



SUSANA BALBO CRIOS MALBEC

2020 | \$15.99



DESCRIPTION

After 22 years of winemaking, Susana Balbo has a strong sense of what she wants from her wines. From every harvest, she creates the grandest possible wines under her Susana Balbo label. To achieve this, she makes a rigorous selection of the finest barrels prior to making her final blends, dividing them into the parents (reserve level wines) and offspring or "crios."

Wines under her Crios label display ripe fruit flavors, excellent balance, and concentration, and are meant to be enjoyed in their vibrant youth. These wines are produced under Dominio del Plata's code of sustainable agriculture.

Like Susana's own crios (a boy and a girl), they are extremely lovable and fun to be around. The label features a series of three connected and overlapping hands, an image inspired by a Mayan artifact. The artifact illustrates the interconnectedness of every generation, and the irony that we will be both the parent and the offspring at different times in our lives.

The creation of her winery in 1999 was a major turning point in Susana Balbo's life, and the culmination of her long-lifetime dream. Since then, its superlative rhythm of growth, the constant investment in technology and infrastructure and the global recognition of its wines have positioned the winery as one of the most prestigious and important ones of Argentina.

After ten years of sustained growth on international markets, another of Susana's biggest dreams came true when her children, José and Ana, decided to join her team and work side by side with her in order to continue to build the family legacy.

Their winery is in Agrelo, Mendoza, and they have two estates of their own: one in Agrelo, where the winery is located, and the other in Gualtallary. Susana Balbo's large family is composed of a team of over a hundred people that share the same spirit, the same convictions, and the same passion for the elaboration of high-end wines.

Susana's innovative essence leads her to the constant development of unique, special wines with worldwide recognition. These wines are sold in over 40 different countries, and they are all made under the same three premises: terroir knowledge and expertise, winemaking abilities, and environmental awareness.

Susana Balbo CRIOS Malbec 2020

This CRIOS is 100% Malbec grape from the Valle de Uco in Mendoza, Argentina. The vineyard is 1,050- 3, 445 meters above sea level. The grapes are hand-harvested. Balbo uses selected yeasts, temperature-controlled fermentation, and macerates the wine for 15-20 days. The wine receives multiple pump=overs, will délèstage in several stages of fermentation. It is then aged for eight months in used oak barrels.

Tasting Notes

NOSES:

A fresh, pure expression of the variety, this Malbec displays aromas of violets, cherries, and spices.

PALATE:

Fruity, with balanced acidity on the palate, notes of ripe red fruits and a subtle hint of oak.

PAIRING:

Grilled red meats, pasta with red sauce, hard cheeses, empanadas, chocolate desserts or dulce de leche.

Fun Facts

Brightness and energy to this, with sliced cherry, tar, berry, and some asphalt. Medium body with light tannins and a fruity finish. Delicious. **-James Suckling 92 Points**

The juicy 2020 CRIOS Malbec was produced with grapes from distinct locations in the Valle de Uco in Mendoza that, in a warm and dry year, shows ripe aromas and a soft texture with integrated acidity and a tender mouthfeel. Forty percent of the wine matured in barrels for eight months, and that gave it an extra degree of complexity. **-Robert Parker Wine Advocate 90 Points**

WINERY WEBSITE: [Susana Balbo Wines](#)

Valle de Uco I.G., Mendoza, Argentina

