



# *Susana Balbo*

## *Malbec*

### **The Philosophy**

After 2 decades of winemaking, Susana Balbo has a strong sense of what she wants from her wines. Susana strives for optimal balance, with layers of complexity coming from blends she creates from individually fermented and barrel-aged varietals. The wines are never heavy or dull. Power is never the object—finesse is. She wants people who drink her wines to feel that every sip from the glass is as exciting as the first. The Susana Balbo signature wines are the top barrel selections from her overall production, thus quantities are limited.

### **The Details**

Vintage:	2005
Varietal Composition:	90% Malbec, 10% Cabernet Sauvignon
Vineyard Locations:	Lujan de Cuyo-Agrelo, Tupungato
Avg. Vineyard Elev.:	3,300 feet
Avg. Age of Vines:	29 years
Rootstock:	Ungrafted
Harvest Method:	Hand-harvested
Oak Regimen:	13 months in 80% new French and 20% second use American barriques
Fining:	None
Filtration:	None
Alcohol:	14.0%
T.A.	5.65
Total Case Production:	3,900 cases

### **Tasting Notes/Food Pairing Suggestions**

Beautiful deep violet color with exploding aromas of blackberry, black cherry, and violets. The wonderful aromas are mirrored on the palate, and they are joined by ripe plum fruit and a hint of toasty vanilla, bittersweet chocolate, and a hint of mint on the finish. This is a very ripe and rich style of wine, but it never gets heavy or alcoholic. A fairly full-bodied Malbec, and it has plenty of fine, velvety tannins to carry the very long finish. A wine that truly struggles between its fun and serious side. Pairs well with a wide range of foods from beef and pork to game birds or even meat-based pastas. This is what Malbec is all about.

### **About the Name/Label**

The label features figurines from a silver Huarpe Indian necklace that Susana owns. The figures represent women's reproductive role as the connection between the past, present, and future. She also considers her role as winemaker to be the connection between the vineyards (past), the winemaking (present), and the finished wines (future).