

Domaine Bousquet Reserve Organic Malbec

2021

Background:

Reserve wines from this family-owned estate in the Gualtallary Valley, a scenic, remote, arid terrain high in the Uco Valley in Argentina's Mendoza region, close to the border with Chile, are made from handpicked, certified organic estate fruit. A 4,000-plus-foot elevation and low yields ensure heightened aromas, structure, and flavor, balanced by a food-friendly fresh acidity.

Soil: Sandy loam

Vineyards:

Thanks to the Uco Valley's dry climate and phylloxera-resistant sandy soils, farming organically at Domaine Bousquet, from day one, was not only possible, but expedient. Other factors that set this landscape apart include constant breezes from the Andes to the west, helping mitigate heat-stress in this desert-like climate. Significant day/night temperature differentials contribute enhanced aromatics, while sandy soils result in low fertility, desirable for vine stress and ideal for good drainage. With rainfall averaging a scant 8"/203 mm annually, groundwater from Andes snowmelt is vital for vineyard irrigation. Time has shown that the roots of organically grown vines penetrate deeper, enabling greater access to water in times of drought. Not least, organic farming is decidedly better for the long-term wellbeing of the local environment, as well the people who tend the vines.

Winemaking:

Hand-picked grapes harvested in the third and fourth weeks of April, before undergoing a 48-hour cold maceration at 50° F/10° C, followed by a 10-day fermentation using selected yeasts between 77° F/25° C and 81° F/27° C, and a further 14-day maceration. 100% malolactic and aged in contact with French oak 6-8 months.

Technical Data:

Varietal: 85% Malbec, 5% Merlot, 5% Syrah, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon Alcohol: 14.5%

Acidity-Ph: 5.25/3.66

Residual Sugar: 1.8

Tasting Notes:

With its rich aroma, lively acidity, plummy and briary fruit flavors, this Reserve Malbec comes with a dash of French elegance and just a touch of oak. The wine is a testament to its Argentine heritage and the French origin of the Bousquet family.

Pairing:

A great match for steak, pork & lamb as well as fattier fish like salmon and poultry with dark meat. Best served at 18°C/64°F.



