

La Savante Pinot Noir 2020

# **Domaine Nico**

La Savante presents a balanced structure with herbaceous notes and a nuanced minerality, an homage to the scholarly women it represents - both thoughtful and captivating.



# Region and Vineyards

Mendoza, Argentina

The **Domaine Nico La Savante Pinot Noir** originates from the **Gualtallary** region in Tupungato, within Mendoza's renowned Uco Valley in Argentina. Planted at an impressive **5,794 feet** (1,766 meters) above sea level, this vineyard benefits from intense sunlight combined with cool mountain air, leading to a slower grape ripening process. This unique climate produces wines with vibrant acidity and a fresh, complex flavor profile. The soil composition of **gravel and clay-loam** adds a mineral-driven dimension to the wine, enhancing its precision and depth.

Gualtallary has built a reputation as a premier site for high-altitude viticulture, especially suited to Pinot Noir. Its soil structure and high elevation allow for natural acidity and concentrated flavors, making it ideal for crafting elegant and complex wines. Domaine Nico's commitment to showcasing the purity of this terroir through careful vineyard management and minimal intervention highlights the Uco Valley's exceptional potential for producing world-class Pinot Noir.



## Winemaking

The **La Savante Pinot Noir** is crafted entirely from **100% Pinot Noir** grapes, with meticulous attention to preserving the wine's texture and nuanced flavors. **Clone 115** is fermented with **20% whole clusters** in **600-liter oak roll-fermentors** to enhance structure and texture, while **Clone 777** sees **50% whole cluster fermentation** in **500-liter stainless-steel tanks**. This dual approach, combined with hand punchdowns for gentle extraction, ensures a balance of complexity and freshness. The wine undergoes a **7-10 day maceration** to extract delicate aromas and color, followed by **malolactic fermentation** in barrel to impart a creamy mouthfeel.

Aged for **18 months in French oak barrels**, with **20% new and 80% second-use barrels**, the wine absorbs subtle oak influence without overshadowing its red fruit character. This careful selection of barrel age contributes to the wine's smooth integration of oak while allowing the purity of the Pinot Noir to shine.

Alcohol:14,00 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir







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# **Tasting Notes**

- **Color**: Deep ruby, with medium intensity.
- **Aroma**: Aromas of fresh red fruit layered with herbal notes like thyme, alongside spices such as clove, and a mineral undertone.
- **Palate**: Medium-high acidity with low alcohol; displays minerality, fine-grained tannins, and a balanced oak influence, providing both structure and finesse.

#### Did You Know?

The name **"La Savante"** translates to "The Scholar" in French, a tribute to intelligent and thoughtful women who embody both depth and grace. This philosophy is mirrored in the wine's character, which combines sophistication with an intricate structure, much like the qualities of a true scholar.

# Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Roasted Quail with Thyme and Garlic**: The herbal notes in the quail complement the wine's thyme and spice aromatics, while its acidity balances the richness of the meat.
- **Beet and Goat Cheese Salad**: The minerality and acidity in the wine pair well with earthy beets and creamy goat cheese, creating a harmonious contrast.
- **Grilled Salmon with Herbed Butter**: The wine's medium-high acidity and red fruit profile enhance the richness of salmon, while the minerality pairs well with fresh herbs.
- Charcuterie Board with Soft Cheeses: Soft cheeses and savory cured meats bring out the wine's spice and subtle oak, making it an ideal companion for varied flavors.



### Robert Parker (RP): 95 Points (2020)

The 2020 La Savante Pinot Noir was produced with fruit from the vineyard called El Mirador, 1.45 hectares planted in 1994 with Pinot Noir clones 115 and 777 in the monastery part of Gualtallary at 1,450 meters in altitude; the vineyard is certified organic. 2020 was a warmer year, and the wine shows it when you taste it next to the 2021, which is cooler. This is a little rounder, with 13.5% alcohol and mellow acidity, with more cherry than flowers, tasty and juicy. It finishes dry and chalky. Best after 2022.



### Tim Atkin (TA): 95 Points (2020)

La Savante is something of a bargain in the Domaine Nico range, a wine that offers a glimpse of Chambolle-Musigny heaven at a reasonable price. Pale, haunting and detailed, it comes from a 27-year-old block planted with clones 115 and 777 and has enticing rose petal and ginger spice aromas, tangy raspberry and strawberry fruit and a bright, tapering finish.







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James Suckling (JS): 95 Points (2020)



Wild smoky raspberries, brambleberries and oyster shells on the nose. Medium-bodied with vibrant acidity and taut, mineral character. Tense and elegant with a fine frame of tannins. Tightly wound. Drink after 2024.



