

Altos Las Hormigas,
Jardin de Hormigas `Metedora` Malbec 2021
Valle de Uco, Mendoza, Argentina



PRODUCER

Altos Las Hormigas is based in Luján de Cuyo, the first officially recognised appellation in Mendoza and one of the region's premium vine growing areas. The estate is known as a Malbec specialist with a reputation as one of the country's top five producers of this particular variety. Alberto Antonini and fellow Tuscan, Antonio Morescalchi, were so impressed with the vineyards in the area around Mendoza, following their first trip to Argentina in 1995, that they persuaded a few friends to join with them in buying this estate. The estate covers 88 hectares with 56 in production.

VINEYARDS

Grapes were sourced from four different plots in the Jardín Altamira vineyard, located in Paraje Altamira, Uco Valley. This vineyard is planted at 1,200 metres above sea level, and has a diverse range of soil profiles, created by river currents. The top soil is rich in silt with dissolved limestone, and underneath there are large, granite rocks. The entire vineyard is certified organic, with an extra focus on sustainable management and biodiversity.

VINTAGE

The growing season began with a fresh and dry spring, resulting in good fruit set in the vines. During summer, temperatures were moderate, and during picking between February and March, there were several bouts of rain. By the end of the season, the rain eased and temperatures were warm and stable, avoiding over-ripeness in the grapes. These conditions produced very fresh, highly aromatic wines with intense colour, elegant tannins and great structure.

VINIFICATION

This wine was vinified for 20 days in concrete tanks, and then fermented with 15% whole clusters and indigenous yeasts. The temperature was kept at 25 degrees throughout the entire process, in order to maintain the purity of fruit aromas. It was then aged in concrete for 12 months.

TASTING NOTES

`Metedora` is an object from the sky, that falls on earth unexpectedly. This wine was born out of the idea of creating a more simple style from the complex Jardín Altamira vineyard. However when tasting the wine, the team at Altos Las Hormigas realised they had instead produced a Malbec that is complex, diverse and unique. Clear ruby red colour, with notes of gunpowder and graphite on the nose initially. On the palate it is tense, with textured, balanced tannins. Flavours of cherry, violet and chamomile as well as herbaceous notes lead to a long, concentrated finish.

Grape Varieties	100% Malbec
Winemaker	Alberto Antonini, Atilio Pagli, Federico Gambetta, Ana Wiederhold
Closure	Diam
ABV	13.5%
Residual Sugar	2.5g/L
Acidity	5.17g/L
Wine pH	3.63
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Certified Organic, Sustainable, Vegetarian, Vegan