

The Specifics

Wine Details

Wine Name:	Clos de Los Siete Red Blend
Vintage:	2021
Varietal(s):	Malbec, Merlot, Syrah, Cab. Franc, Cab. Sauvignon, Petit Verdot
Appellation:	Uco Valley, Mendoza
Country:	Argentina
Alcohol:	14.5%
Production:	11 months in used oak



What Is It

If Mendoza is known for its altitude-influenced wines (and it is), then Uco Valley is taking that influence to its limits. Located at the southern end of the Mendoza region and at some of the highest wine-producing elevations of the entire area, Uco Valley is cool, dry, and intensely sunny. Its chalky soils imbibe the wines with a freshness and minerality.

Two things are always true about the Clos de Los Siete Red Blend: (1) it always a Malbec-dominated blend and (2) it is crafted by famed winemaker Michel Rolland. The 2021 vintage brings ripe blueberries, blackberries, ash, and wild herbs on the nose. It is a dark, almost purple, wine that's juicy, hitting your palate with cherries, raspberries, and dark chocolate with a medium-body and a long finish thanks to the silky tannins. 94 points from James Suckling. Within the Winehouse, compare to the 4 Gatos Locos Miao Malbec which is a 100% Malbec from Alto Gualtallary, an even higher subregion of Uco Valley.

Who Made It

Clos de Los Siete was established in 1999 by French winemaker Michel Rolland and six fellow winemaking families from Bordeaux. The high-altitude vineyards (at or above 3,600 feet) are individually managed by the families with each making their own wines from their own vineyards. But then everyone also contributes to the Clos de Los Siete with Rolland being responsible for crafting the final blend. He has been dubbed the “flying oenologist” for having consulted for over 150 wineries in 14 countries. His wines are typically fruit-forward and rich with notable oak influence.

Doug's Deep Thoughts

Now this is a unique experience: a Malbec-driven but not Malbec-exclusive wine from the heart of Malbec country - Mendoza. The Clos de Los Siete Red Blend is an opportunity to enjoy French winemaking expertise (Michel Rolland is truly famous in winemaking circles) combined with top-tier Argentine terrior. And the beauty is that the Clos de Los Siete Red Blend is always evolving. Some wineries focus on trying to produce wines with the same flavor profiles year in and year out. Clos de Los Siete does not. Their only constant is that the blend will be led by Malbec. So this 2021 vintage is not an attempt to recreate the 2020 vintage. Nor will the 2022 taste like this 2021. That makes the Clos de Los Siete Red Blend an expression of one winemaker's blend from one shared vineyard from one specific harvest. It will not be replicated.