

94 POINTS James Suckling, November 2023

93 POINTS *Wine Advocate,*

92 POINTS Vinous, June 2023

92 POINTS *Tim Atkin,*

VINTAGE 2021

VARIETAL COMPOSITION 100% Pinot Noir

AVG. VINEYARD ELEVATION 5,000 feet

AVG. AGE OF VINES 26 years

ALCOHOL 14%

CASES IMPORTED 800

UPC 835603001099

LUCA

PINOT NOIR 2021

Planted in 1994, this vineyard defined a new terroir for Pinot Noir. This wine's elegant, perfumed style is full of tension and makes it one of Argentina's leading and highest-regarded Pinots.

WINERY BACKGROUND: Luca is Laura Catena's passion project to rescue old vines and produce wines that express the history and soul of Mendoza's century-old vineyards. She believes that "old vines are family" and strives to highlight the vignerons behind the wines and preserve the genetic diversity of Mendoza's historic vines. Luca purchases fruit from small growers, allowing these families to continue farming for another generation. She replants her vineyards using massale selections from Mendoza's 100-year-old vineyards. The historic G-Lot parcels of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay in Gualtallary were planted over 30 years ago and are at the edge of where grapes can ripen in Mendoza, at nearly 5,000 feet elevation. Laura Catena is a 4th generation vintner, mother of three, author, ER doctor, and one of the wine industry's most prominent voices. In 2023, she was given the first "Old Vine Hero" award by The Old Vine Conference. Luis Reginato works beside Laura as Luca's winemaker and the Vineyard Director for Catena Zapata Family Vineyards. Luca has had 10 wines recognized as Top 100 Wine of the Year.

Luca is named after Laura's first son, who was born the same year the brand was founded.

VINEYARD & WINEMAKING DETAILS: The Vineyards are located in Gualtallary (Tupungato). The grapes are hand-harvested and aged 12 months in 25% new French barrels and 75% 2nd use French barrels. Certified sustainable through Bodegas de Argentina

TASTING NOTES & FOOD PAIRING SUGGESTIONS: Beautiful garnet color with aromas of wild strawberries, saddle leather and cola root. A complex Pinot with notes of leather, spice, and cherry/raspberry confiture on the palate. Amazing aroma and finishes with an enjoyable Burgundian bent. Pairs well with foods such as lamb chops, grilled salmon, roasted duck or chicken, and game birds. Pinot lovers may just go ahead and drink it all by itself!

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