

New Wines From Around the World

ARGENTINA

92 Bodega Catena Zapata Malbec Mendoza Catena Alta Angelica Vineyard 2000 \$55

Lovely, with captivating aromas of chocolate, raspberry confiture and sweet smoke. Juicy and dense on the palate, with purity and focus to the raspberry and blackberry flavors that cruise through a lengthy, harmonious finish. Drink now through 2007. 1,000 cases made.—J.M.

90 Bodegas Caro Mendoza 2000 \$40 Nice mix of ripe, crushed berries, vanilla, spice and cedar, with an elegant texture and pretty finish. Good ripeness and weight. This may have some staying power despite its forward style. Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec. Debut release for this Catena-Rothschild joint venture. Drink now through 2006. 3,740 cases made.—J.M.

88 Bodegas Salentein Malbec Mendoza 2001 \$18 Juicy and ripe, with blackberry, chocolate and brier flavors and a rich, smoky finish. Very solid. Drink now through 2004. 10,000 cases made.—J.M.

87 Bodegas Salentein Shiraz Mendoza 2001 \$18 Has juicy plum, blackberry and brier flavors, with a whack of toasty oak. Concentrated and ripe, so let it integrate short-term. Drink now through 2004. 2,200 cases made.—J.M.

86 Bodegas Salentein Cabernet Sauvignon Mendoza 2001 \$18 Ripe, with brier and currant flavors and a healthy dose of sweet toast. A touch rustic, but there's enough fruit to warrant short-term cellaring. Drink now through 2004. 11,600 cases made.—J.M.

84 Alta Vista Malbec Mendoza Grande Reserve 2000 \$20 —J.M.

83 Alta Vista Torrontés Mendoza Premium 2002 \$10 Spice, tangerine and floral notes are interesting, but the finish is a touch blowsy. Drink now. 50,000 cases made.—J.M.

81 Trapiche Merlot Mendoza 2002 \$7 —J.M.

80 Alta Vista Malbec Mendoza Premium 2000 \$12 —J.M.

80 Alta Vista Chardonnay Mendoza Premium 2002 \$12 —J.M.

80 Trapiche Malbec Mendoza Oak Cask 2000 \$10 —J.M.

79 Alta Vista Alto Mendoza 1999 \$59 Has ambitious blackberry and chocolate flavors up front, but there's a woody, rustic edge that creeps in on the finish, holding it back. 15,000 cases made.—J.M.

79 Alta Vista Chardonnay-Torrontés Mendoza 2001 \$8 —J.M.

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