

Zuccardi

Finca Los Membrillos Cabernet Sauvignon is a single-vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon that reflects the distinct, high-altitude terroir of Paraje Altamira, Mendoza. This wine embodies the legacy of the region, combining traditional cultivation methods with Zuccardi's precision winemaking.

ZUCCARDI
VALLE DE UCO

94 vinous



Finca Los Membrillos Cabernet Sauvignon 2017

Mendoza, Argentina

Region and Vineyards

The **Finca Los Membrillos vineyard** is located on the eastern edge of Paraje Altamira, in the San Carlos area of the Valle de Uco. The vineyard, originally planted by a local family over 20 years ago, reached Zuccardi's hands in 2008, bringing with it a traditional character. Set amongst quince trees and supported by carob wood posts, the vineyard reflects the legacy of Mendoza's winemaking traditions.

The soils of Los Membrillos are varied, **stony, calcareous, and heterogeneous**—a product of the Tunuyán River's alluvial fan. Selected plots for this wine include areas with deep sandy soils and others rich in stones coated with calcium carbonate from a depth of 40 cm. The **cool and dry 2018 season** contributed to optimal grape health and allowed each plot to be harvested at the ideal time, preserving color and freshness.

Winemaking

Grapes for Finca Los Membrillos Cabernet Sauvignon are **harvested manually**, with a meticulous bunch selection, and then transferred by gravity into concrete vessels. Fermentation occurs with **native yeasts** in concrete vessels without epoxy lining, maintaining the purity of the fruit. After fermentation, the wine is aged partly in **500-liter used French oak barrels** to add texture and partly in concrete vessels to retain freshness and minerality.

This **100% Cabernet Sauvignon** has an alcohol content of **14%**, with total acidity of **5.86 g/L** and a **pH of 3.7**, resulting in a balanced wine with structured tannins and vibrant acidity.

Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

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Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep ruby with purple highlights, showcasing the intensity and concentration of this high-altitude Cabernet.
- **Aroma**: Aromas of **blackcurrant, blackberry**, and subtle herbaceous notes, complemented by a distinct minerality and earthy undertones from the calcareous soils.
- **Palate**: Medium to full-bodied with firm, well-structured tannins. The palate reveals flavors of dark fruit, mineral complexity, and a long, fresh finish that captures the essence of Paraje Altamira's unique terroir.

Did you know?

Finca Los Membrillos takes its name from the rows of quince (membrillo in Spanish) trees that surround the vineyard. Originally planted with traditional irrigation techniques, Zuccardi worked to restore the vineyard's soils and vigor, seeking to let the vineyard express the full potential of Paraje Altamira. This wine not only pays homage to Mendoza's history but also showcases Zuccardi's dedication to the singular expressions of each vineyard plot.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Argentinian Asado with Chimichurri**: The wine's structured tannins and dark fruit profile complement the rich flavors of traditional Argentinian grilled meats, enhancing the depth of the asado.
- **Roasted Eggplant with Garlic and Herbs**: The wine's minerality and herbaceous notes pair well with the earthy flavors of roasted eggplant, balancing the dish's richness.
- **Braised Short Ribs with Rosemary**: The wine's bold structure and mineral complexity enhance the savory flavors of braised ribs, creating a layered pairing.
- **Aged Cheddar Cheese**: The wine's acidity and dark fruit flavors match the nutty intensity of aged cheddar, making for a balanced and complex pairing.

94 vinous

Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 94 Points (2017)

A Cabernet Sauvignon from an old vineyard at Finca Los Membrillos, Paraje Altamira, 50% aged in French barrels for 12 months. The profound nose delivers notes of black currant, mint and fine wood such as cedar, as well as hints of caramel, pyrazine, white pepper and nutmeg. Attractive and complex, in the mouth it is juicy with a structure maintained by the wood. A potent, energetic wine for the region, achieving a sustained but measured tension. Firm and rich on the palate, this is an exemplary Uco Valley Cab.

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Finca Los Membrillos Cabernet Sauvignon 2017

Robert Parker (RP) : 93 Points (2017)

I noticed the variety in the 2017 Finca Los Membrillos a lot more than in the 2018, as Cabernet Sauvignon is very sensitive to heat and gets stressed easily. When they bought the vineyard, it was planted to just Cabernet Sauvignon, but they later bought land around it and planted Malbec, Cabernet Franc and Semillon, so the wine can change in the future... It was a low-yielding year and they picked late, resulting in a wine with 13.8% alcohol. It has herbal and ripe aromas of blackberries, a medium to full-bodied palate and abundant, slightly dusty tannins. It matured in 500-liter oak barrels and is very balsamic and minty, with notes of camphor, and it feels more developed than the wines from 2018.