

James Molesworth's Recommended Wines From Argentina

For complete reviews, see the Buying Guide of previous issues or www.winespectator.com.
An alphabetical listing of all wines tasted for this report is available at www.winespectator.com/121508.

TOP WINES

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
ACHÁVAL-FERRER Malbec Mendoza Finca Altamira 2006 Piercing aromas of violet, iron and blueberry fruit lead to a rich yet pure, precise palate of boysenberry and blackberry.	96	\$112
ACHÁVAL-FERRER Malbec Mendoza Finca Mirador 2006 This has an intense palate that's superracy, with underlying minerality driving the fruit through the seamless finish.	95	\$112
ALTA VISTA Alto Mendoza 2006 Offers terrific intensity and drive, with a torrent of fig paste, macerated currant, boysenberry and blackberry fruit.	95	\$80
BODEGA NOEMÍA DE PATAGONIA Río Negro Valley 2006 Dense, but pure and driven, showing graphite, mineral and red licorice notes, with raspberry and boysenberry ganache.	95	\$130
BODEGA CATENA ZAPATA Malbec Mendoza Adrianna Vineyard 2004 A glorious display of vivid, pure, modern fruit, with blueberry, boysenberry, fig and plum notes all blended together.	94	\$105
BODEGA CATENA ZAPATA Malbec Mendoza Nicasia Vineyard 2005 Aims for power, with dark, dense layers of fig sauce, roasted plum and warm currant preserve. The finish is long and dense.	94	\$105
VIÑA COBOS Malbec Mendoza Marchiori Vineyard 2005 Very lush and showy, with exotic fig, currant paste and boysenberry reduction notes layered over a creamy palate.	94	\$150
LUCA Malbec Altos de Mendoza Nico 2005 Exotic, with intensely concentrated but remarkably creamy fig, raspberry, boysenberry and currant fruit. Very impressive.	94	\$125
DOMINIO DEL PLATA Nosotros Mendoza 2006 Pulls no punches, with a torrent of crushed plum, raspberry and boysenberry fruit that pumps from start to finish. Malbec.	94	\$100
ALTA VISTA Malbec Luján de Cuyo Alizarine 2006 Intense, with crushed plum and currant fruit surging over dark briar, fig sauce, dark chocolate bark and coffee notes.	93	\$50
ALTA VISTA Malbec Luján de Cuyo Serenade 2006 Dark, almost brooding, showing fig paste, hoisin sauce, bitter-sweet cocoa, espresso and loam notes, with muscular tannins.	93	\$50
BODEGA CATENA ZAPATA Cabernet Sauvignon Mendoza Alta 2004 This is a gorgeous, streamlined, modern Cabernet, with cocoa powder, loam, fig paste and molten chocolate notes.	93	\$45
BODEGA CATENA ZAPATA Malbec Mendoza Alta 2005 Concentrated, with dark fig and currant paste, but also pure and driven. Really gorgeous for its density and mouthfeel.	93	\$50
VIÑA COBOS uNico Marchiori Vineyard Mendoza 2005 Offers a rich palate of espresso, currant paste, warm fig bread and crushed blackberry. Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon.	93	\$165
BODEGAS Y VIÑEDOS O. FOURNIER Malbec Uco Valley Alfa Cruz 2004 This is dark and packed with a large core of hoisin sauce, Port reduction, bittersweet cocoa, raspberry ganache and charcoal.	93	\$44

TOP WINES (continued)

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
LUCA Beso de Dante Mendoza 2006 Fig, cocoa and ganache notes are backed by coffee, black licorice and loam. Long and rich. Malbec blend.	93	\$50
LUCA Malbec Uco Valley 2007 This goes for the gusto and pulls it off. The flavors glide along rich, velvety tannins to a long, mouthfilling finish.	93	\$35
BODEGA MENDEL Unus Mendoza 2006 Vivid and tightly wound, with a racy core of blueberry, raspberry and fig fruit. Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon.	93	\$50
TRIVENTO Malbec Mendoza Eolo 2005 Really loaded, with raspberry ganache, currant paste, warm fig and melted black licorice flavors. Muscular but accessible.	93	\$79

TOP VALUES

WINE	SCORE	PRICE
BODEGA LUIGI BOSCA Malbec Luján de Cuyo Reserva 2005 A big, broad-shouldered wine, with muscular layers of black fig, coffee, bittersweet cocoa and dark licorice.	91	\$18
LA POSTA DEL VIÑATERO Malbec Uco Valley Pizzella Family Vineyard 2007 Ripe and flashy, with a showy layer of mocha leading the way for spice cake, raspberry and boysenberry fruit flavors.	91	\$18
ALAMOS Malbec Mendoza Selección 2007 Round and fleshy, with enticing spice, blueberry, fig and boysenberry flavors backed by fruitcake and melted licorice hints.	90	\$15
VIÑA DOÑA PAULA Malbec Luján de Cuyo 2007 Dark and winy, delivering warm currant paste, cocoa powder and Turkish coffee notes, with solid grip on the fleshy finish.	90	\$16
BODEGA NORTON Malbec Mendoza Reserva 2006 Very toasty, offering showy mocha and spice aromatics, but also plenty of flesh, with lush raspberry, fig and plum notes.	90	\$18
LA POSTA DEL VIÑATERO Malbec Mendoza Angel Paulucci Vineyard 2007 Juicy and ripe, with fig, blackberry, mocha and currant paste.	90	\$18
BODEGA DEL DESIERTO Cabernet Franc Alto Valle del Rio Colorado 25/5 2005 Ripe, with solid varietal character and fleshy, focused tannins.	89	\$15
BODEGA DEL DESIERTO Syrah Alto Valle del Rio Colorado 25/5 2005 This is on the beefy side, with thick but juicy flavors.	89	\$15
VIÑA DOÑA PAULA Shiraz-Malbec Luján de Cuyo 2006 A dark, polished, modern style. Plush flavors lead the way.	89	\$16
DURIGUTTI Malbec Mendoza 2006 Delivers boysenberry, plum sauce, dark licorice and fruitcake.	89	\$13
DOMINIO DEL PLATA Syrah-Bonarda Mendoza Crios de Susana Balbo 2006 Very juicy and enticing, with lushly layered flavors.	89	\$15
LA POSTA DEL VIÑATERO Cocina Blend Mendoza 2007 Offers fig, melted licorice and dark plum fruit. Malbec blend.	89	\$15