

Domaine Nico

With vines planted in 1998 at an impressive 1,350 meters , Histoire d'A reflects the rugged elegance of Argentina's premier high-altitude Pinot Noir.

DOMAINE NICO
Sœur et frères



Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

Histoire d'A Pinot Noir 2023

Mendoza, Argentina

Region and Vineyards

Domaine Nico's **Histoire d'A Pinot Noir** is crafted in the **Gualtallary** sub-region of the Uco Valley, located in Mendoza, Argentina. Known for its exceptional terroir, Gualtallary sits at an impressive altitude of **4,429 feet**, creating a cool climate that allows for slow grape maturation. This high altitude, combined with intense sunlight, promotes vibrant acidity and structure in the grapes, making it particularly favorable for cultivating Pinot Noir. The vineyard's **gravel and clay-loam soils** add complexity to the wine, contributing to its minerality and finesse. Established in **1998**, the vineyard produces low-yield, high-quality grapes, ideal for the concentrated expression found in Histoire d'A Pinot Noir.

The Uco Valley is often celebrated as one of the finest regions for high-altitude winemaking in South America. This area benefits from natural irrigation from the Andean snowmelt, fostering healthy grape growth in otherwise arid conditions. Domaine Nico's commitment to terroir-driven Pinot Noir has elevated the perception of Argentinian Pinot Noir globally, showcasing the region's potential for elegance and sophistication.

Winemaking

Histoire d'A Pinot Noir is composed entirely of **100% Pinot Noir** and emphasizes gentle winemaking techniques that honor the delicate nature of the grape. Winemaker **Roy Urvieta** incorporates **40% whole clusters** during fermentation, enhancing the wine's texture and aromatic profile. Fermentation takes place in **600-liter oak roll-fermentors** using indigenous yeast, followed by a **10-12 day maceration**. This approach extracts both color and flavor while preserving the grape's freshness.

Post-fermentation, the wine undergoes **malolactic fermentation** in French oak barrels, of which **20% are new** and the remaining **80% are second-use**, ensuring a balanced integration of oak without overpowering the delicate Pinot Noir character. The wine is then aged for **18 months** in these barrels before bottling, allowing the tannins to soften and the complex flavors to harmonize.

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Brilliant ruby with medium density.
- **Aroma**: Aromas of **cinnamon, clove, and black pepper** dominate, layered with subtle herbal undertones that add depth.
- **Palate**: The palate is well-balanced with moderate acidity and **silky, rounded tannins**. Flavors mirror the spiced aroma, enhanced by a hint of perceived sweetness, creating a generous mouthfeel.

Did You Know?

Domaine Nico is a pioneering venture by **Laura Catena**, inspired by the Burgundian approach to Pinot Noir. **Histoire d'A** represents a celebration of femininity and elegance, with the name referencing the novel *Histoire d'O*, underlining the wine's sensual and complex character.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Duck à l'Orange**: The wine's spice complements the citrus glaze, while the acidity balances the richness of the duck.
- **Wild Mushroom Risotto**: Earthy mushrooms and creamy textures enhance the wine's silky tannins and herbal nuances.
- **Herb-Crusted Lamb Chops**: The wine's peppery notes pair beautifully with the lamb's herbal crust, creating a balanced contrast.
- **Charcuterie Board**: Prosciutto, soft cheeses, and dried fruits bring out the wine's spice and moderate acidity, making it an ideal partner for varied flavors.

95

Robert Parker (RP) : 95 Points (2021)

The 2021 Histoire d'A Pinot Noir comes from the Monasterio subzone of Gualtallary (still not officially approved) at 1,350 meters in altitude. It fermented with 50% full clusters and aged exclusively in used oak. The wine has a pale and delicate color and a delicate, floral and perfumed nose, with less oak than previous years. It has moderate 12.5% alcohol and a very fine thread in the palate with very fine tannins. It's an improvement over previous years.

95 vinous

Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 95 Points (2021)

The 2021 Pinot Noir Histoire d'A from Gualtallary, Uco Valley was aged for 15 months in a third new barrels. A bright garnet red in the glass. The nose is shy initially but eventually offers up sour cherry and strawberry with damp earth and herbs over a bed of wood and vanilla. Austere in the mouth, the feel is silky and vibrant with intense flavor and delicate freshness before the languorous, nuanced finish.

90 Wine Spectator

Wine Spectator (WS) : 90 Points (2021)

Forest floor and baking spice details gather on a lithe frame, with subtle sandalwood accents to the cherry and red currant core, offering a pleasant wave of mineral acidity that lengthens the finish around perky tannins.