



NICO

by
LUCA

The Philosophy

Laura Catena has a vision of creating a new breed of Argentine wines: small quantities, artisan quality, and true to their individual terroirs. She is a pioneer in Mendoza for working closely with small growers to grow very high quality grapes from some of Argentina's best low-yield, high elevation vineyards. State-of-the-art winemaking and oak aging (primarily French) elevate the wines to a quality level demanded by true wine connoisseurs. The final varietal blends deliver power along with complexity and finesse. They are the ultimate expression of rigorous vineyard management, viticultural experimentation, strict irrigation controls, skilled winemaking, and a quest for quality at any cost.

The Details

Vintage:	2005
Varietal Composition:	100% Malbec
Vineyard Locations:	Altamira (Paganotto Vineyard), La Consulta (Rosas Vineyard)
Avg. Vineyard Elev.:	3,200 feet
Avg. Age of Vines:	48 years
Rootstock:	Ungrafted
Harvest Method:	Hand-harvested
Oak Regimen:	12 months in 100% new French barriques
Fining:	None
Filtration:	None
Alcohol:	14.8%
pH:	3.71
T.A.	5.33
Total Case Production:	200 cases (6 packs)

Tasting Notes/Food Pairing Suggestions

Incredible color—you could use it in an inkwell! Dense and concentrated but never loses its ability to exude the red and black fruits and spice that are the true expression of Malbec in Mendoza. This is a huge wine that is a blend of old-vine grapes from 3 of Mendoza's most respected growers, located in three different districts. Only 4 barrels produced. While you certainly could drink this now, it will improve considerably with 3-5 years in the bottle.

About the Name/Label

Nico by Luca is named after Laura Catena's daughter. The family crest (the McDermott family) that appears in the label's background is that of Laura's husband, Dan. Laura was inspired by her third child's arrival to create a wine that would take the notion of Argentine Malbec to a new, higher level. Nico by Luca was born.



VINE CONNECTIONS
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