

## Jimena Lopez

Jimena Lopez found her passion for wine early in life. She began taking viticulture and winemaking courses in high school and completed her studies with a 6-month work study program at a winery. It was there, in the midst of her first harvest, that she realized that she had truly found her life's passion in winemaking. Jimena went on to study enology and viticulture in Mendoza. Before graduating, she had worked in Argentina, Chile, Mexico, California, Germany, France, and Australia, bringing a global inspiration to her winemaking practices and principals.

Since graduating, Jimena has gained invaluable experience working with wineries in California, Australia, and her homeland of Mendoza, Argentina. In 2002, she won her first gold medal and was so overcome with happiness and pride that she cried for an hour. She has gone on to win many more medals for her brilliant wines, but has always kept her endearing spirit of grace and humility, a woman who enjoys the simple pleasures of life with family and friends.



Jimena's winemaking principles reflect her personality in their ease and sincerity. *"In my eyes, good winemaking is simple winemaking. It needs to start in the vineyard. The good quality and purity of the grape is essential. We can have the best technology in the winery, but what you don't have in the vineyards you can't have in the cellar. I believe there are three things that make the difference to great winemaking: Know how, obsession for details, and above all passion."*

Jimena's number one passion in life is being a great mom to her little girls, Julieta and Valentina. Both girls experienced their first harvests at the winery at very young ages, being passed from cellar workers to lab assistants, and napping in the tasting room. Perhaps they will find their calling in wine even earlier than their mother and continue the winemaking tradition.