



## 2015 Malbec

Grown in the prestigious and rugged Altamira district of the Uco Valley, our 42-year-old Malbec vines are ungrafted with roots that penetrate deep into the valley's well-drained alluvial clay, limestone and gravel soils. The vineyard is situated at the extreme southern end of the Uco Valley, perched at 3675 ft. (1050m), which is a cool, high elevation site. Sheltered in the rain shadow of the Andes Mountains, vines receive little in the way of annual precipitation. Because of this, our vineyard team is able to irrigate with a high degree of precision, using an ancient system of canals fed by meltwater from Andean glaciers. High altitude also contributes to huge swings between day and nighttime temperatures. This pronounced diurnal shift promotes later harvests and longer hang times, allowing the grapes to ripen fully while retaining a high level of natural acidity. Seed wines are supple and velvety, yet endowed with the concentration and firm tannin structure to age well.

### Vintage Notes

The growing season in Mendoza is one that is best described as complex. A warm winter followed by a long, cool summer with heavy rain during harvest endows varieties like Malbec and Cabernet Sauvignon with lower levels of alcohol and slightly higher than normal levels of acidity. Even in the face of a challenging growing season with careful vineyard management and precise timing of harvest, we fully expect 2015 to surpass 2014—it is a vintage that beautifully accentuates freshness and the elegant, mineral side of our wines.

### Winemaker's Tasting Notes

Vibrant and refined, the 2015 Malbec offers a spectacular aromatic array of violets, juicy blackberries, wild red berries, dark chocolate shavings, and spice. It's a gorgeous wine buttressed by firm, sweet tannins and a fine thread of acidity that creates a sense of freshness amid layers of plump black fruit. It draws you in with its complexity and precisely delineated, mineral finish. This is a wine with a long life ahead of it.

*-Giuseppe Franceschini, Winemaker*

### KEY DATA

**Varietal Composition:**

100% single-vineyard Malbec

**Appellation:** Altamira District, Uco Valley

**Harvest Dates:** March 2015

**Élevage:** Aged 16 months in new French Oak, in Mendoza's oldest wine cave.

**Alcohol:** 14%

**pH:** 3.52

**TA:** 5.5 g/l

**Bottling Date:** August 2016

**Release Date:** December 2016 (Est.)

**Cases Produced:** 220

**Retail Price:** \$60

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