



Catena Zapata

From Mendoza's finest vineyards, this Malbec blends fruit, mineral tension, and polished structure in a wine that's both versatile and age-worthy.



Catena Malbec 2022

Mendoza, Argentina

Region and Vineyards

The **Catena Malbec 2022** is a blend sourced from three distinct high-altitude vineyards in **Mendoza**, Argentina, each contributing unique characteristics due to elevation and soil variation. The region benefits from an exceptional combination of **abundant sunlight, low humidity, and wide diurnal temperature ranges**, which ensures slow ripening and aromatic intensity. The vineyards, all of alluvial origin, span a dramatic elevation gradient that ranges from 920 metres in Lunlunta to 1,450 metres in Gualtallary.

Lunlunta, at 920 metres, brings supple texture and ripe fruit from its loamy clay soils underlain by rounded stones. El Cepillo in Eugenio Bustos (1,090 metres) offers freshness and chalky tension from its loam-sandy soils with calcareous deposits. Gualtallary, perched at 1,450 metres, contributes backbone and minerality from gravelly limestone soils. This **diversity of terroir** allows the Catena family, under the guidance of Laura Catena and winemaker Alejandro Vigil, to craft a **harmonious, site-expressive wine** that captures the soul of the Andes.

Winemaking

The 2022 vintage began with a **five-day cold maceration at 10°C** to preserve delicate aromas and amplify fruit character. **Fermentation followed over 10-16 days**, using indigenous yeasts, with **total maceration lasting 19-22 days** to extract deep colour and refined tannins. This approach enhances varietal purity while allowing for texture and structure to build naturally.

The wine was aged for **11-13 months in French oak barrels**, including **first, second, and third-use barrels**, depending on the vineyard lot. This judicious use of oak adds complexity without overwhelming the wine's freshness. The 2022 vintage was considered exceptional by the winemaking team, offering ideal conditions despite climatic challenges—what Alejandro Vigil described as **"the best year I have lived through."**

Alcohol :13,50 %

Composition: 100% Malbec



VOYAGEURS DU VIN

DISTRIBUTED BY

WWW.VOYAGEURSDUVIN.COM



Catena Malbec 2022

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep violet with ruby edges, almost opaque at the core.
- **Aroma:** Intense notes of blackberries, cassis, and ripe plum mingle with floral hints of violets, underpinned by graphite, baking spices, and a subtle earthy touch.
- **Palate:** Full-bodied and vibrant, with finely-grained tannins framing layers of dark fruit, cocoa, and licorice. A persistent mineral edge adds lift, leading to a long, elegant finish with fresh acidity and great ageing potential.

Did you know?

The Catena family was among the first to explore **extreme-altitude viticulture in Mendoza**, challenging conventional wisdom and unlocking new levels of freshness and complexity in Malbec. Their research into **terroir-specific parcels** led to a dramatic redefinition of Argentine wine quality in the global market. The 2022 Catena Malbec is not only a blend of vineyards, but also a synthesis of decades of pioneering viticultural study in the Andes.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled Argentine ribeye with chimichurri** - the wine's tannins and dark fruit match beautifully with smoky, charred meat and herbaceous sauces.
- **Wild mushroom risotto** - earthy and umami-driven, this dish complements the wine's mineral tension and soft floral notes.
- **Smoked duck breast with blackberry glaze** - the richness of duck harmonizes with the wine's structure and berry profile.
- **Roasted aubergine with tahini and pomegranate** - a vegetarian pairing that echoes the wine's vibrant acidity and spice.



James Suckling (JS) : 91 Points (2021)

Aromas of plums, dark cherries, blueberries, tar and crushed stones. It's medium-bodied with round, velvety tannins. Dark-fruited and smooth.



Robert Parker (RP) : 91 Points (2021)

The juicy and young 2021 Catena Malbec has a nice combination of spice, berry and herbs to make it balanced, expressive and attractive. It's round, velvety and nicely crafted in an easy to understand and highly drinkable style and a commercial profile. A champion in drinkability.



VOYAGEURS DU VIN

DISTRIBUTED BY

WWW.VOYAGEURSDUVIN.COM



Catena Malbec 2022



Wines & Spirits (W&S) : 90 Points (2020)

This wine unleashes a barrage of flavors—huckleberry, wild herbs and currants—that lose steam as the tannins take over, lasting on those sticky malbec tannins. It'd be fun to play with pairing ideas, so open it at the beginning of a dinner party and try it alongside everything from cheeses and olives to the main roast.



VOYAGEURS DU VIN

DISTRIBUTED BY

WWW.VOYAGEURSDUVIN.COM