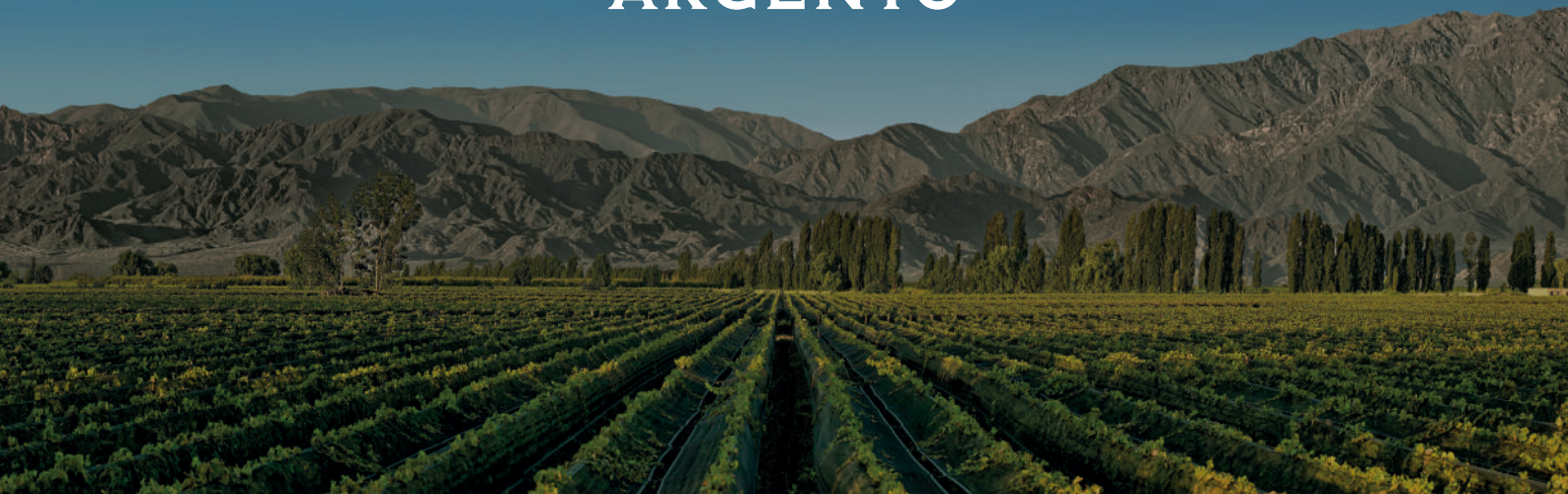




BODEGA ARGENTO



Finca Altamira, Uco Valley, Mendoza.

Harvest Report 2020

The 2020 harvest has been one of the most particular of the last years. Undoubtedly two factors conditioned this vintage: the early ripening of the grapes and the impact of the Covid-19, that made us take actions to protect our people and wines.

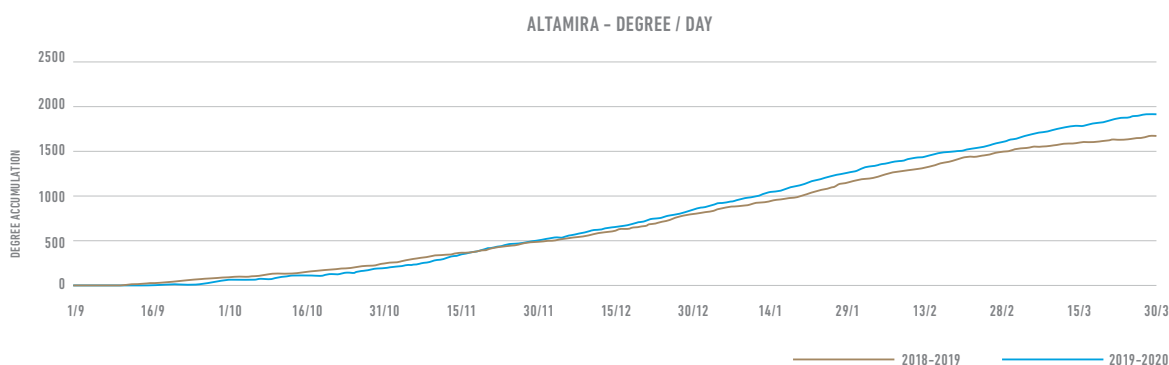
In this document we make a general description of the vegetative cycle of the vine, analyzing the data of the meteorological stations of our vineyards located in Altamira, Alto Agrelo, Ugarteche, Cruz de Piedra and El Carrizal.

The complete 2019-2020 cycle was warm compared to a normal vintage in Mendoza.

It started with a cold spring and less accumulation of degrees in days compared to the previous year, delaying bud break a little. But from mid-November on average, on all the vineyards we could see a turning point and an increase

of the temperatures, exceeding the accumulation of degrees / day daily compared to the previous cycle.

Due to this increase of temperatures, we were able to observe an increase in the speed of the phenological stages of flowering and fruit set, even observing an overlapping of the stages. In Agrelo we saw that the 100% veraison date in 2020 was only 50% on the previous cycle. We also know that March was one of the warmest months in decades, exceeding the average temperature by 2°C.



All this was inevitably reflected into early harvest point, between 15 to 30 days compared to the 2018-2019 cycle, even registering higher brix levels in the same blocks of the vineyards.

This 2020 will undoubtedly be remembered by the strict logistics to harvest the grapes in a very short period of time due to the explosive increases in sugar ripening.

Although it was a fairly healthy cycle in general, the month of February had enough rainfall and high humidity, affecting some areas more than others, for example, Altamira registered up to 100mm of rain in that month; and that affected some varieties more than others, such as the white ones that by the time already had a high sugar ripening.

The **red wines** of this vintage will be remembered for their high quality due to high levels of polyphenols, with bluish hues in their colors even in more reddish varieties such as Cabernet Franc. The aromatic profile remains fresh and fruity, since there was no over-ripening of the aromatic precursors and polyphenols, despite the high levels of sugar.

At the same time, the acidity levels remained fairly balanced, allowing fermentations at a good pH, with the development of fruity aromas.

The extraction in macerations is a critical factor in this harvest, because overextraction can be tough when working with highly reactive tannins and high concentration in wines. Undoubtedly great and long-aging wines will be those of the 2020 vintage.

For the **whites**, in Mendoza, we had an early ripening on the grapes, as in all varieties in general. Despite the fact that February was very rainy, the sanity was good and this helped to offset the acceleration of maturity, preserving the aromatic and fresh profile of varieties such as Sauvignon Blanc and Viognier.



Harvest at Finca Alto Agrelo.

Chardonnay, that was the highlight of this year, showed a decrease of at least 25% in most of the vineyards that we harvest. This helped to have slightly looser, healthier clusters with a very good concentration of aromas and flavors, great aromatic expression. Alcohols will be a little higher than previous years, but maintaining the aromatic freshness.

In San Juan we started the Pinot Grigio harvest very early, around January 20th. The quality has been very good without sanitary problems and with a slightly higher acidity than previous years, which helped us a lot to develop the fresh and fruity profile that we want. With a very warm February, we had a very sudden ripening, which led us to harvest double shifts and to double our production.

The Pinot Grigios of the 2020 vintage have been some of the most interesting in aromatic quality and freshness in recent years.

Without a doubt 2020 continues the great qualitative trend of the latest vintages 2018 and 2019.

Juan Pablo Murgia
Chief Winemaker

Cecilia Acosta
Vineyard Manager

