STELLAR SCORES FOR LUCA

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MALBEC 2014

"Brooding aromas of blackberry, licorice and bitter chocolate, plus a minty nuance. Juicy black fruit, espresso and spice flavors are complemented by sexy oak tones and lifted by a violet element. Conveys a light touch but also has good density for the year; better-balanced than the 2013. Firmly tannic but not dry."



MALBEC PARAJE ALTAMIRA 2014

"Dark berries, black cherry, violet and licorice on the nose and palate, with a slightly gamey quality that reminded me of Syrah. Juicy, savory, fine-grained wine with lovely texture, density and clarity. Sexy and complex for its gentle price. Finishes with smooth, ripe tannins and excellent length."



BESO DE DANTE 2013

"Cabernet-dominated aromas of cassis, licorice, and chocolate. Ripe, oaky and rather muscular, conveying excellent grip but a youthfully clenched quality to the black fruit and mint flavors. This serious, chewy, oaky wine possesses good medicinal reserve and it has big, broad tannins."



CHARDONNAY 2014

POINTS

"Aromas of flowers, minerals, brown spices and dusty herbs on the cool nose. Juicy, silky and fine-grained; in a distinctly elegant, restrained, savory style for Argentine Chardonnay, with hints of lemon-lime, white peach and minerals. Very understated. limestone-influenced wine with good intensity and firm acid support."



SYRAH 2013

"Aromas of plum, jammy blackberry and chocolaty oak, complicated by a touch of black olive and lifted by a violet note. Not a meaty or gamey style of Syrah, but the savory, nicely concentrated black fruit flavors are intense and dry. Tannins are firm but rather suave, with no dry edges. There's no easy sweetness here but this wine is built for a graceful evolution in bottle. An excellent Syrah value."

ARGENTINA'S GOLD STANDARD



Reviewed by Stephen Tanzer