



# LUCA

## MALBEC

### **The Philosophy**

Laura Catena has a vision of creating a new breed of Argentine wines: small quantities, artisan quality, and true to their individual terroirs. She is a pioneer in Mendoza for working closely with small growers to grow very high quality grapes from some of Argentina's best low-yield, high elevation vineyards. State-of-the-art winemaking and oak aging (primarily French) elevate the wines to a quality level demanded by true wine connoisseurs. The final varietal blends deliver power along with complexity and finesse. They are the ultimate expression of rigorous vineyard management, viticultural experimentation, strict irrigation controls, skilled winemaking, and a quest for quality at any cost.

### **The Details**

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Vintage:               | 2006   |
| Varietal Composition:  | 100% Malbec  |
| Vineyard Locations:    | La Consulta & Altamira   |
| Avg. Vineyard Elev.:   | 3,150 feet   |
| Avg. Age of Vines:     | 43 years   |
| Rootstock:             | Ungrafted  |
| Harvest Method:        | Hand-harvested   |
| Oak Regimen:           | 12 months- 60% new French, 40% 2 <sup>nd</sup> -use French barriques |
| Fining:                | None   |
| Filtration:            | None   |
| Alcohol:               | 13.9%  |
| pH:                    | 3.73   |
| T.A.                   | 5.28   |
| Total Case Production: | 2,000 cases  |

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

Incredible color—could use it in an inkwell! Loads of spicy red fruit and black cherry cola aromas with notes of rose petal and cocoa. The red berry and black cherry flavors really pop on the palate as the wine has both good depth and very lively acidity that leads to an incredibly long finish. A bottom note of black licorice keeps the mouth watering too. This one is a teenager at the moment, and should age very well (and not talk back when you don't give it the car keys!). Pairs well with foods such as venison or wild game, steak, pork, quail, all types of lamb, and medium-strong cheeses. A very flexible wine due to its concentration and balance.

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

Luca is named after Laura Catena's son. The family crest (the McDermott family) that appears in the label's background is that of Laura's husband, Dan. Laura is continually inspired by the synthesis of cultures in her own family, and this international inspiration infuses the style and quality of her wines.

