

2014 EL CHACO

Uco Valley

Malbec



Vintage:	2014	Avg. Vine Age:	25-35 years
Appellation:	Mendoza	Pruning Method:	Spur Pruning
Soils:	Alluvial: sandy topsoil over mineral-rich clay with some pockets of limestone.	Titrateable Acidity:	6.3 g/l
		Aging:	3 months in 1 year old barrels
Varietal:	60% Malbec 40% Cot Field Selection (Marcel)	pH:	3.7
		Alcohol:	13.4%
		Production:	980 cases

Technical Note

"Of the four appellations in Mendoza, the most prestigious is the Central Valley. This region is made up of places like Agrelo, Vistalba, Perdriel, and Luján but my favorite little area with a little more water holding capacity is LunLunta. This is the home of our first release of El Chaco Malbec. Being of high altitude, approximately 3,000ft above sea level, Mendoza gives us cool climate characters which are the secret to the grapes' success. Intense sunshine during the day is followed by much colder nights that are fueled by cold alpine air from the nearby Andes Mountains. This temperature variation extends the growing season by effectively shutting off ripening in the grapes overnight, allowing for the development of complex fruit characters. Cool climate means more red fruit aromas and good acidity. The cool mornings are an ideal time to hand harvest so the sugars are a little lower and we can get the fruit in nice and fresh and cool enough for a natural cold soak. Maceration is typically 3-5 weeks and aged in small French oak barrels of 1 year. Bottled without fining or filtration and low levels of SO₂, this wine is as natural as we can get from the valley."

Tasting Note

"The wine itself is fresh and vibrant but tastes like a wine 4 times the price. Solid power and weight in the mouth with great length and many layers of tannins. Plump dark fruit flavors like blackberry, raspberry, and plum. It is a wine that just goes on and on. Ends with a smoke in the finish. Supple wood and nice body means that although it is a serious wine it is one that is easy to enjoy and sit back and contemplate."

Nick Goldschmidt
WINEMAKER