Catena Zapata

Catena Zapata Malbec Argentino is a flagship Argentine Malbec, paying tribute to the grape's journey from Cahors, France , to its rebirth in Argentina , where it found its ultimate expression.

CATENA ZAPATA
SINCE 1902

Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Malbec

Argentino Malbec 2021

Mendoza, Argentina

Region and Vineyards

This Malbec is sourced from two of Catena Zapata's legendary vineyards, located in the renowned Mendoza region:

- **Angélica Vineyard (Lulunta district)**: Situated at **920 meters (3,018 feet)** above sea level, this site features **sandy loam soils** that contribute freshness and floral notes to the wine.
- **Nicasia Vineyard (Altamira district)**: Located at a higher altitude of **1,095 meters (3,593 feet)**, the **gravelly and clay-loam soils** deliver structure, minerality, and exceptional depth.

The altitude and soil compositions of these vineyards allow for slow ripening, preserving the grapes' **acidity** and intensifying their aromatic complexity. With low yields of **1.2 tons per acre**, the vines produce fruit of outstanding concentration and character.

These high-altitude sites reflect the Catena family's pioneering vision of creating wines that express Mendoza's unique terroir while standing alongside the world's best.

Winemaking

The **Catena Zapata Malbec Argentino** is crafted with precision and care, combining traditional techniques with modern innovations to express the purity and power of Malbec.

The wine is made from **100% Malbec**, with grapes hand-harvested and carefully sorted. The fermentation takes place in a mix of **vertical open barriques** and **small stainless-steel tanks** over a period of **30-32 days**, at temperatures between **28°C and 30°C**. Manual **punch-downs** ensure a gentle extraction of color, tannins, and flavor while preserving the wine's finesse.

Post-fermentation, the wine undergoes **malolactic fermentation** to soften the acidity and enhance its creamy texture. The aging process is conducted in **100% new French oak barriques** (225L) for **24 months**, followed by an additional **12-18 months of bottle aging**. This meticulous élevage results in a wine of depth, structure, and refinement, with perfectly integrated oak influence.

VOYAGEURS DU VIN

DISTRIBUTED BY

WWW.VOYAGEURSDUVIN.COM

CATENA ZAPATA
SINCE 1902

Argentino Malbec 2021

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep violet with bright garnet reflections.
- **Aroma**: Intense and layered, with aromas of **cassis**, **blackberries**, and subtle notes of **earth**. Floral hints of violets intermingle with accents of **mocha** and **spice**.
- **Palate**: Rich and full-bodied, offering flavors of **dark berries**, **mocha**, and **black plum**, underscored by a refined **minerality** and delicate saline nuances. Velvety tannins provide structure and finesse, leading to a **long, complex finish** with lingering spice and fruit notes.

Did You Know?

The label of **Catena Zapata Malbec Argentino** pays homage to the grape's epic journey. It features four female figures representing key milestones in Malbec's history:

- **Eleanor of Aquitaine** - The Old World beginnings of Malbec in Cahors.
- **The Immigrant** - The movement of Malbec to the New World.
- **Madame Phylloxera** - The devastation of Malbec in France by phylloxera.
- **Catena Zapata** - The rebirth of Malbec in Argentina, embodied by Adrianna Catena, symbolizing the richness and promise of the New World.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Côte de bœuf grillée** : La richesse et les tannins veloutés du vin équilibrent parfaitement la jutosité et la profondeur de la viande.
- **Agneau rôti aux herbes provençales** : Les saveurs herbacées et savoureuses de l'agneau subliment les notes épicées et fruitées du Malbec.
- **Empanadas de bœuf épicé** : Les nuances de fruits noirs et d'épices se marient à la perfection avec ce plat argentin traditionnel.
- **Fromage Manchego affiné** : La texture crémeuse et salée du fromage trouve son équilibre dans la structure et la fraîcheur du vin.

96

Robert Parker (RP) : 96 Points (2021)

The very young but already harmonious 2021 Catena Zapata Malbec Argentino has one of the showier labels from the Catena portfolio. 2021 was a cooler year, as cold as 2016, but instead of a wet year like 2016, it was dry. The wine is juicy and reveals a vibrant palate and very clean and focused aromas and flavors. It's clean and precise with varietal aromas of violets, ripe berries and herbs and a spicy touch from the élevage in oak. It's another great vintage for this blend of grapes from the vineyards of Angélica (Lunlunta) and Nicasia (Altamira). It's nicely textured and tasty, medium to full-bodied and with a vibrant finish. 60,000 bottles produced. It was bottled in July 2022. (LG) (11/2022)

CATENA ZAPATA
SINCE 1902

Argentino Malbec 2021

James Suckling (JS) : 96 Points (2021)

A really well-balanced malbec here that is slightly spicier and richer. Black cherries, dark olives and some violets. Fleshy and almost full-bodied on the palate with juicy, naturally rendered fruit and very fine-grained tannins. Balance is the word. (2/2023)

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

The 2021 Malbec Argentino harmoniously blends 50% Lulunta grapes with 50% Paraje Altamira. For those who recall the old style, characterized by a significant oak influence on the aromas, this vintage marks a pivotal moment. Half of the wine was aged for 16 months in foudres, while the other half matured in concrete vats. The outcome is a wine that leans more towards its primary characteristics. Displays a purple hue. The nose reveals notes of cherry, blackberry, orange peel, violets and cedar. It presents a dry and plush profile on the palate, with fine-grained tannins and a juicy flow that culminates in a lingering fruity finish, accompanied by a vibrant and refreshing sensation. (JH) (6/2023)