Matias Riccitelli

A bold and polished Malbec , this wine delivers ripe power with finesse, crafted by one of Argentina's most dynamic next-generation winemakers.

The Apple Doesn't Fall Far From The Tree Malbec 2021

Mendoza, Argentina

Alcohol :14,00 %

Composition: 100% Malbec

Region and Vineyards

This Malbec is sourced from **two distinct vineyards** in Mendoza: **Perdriel** in Luján de Cuyo and **Gualtallary** in the Uco Valley. Perdriel, located at **950 metres altitude** near the Mendoza River, features **rocky alluvial soils** that yield rich, structured wines with soft tannins and ripe fruit depth. In contrast, Gualtallary sits much higher at **1,400 metres**, with **limestone-rich calcareous soils** that produce Malbec with freshness, minerality, and spicy aromatics.

Both sites benefit from **wide diurnal temperature shifts**, encouraging slow ripening, excellent colour, and **balanced acidity**. The vines are **hand-harvested** in small 20 kg trays to protect berry integrity. A **green harvest in December** helps to concentrate flavours and maintain quality in the final blend.

Winemaking

The grapes are carefully **hand-sorted and fermented in small concrete vats** at 26°C, with four daily pump-overs and a long maceration of 30 days to enhance extraction of colour, aroma, and tannin. Fermentation is followed by **12 months of ageing in seasoned French oak barrels**, which brings roundness and gentle integration of oak without dominating the fruit.

No fining with animal products is used, making the wine **vegan-friendly**. The final wine is bottled with minimal intervention to preserve varietal expression and site identity.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep purple with vibrant clarity.
- **Aroma**: Intense and lifted, showing black plum, wild berry, cedar, and spicy fruitcake, with notes of vanilla and dark chocolate.
- **Palate**: Full-bodied and smooth, with ripe black fruit, fine-grained tannins, and a long, rich finish. Complexity and freshness are held in perfect balance.

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Did you know?

The name **"The Apple Doesn't Fall Far From the Tree"** is a nod to winemaker **Matías Riccitelli's lineage**—he is the son of **Jorge Riccitelli**, one of Argentina's most influential winemakers. With this cuvée, Matías pays homage to family legacy while forging his own style rooted in modern craftsmanship and terroir precision.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Grilled ribeye steak with chimichurri** – a classic pairing where fruit intensity meets herbal lift.
- **Beef short ribs with dark mole sauce** – richness, spice, and structure in harmony.
- **Smoked portobello burgers** – earthiness and umami match the wine's depth.
- **Hard cheeses like Manchego or aged Gouda** – complement the smooth tannins and dark fruit character.

93 Tim Atkin

Tim Atkin (TA) : 93 Points (2015)

Like the Hey! Malbec this is entirely aged in old wood, but it's a slightly denser, firmer wine with a significant proportion of fruit from high altitude Gualtallary. Spicy, intense and concentrated, with a backbone of tannin, smoky oak and plush fruit. 2018-23

93 James Suckling

James Suckling (JS) : 93 Points (2015)

This is a fabulous red with salt, blackberry, chalk and pepper. Full body, firm and silky tannins. Flavorful finish. Drink now.

90

Robert Parker (RP) : 90 Points (2015)

Dec 2016 - Luis Gutierrez - We now need to add the varietal to the name of the 2015 The Apple Doesn't Fall From The Tree Malbec, as the label has grown and there are a number of different wines sharing that brand that are produced with different grapes. I was intrigued to see this wine after the 2013, which was not what I expected for the vintage. The grapes come from two vineyards, one in Perdriel and the other one from Gualtallary, two very different zones of Mendoza. It fermented in small cement pools with neutral yeasts and matured in used French barriques for 12 months. This has a completely different profile than that 2013 when they could have gone too far in low yields and ripeness. I see much better balance here, which translates in better typicity, more focused aromas and a silkier mouthfeel. Don't get me wrong, this is not a light wine, it has its power and good ripeness, but the word now is balance--balance in its style to reflect the zone, year and varietal.