



Matias Riccitelli

A refined and high-altitude expression of Cabernet Franc, this 2020 cuvée blends elegance and mountain-grown power in perfect harmony.

MATIAS **RiCCITeLi**

Vineyard Selection Vinedo de Montana Cabernet Franc 2020

Mendoza, Argentina

Region and Vineyards

This Cabernet Franc comes from a **blend of three carefully selected sites** in Mendoza, each offering distinct influence. **50% of the fruit** comes from **Agrelo** in Luján de Cuyo, where **15-year-old vines** grow at **1,000 metres altitude**. The area's pronounced diurnal range promotes long hang time, helping preserve acidity and develop complex aromatics.

The remaining **50%** is sourced from two high-altitude subregions in the **Uco Valley: Altamira** and **Vista Flores**, both home to **eight-year-old vines**. These cooler, more mineral-driven sites contribute **floral lift, precision, and structure**. All vineyards are farmed with precision viticulture, including deleafing and green harvest in January, and manual picking into 20 kg trays at optimal ripeness in late April.

Winemaking

Grapes undergo a meticulous double sorting, then are destemmed and fermented in small concrete vats. Fermentation is spontaneous with native yeasts at 20 °C, allowing for a gentle extraction that emphasizes varietal purity and texture. A **28-day skin contact** maceration enhances body and structure.

The wine is aged **100% in French oak** barrels, a combination of first, second, and third use, which contribute refinement and roundness without overpowering the fruit. No animal-based fining agents are used, making the wine vegan-friendly, and only minimal intervention guides it to bottle.

Tasting Notes

- **Color:** Deep ruby-red with violet highlights.
- **Aroma:** Aromatically layered, with wild blackberry, black cherry, chocolate, vanilla, and hints of leather and graphite.
- **Palate:** Rich and silky with supple tannins, elegant fruit, and a persistent, finely balanced finish. Notes of spice and minerality lend tension and depth.



Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 100% Cabernet Franc



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Did you know?

Cabernet Franc has gained increasing traction in Argentina as a varietal wine, particularly in **high-altitude terroirs like the Uco Valley**. Riccitelli's "Viñedo de Montaña" (Mountain Vineyard) selection showcases **the grape's finesse and expressive potential** when grown in Mendoza's coolest zones, far from the heavier styles of the past.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Venison loin with blackberry sauce** – echoes the wine's fruit depth and earthy complexity.
- **Beef tenderloin with herbed crust** – supple tannins and spice match beautifully.
- **Grilled eggplant with pomegranate and tahini** – minerality and freshness lift this savoury dish.
- **Mature cheeses like Tomme or aged Morbier** – pair well with the wine's smooth texture and dark fruit core.



Robert Parker (RP) : **94 Points** (2020)

The 2020 Viñedos de Montaña Cabernet Franc comes from Los Chacayes at 1,100 meters in altitude, which helps to keep the freshness without losing ripeness. They limit the yields to pick earlier. It's medium to full-bodied and has 14% alcohol. It's herbal, peppery and varietal, with fine tannins and nice balance with potential to develop in bottle. 5,000 bottles were filled in September 2021.

