Kaiken Clásico,

Mendoza Malbec 2023

Mendoza, Argentina





Grape Varieties	100% Malbec
Winemaker	Juan Pablo Solis
Closure	Screwcap
ABV	13.5%
Residual Sugar	2.76g/L
Acidity	5.32g/L
Wine pH	3.58
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Vegan

PRODUCER

Kaikenes are wild geese, native to Patagonia, that fly across the Andes between Chile and Argentina. In the same way, Montes, the Chilean winery, crossed the Andes to set up in Mendoza. Their vineyards are situated in the heart of Mendoza and further to the south in Valle de Uco, where many of the premium producers are now sourcing their fruit. The focus is primarily on Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon, a variety that has been somewhat forgotten as Malbec has surfed one wave of success after another in the past decade. As a result, there are many old vineyards in Mendoza that produce excellent fruit. Kaiken's own vineyards supply 70% of their production requirements and 30% is from vineyards that they control.

VINEYARDS

The grapes come from vineyards in the Agrelo zone, 40 kilometres south from the city of Mendoza and at an altitude of 950 metres above sea level. These vineyards feature soils composed of silt, clay and sand with stones at two metres derived from erosion from the Andes Mountains. The region's climate is warmer than that of the Uco Valley, which allows Kaiken to obtain grapes with more fresh fruit aromas and flavours as well as very ripe, soft tannins.

VINTAGE

Despite adverse weather conditions, including early frosts and severe drought, the 2023 vintage produced very high quality grapes. Yields were low, with losses of 60% to 70% in many areas, but what was lost in quantity was compensated for by quality. The combination of early harvested fruit and care in the vineyards has resulted in wines with an elegant and refined character.

VINIFICATION

The grapes were hand harvested and transported in 300-kilogram batches, and once in the winery, individual berries were carefully selected. The juice was fermented in small tanks, followed by alcoholic fermentation and maceration lasting around 20 days. 40% of the wine was aged for six months in French oak barrels, after which it was blended, resulting in a fruit-forward wine with soft, silky tannins.

TASTING NOTES

This wine is deep purple in colour. On the nose, pronounced plum and blackberry aromas are complemented by notes of black pepper and clove. The palate is very fresh with soft and ripe tannins.