit profile that defines this wine.

Winemaking

The **Domaine Nico Grand Père** is crafted with a traditional, low-intervention approach to protect the delicate character of the Pinot Noir. Fermentation is carried out with **20% whole clusters**, using **indigenous yeasts** in a combination of **600L oak roll-fermentors** and **50% stainless-steel tanks**. Hand punch-downs are conducted for gentle extraction, maintaining a maximum fermentation temperature of **25°C** over a 7 to 14-day maceration period.

After fermentation, the wine is aged for **15 months in French oak barrels** (25% new, 75% second-use) to ensure subtle oak integration. A full malolactic fermentation in barrel rounds out the acidity and adds complexity.

Tasting Notes

- Aroma: Intense aromas of fresh red fruits with hints of earth and minerality.
- **Palate**: Medium-high acidity, with fine, silky tannins and a delicate structure. The fruit is vibrant and concentrated, leading to a long, refined finish.
- Finish: Lingering with a mineral backbone and a smooth, elegant fade.

Alcohol:13,50 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir







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Did you know?

The name "Grand Père" is a tribute to the wisdom and nurturing influence of grandparents, inspired by the profound respect winemaker Laura Catena has for the role of elders. The shaded vineyard and low-yielding old vines create a Pinot Noir that reflects the patience and care often associated with the older generation.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- Wild Mushroom and Goat Cheese Tart: The earthy mushrooms and tangy goat cheese bring out the wine's minerality and enhance the delicate tannins.
- Roasted Beet Salad with Hazelnuts and Arugula: The wine's vibrant acidity complements the sweetness of roasted beets, while the nuts add a subtle crunch that pairs beautifully with its silky texture.
- **Duck Confit with Pomegranate Reduction**: The fruitiness of the pomegranate and the richness of duck highlight the wine's red berry notes and structured tannins.
- **Herbed Quinoa-Stuffed Zucchini**: The lightness and herbal notes of the zucchini and quinoa pairing enhance the wine's fresh acidity and elegant palate.



James Suckling (JS): 94 Points (2020)

This has intense, engaging aromas of dried cherries, grilled plums, chocolate, hazelnuts, dried orange peel and nutmeg. It's medium-to full-bodied with silky tannins. Supple, bright and packed with sun-kissed fruit and spice. There's plenty of tension, too. Tight finish. Best after 2024.



Tim Atkin (TA): 93 Points (2020)

Like its stable mate, Grand Mère, this Villa Bastías Pinot Noir is made with the 115 and 667 clones, but comes from a vineyard with even less topsoil. Pale, delicate and refined, with lovely zip and energy, red cherry and raspberry fruit and fine, palate-caressing tannins.



Robert Parker (RP): 92 Points (2020)

The difference between the 2020 Grand Père Pinot Noir and the Grand Mère comes from the soils, and this suffers less in warmer years because the plants get less stressed and have more water. So, within the riper style of the year, this has more austerity, but it's still juicy, medium-bodied and fine-boned, with 13% alcohol and some spiciness from the barrels in the finish. Best after 2022.



