

WHERE I TRAVEL

Mendoza, The Seductive Region of Argentine Wine



DISCOVER

The best places to plan that luxury getaway.

STAY & MORE

Discover a number of the best boutique hotels in the province

DON'T MISS

The 25 best activities to do in Mendoza





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The 25 activities you cannot miss in Mendoza.



I would say that this has been my most challenging edition until now. . . But, discovering Mendoza and a number of its most renowned wineries and boutique hotels, knowing first-hand their history and everything they offer under a more than spectacular landscape for your unforgettable experience has been and will continue to be a pleasure.

I'm pretty sure this will not be the last edition dedicated to this amazing place...

Our special edition dedicated to Mendoza comes with our first Gastronomy Guide where we break down the best wineries to visit for an unforgettable gastronomic experience. I hope it's enough for you to start packing your bags and visit Argentina's Napa Valley right away!

Salud and good reading!

Dolores Burgos

Editor

Where I Travel Magazine

Mendoza, the largest wine region in Argentina.

**A gem on the other side
of Chile's Andes Mountains**

The city of Mendoza has become one of the world's wine capitals and enjoys an essential part of the South American wine tourism industry, helped by the natural beauty of the area. "*The Fiesta Nacional de la Vendimia*" takes place in March to celebrate the harvest and combines parades and sound and light shows with several wine tasting opportunities. It is one of the key events on the Mendoza calendar. The city is also a hub for several wine tour companies that benefit from the concentration of wineries in the surrounding area.

While Malbec is undoubtedly the star of the region, there are also extensive plantations of Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Syrah, Torrontés, and Sauvignon Blanc. Mendoza also begins to position itself as a producer of sparkling wines.

Mendoza is by far the largest wine region in Argentina. Located on a high-altitude plateau on the edge of the Andes Mountains, the province is responsible for approximately 70 percent of the country's annual wine production. The French Malbec grape variety makes its New World home in the vineyards of Mendoza, producing red wines of great concentration and intensity.

While the province is large (it covers an area similar to New York state), its wine country is mostly clustered in the northern part, merely south of the city of Mendoza. Here, the regions of Luján de Cuyo, Maipú, and Valle de Uco are home to a number of the biggest names in Argentine wine.

Mendoza's wine history is almost as ancient as Argentina's colonial history. The first vines were planted by priests of the Jesuit order of the Catholic Church in the mid-16th century, borrowing agricultural techniques from the Incas and Huarpes, who had occupied the land previously. Malbec was introduced at this time by a French agronomist, Miguel Aimé Pouget.

In the 1800s, Spanish and Italian immigrants flooded Mendoza to escape the ravages of the phylloxera louse that was devastating vineyards in Europe at the time. A boom in wine production came in 1885 when a railway line between Mendoza and the country's capital, Buenos Aires, was completed, providing a cheaper and easier way to ship wines out of the region. For most of the 20th century, the Argentine wine industry was almost entirely focused on the domestic market, and it is only in the last 25 years that the drive toward quality has seen Mendoza's wines appear on restaurant lists all over the world.



San Rafael, Mendoza
Photo by Delfina Iacub . @delfinaiacub

San Rafael

de Mendoza

A multifaceted and charming destination that combines wine cellars and a lot of nature around

San Rafael is an Argentine wine region located in the extreme center of the Mendoza province, approximately 200 kilometers (ca. 124 miles) south of the city of Mendoza.

Several wineries have opened their doors to visitors and now reveal how a bunch of grapes turns into wine. Put this activity on your wish list to learn more about turning fruit into champagne.

As might be expected, Malbec is the main grape variety here. Bordeaux-style blends stand out among the region's most popular wines, and single varietals of Cabernet Sauvignon, Syrah, and, less frequently, Pinot Noir is also made. Bonarda (Charbono) is also grown on the contrary tends to show up in a red blend wine. Chardonnay, Semillon, and Torrontés are among the white wine grape varieties.

The wine estates are located south of the city of San Rafael, where the Atuel and Diamante rivers make their way to the Pampean Plain from the foothills of the Andes Mountains.

The wine estates are located south of the city of San Rafael, where the Atuel and Diamante rivers make their way to the Pampean Plain from the foothills of the Andes Mountains.

This region is sometimes forgotten by people looking to experience Mendoza, on the contrary, if you love tranquility, you should put it on your bucket list.

You can start with an Olive Oil Spa at an Urban Spa type "Old Grannie Recipes". The excellence of this native fruit will allow you to spend a moment of well-being in a dedicated space to health and beauty.

After pampering yourself, visit the Borgian labyrinth that gave life to the literary crossroads. Today it is a labyrinth of the living fence in San Rafael, in homage to the friendship between the writers Borges and Bombal.

The Los Álamos farm in San Rafael is the place to visit the Borges Labyrinth. The construction of the ever-green garden of the path encloses a literary symbolism and seals the friendship between Susana Bombal and this well-known Argentine writer.

FALL IN LOVE WITH THE SOUTH OF MENDOZA

Finca La Carmelita



La Carmelita, an exposed brick mansion, is the gateway to an atmosphere of tranquility away from the urban hustle and bustle.

If you are a lover of vines, good gastronomy, and pure nature, Finca La Carmelita located in San Rafael de Mendoza, will certainly be your chosen place of recreation.

A city with *French airs*

La Carmelita is located in the city of San Rafael, the second-most essential city in Mendoza, it was created by the French community and developed urbanistically by the Frenchman Ballofet, an eternal lover of South Mendocino.

The facilities of Finca la Carmelita will offer you the comfort of elegant rooms in a rural environment, which will be perfect if you are looking for a place to renew yourself or simply enjoy the moment.



The extensive gardens are the ideal complement for relaxation and the enjoyment of nature.



The farm landscape is impressed by the Andes mountain range.



Gastronomy is highly-recommended for the guests of La Carmelita.

Enjoy a menu of international food without losing the touch of regional flavors.



At Finca La Carmelita, the comfort of its guests is concerned about its amenities.

In the oasis formed by the Diamante and Atuel rivers, San Rafael is a multi-faceted diamond that absolutely will be your place if you desire to be away from the urban hustle and bustle, enjoy full nature, adventure tourism, and a wide selection of wineries.

Additionally, you can visit the beautiful natural landscapes found in this city such as the Atuel Canyon, Valle Grande among others. And, if you are a lover of water sports, you will find activities available in the Diamante River, as well as parks with various activities such as zip lines and other height sports.



"Sunsets will be the crowning of their day and part of the unforgettable memories".

Enjoy a beautiful rural hotel with *European flavor*

Finca La Carmelita was built as a country house tiny over 16 years ago, however, the property has the ruins of an ancient mansion from the end of the 19th century with Washingtonian Robusta palm trees, unique in the area dating from those dates as well as stately olive trees. Later, a Swiss family built the pavilions of the hotel whose current owners preserve the tradition of serving Fondue and Raclette in winter.

When staying at La Carmelita you will receive the attention of the owners, who will ensure that your stay is as personalized, intimate, and satisfying as possible. Additionally to share and make known the space that they have chosen as a way of life, after having lived for a number of years in Europe and the United States.

The amenities of Finca la Carmelita will offer you the comfort of elegant rooms in a rural environment, which will be perfect if you are looking for a place to renew yourself or simply appreciate the moment and the space.

The rooms intentionally do not have a television to give you a greater option to enjoy nature. The tranquility of the hotel provides an ideal environment for reading and is enlivened with a wide repertoire of music, *"that amalgamates with the peace of the area, much appreciated by our guests,"* Federico, its owner, tells us.

The hotel is located in a distinguished exposed brick house, it has a hall with Swiss-style wooden ceilings, where you will enjoy your breakfasts and meals in the warmth of the fireplace in the winter, and, in the summer, on its terraces with amazing sunsets that will certainly capture all your attention making it an unforgettable memory.

Likewise, you will enjoy its gardens and a large swimming pool, Adding to its international food menu without losing the touch of regional flavors with the company of a variety of excellent wines that will delight your palate. Gastronomy is highly recommended by the guests of La Carmelita.

Elements of the past are today the decorum of our landscape



Farm and *animals*

By staying at the hotel you can discover the 20-hectare farm, the variety of fruit trees, walnut trees, new and ancient olive trees over 80 years ancient, and one and a half hectares of Cabernet Sauvignon. At the same time, it offers you the possibility of walking enjoying the natural landscape.

Depending on the season you can enjoy tasting the fruits of the tree in your mouth. If you are an "animal lover" you will have the farm's dogs as hosts, who will accompany you on your walks. As you continue your journey you will be able to hear the voices of the geese noticing your arrival, you will enjoy the smiling llamas and watch the horses graze from its window. Undoubtedly, a respite for the eyes and the senses.



La Carmelita offers you to connect with nature, animals, and the farm.

How to get there. . .

The Mendoza Capital Airport provides national and international flights and is two and a half hours from San Rafael by a pleasant road painted with pleasant landscapes. The farm is located 5.4 km from San Rafael Airport.

Although La Carmelita offers you an airport transfer service at no additional cost, it is suggested renting a vehicle during your stay to be able to enjoy the region simultaneously to move the 12 km that separates the hotel boutique from the city center. The San Rafael bus terminal is 13 km away, there you will find taxis for your transfer to the hotel.

Arriving from Buenos Aires by direct flight, leaving behind the hustle and bustle of the city, and finding the tranquility of San Rafael, is a real pleasure.

Valle de Uco

The Napa Valley of Argentina

The Uco Valley is a vital wine-growing region of Mendoza, Argentina. One hour by car south of the city of Mendoza is home to several of the region's most well-known wines and beautiful boutique hotels like the Auberge Du Vin.

The Uco Valley has seen unprecedented investment in the last 20 years. Wine tourism is becoming one of the key industries in the region.

The spectacular scenery and state-of-the-art wine facilities have led few to portray the region as the Argentine equivalent of California's Napa Valley.

Here Argentina's main grape variety, Malbec, shines providing terroir-driven red wines with a distinctive floral aroma. And, with the Cabernet Franc, fantastic results have been achieved. Additionally, some of Mendoza's best white wines made from Chardonnay and Torrontés come from vineyards in the Uco Valley. The relatively cool climate allows for the slower ripening period required.

Although considered part of the Mendoza region, the Uco Valley can be renowned in its own right in several respects. The region also hosts several Argentinian main producers.

Attracted by the excellent climate and soil, you can find renowned wineries such as Rutini Wines, DiamAndes, Domaine Bousquet, Andeluna, and many more that have raised the region figure.

Among the specific merits of Uco is its high elevation at the foot of the Andes Mountains. The subregions of the valley La Consulta and Tunuyán are altitudes of 850 meters (2,000 ft) and 1,100 m (3,600 ft) correspondingly. These are on a small scale higher above sea level than Maipú and Luján de Cuyo in the north.

Soils throughout the Uco Valley are alluvial and reasonably uniform: a clayey, rocky base with a stony, sandy surface. These free-draining soils are excellent for quality viticulture as they stress the vines, leading to decreased vigor and lower yields.

In turn, this can lead to wines with a higher concentration of flavor.

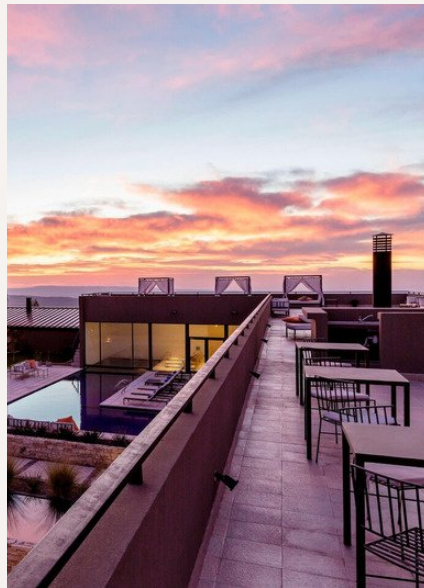
Explore the wineries: Andeluna, DiamAndes, Domaine Bousquet, and Rutini Wines belonging to the Uco Valley in our Gastronomy Guide.



Auberge Du Vin - Tribute Portfolio,
Valle de Uco, Mendoza

Escape to Serenity: Auberge Du Vin

WHERE TRAVEL / *Special Edition*



Auberge Du Vin celebrates the character and social nature of which your hotel is a part. Being a member of Tribute Portfolio, one of the 30 brands of Marriott International. Distinctive of a family of boutique and independent hotels that maintain their identity. This beautiful place is an antidote to the mundane and forgettable.





Relish
your time away



“OUR GUESTS *have a taste for design* AND, THEY THRIVE ON MAKING SPONTANEOUS CONNECTIONS, *experiences,* CONTACT WITH NATURE, and appreciation for the social aspect. ”

Located in the heart of the Valle de Uco, home to numerous of Argentina's local and independent vineyards, Auberge Du Vin, A Tribute Portfolio Hotel is a modern vineyard retreat 1, 400 meters above sea level.

The vineyards surrounding the property produce celebrated wines, from Malbec to Pinot Noir, which has become an international favorite.

Although Mendoza is world-well-known for its wine, there is an endless list of attractions to explore.

Auberge Du Vin owns a 7-acre private vineyard located within the Tupungato Wine lands, the world's first Wine Country Club.

Guests can pick first-class Malbec grapes directly from their terrace or on the hotel grounds.

It is interesting to take part in the harvest-time, especially in the production and grape treading programs, in addition to the infinity of attractions and tastings which are offered, both at the hotel and in the area.

Guests can coordinate horseback riding or bicycle rental of the hotel surroundings, perform their exercise routine in the fully equipped gym or relax in the gardens and terraces to enjoy a unique sunset in a natural environment.



Epic

Epic, the exclusive restaurant at Auberge Du Vin, invites you on a journey through all the senses, with regionally inspired dishes and a contemporary atmosphere.

Her chef, Patricia Torres, puts all her creativity into achieving an extraordinary culinary experience inspired by the concept of Wine & Gastronomy, where each dish is designed with its perfect pairing, achieving harmony between cuisine and wine. Outdoor dining options are provided during the summer, such as their traditional barbecue.

Auberge Du Vin also invites you to discover the wine expert within you by taking advantage of its hotel's ideal location, merely a short drive from the world-class wineries of the Uco Valley, achieving harmony between cuisine and the wine.

Capture the beauty of the local landscape and architecture.

Auberge Du Vin has 28 guest rooms that allow travelers to capture the beauty of the terrain and local architecture, with views of the majestic Andes mountains. Each room is distinguished by a tiny kitchen equipped with a refrigerator, microwave oven, and coffee machine. Several rooms include private access to the vineyard or a balcony.

The property offers concierge service 24 hours to all guests, being able to coordinate their transfers, visits to wineries, recreational activities such as horseback riding, bike rental, rafting, etc. The hotel offers local and artisan wine tasting.

Auberge Du Vin is surrounded by vineyards that produce celebrated wines, from Malbec to Pinot Noir.



Our unparalleled **network of contacts** allows us to provide you with a wide variety of personalized experiences, no matter where you are in the world.







Delight yourself with the Harvest

At harvest time, it is interesting the special programs for harvesting and treading the grapes, and the infinity of attractions and tastings that are offered, both at the hotel and in the area.

All guests are invited to participate in the traditional "grape treading" celebration. It is commonly held on the first and the second Saturday of March. Each guest can recreate the winemaking process with the collection and treading of the grapes in the vineyards, and then enjoy a wonderful cocktail at dawn with the most renowned winemakers in the area who will explain the entire process.



Meeting room

The hotel has a meeting room with a maximum capacity of 30 people, with natural light and a spectacular view of the vineyards.



Spaces arranged for your leisure

whether you are planning a getaway with your partner, friends, family, or corporate event, Auberge du Vin is the ideal destination to immerse yourself in a wonderful natural environment.



Appreciate the immense view from the gardens and terraces

where various wine tastings, tasting menus, cocktail workshops, typical Asado, and regional "al Caldero" meals are held throughout the year.



THE LEADING HOTELS
OF THE WORLD®

Luján de Cuyo

The pioneer region in Argentina
to be officially recognized
as a denomination in 1993.

Luján de Cuyo is a wine sub-region of the largest wine-growing area in Argentina, Mendoza. Unsurprisingly, Malbec is the most important grape variety in the region, producing bold and intense red wines. Excellent Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, and Torrontés wines are produced too.

Located in a valley merely south of the city of Mendoza, the Luján de Cuyo region is home to many of the most well-known names in Argentine wine. These include Susana Balbo and many more. . .

The region was the first in Argentina to be officially recognized as a denomination in 1993 and includes the wine-producing areas of Vistalba, Las Compuertas, Perdriel, Agrelo, and Ugarteche. Maipú is located directly east of Luján de Cuyo and, the Uco Valley is to the south.

The position of the region on the edge of the imposing Andes mountain range has an enormous effect on the terroir. The hot-dry climate is moderated by the region's high altitude, averaging 1,000 m (3,300 ft) above sea level.

At this altitude, the vineyards are subject to more intense solar radiation during the day than lower areas. Thus is equilibrated with temperatures.

cooled by the alpine winds from the Andes. This diurnal temperature variation delays overnight ripening and extends the growing season. The grapes develop full phenolic maturity without losing their acidity.

Luján de Cuyo is located in the rain shadow of the Andes and consequently experiences a dry, almost desert-like climate. The Mendoza River makes viticulture is conceivable here: the pure Andean meltwater it brings to the valley provides an abundant source of water for irrigation.

Flood irrigation is the traditional method in Luján de Cuyo. Nevertheless, more and more growers are turning to drip irrigation to have greater control over the growth of the vines.

These rocky and sandy soils have tiny organic matter due to their origin in the high mountains, and their low fertility makes them perfect for viticulture due to the fact it stresses the vines. Stressed vines will produce less greenery and smaller berries, which develop more concentrated flavors.

**Explore Susana Balbo's winery in our
Gastronomy Guide.**



Auberge Du Vin - Tribute Portfolio,
Valle de Uco, Mendoza

The 25 things unmissable in Mendoza.

With more than 1200 bodegas (wineries) in the area, you'll have your pick of vineyards and wineries to stop over. on the contrary, Mendoza has more to offer you on its list of the best things to do (after or previously a glass of wine or champagne)

1. Take a bike tour of the wineries
2. Stay at a wine resort
3. Ride in the Andes
4. Go paragliding from Cerro Arco
5. Visit Plaza Independencia, the larger green space in the city center.
6. Stroll along with the Pedestrian Sarmiento
7. Take a hike to Aconcagua in the Provincial Park
8. Visit the museum of the Foundational Area
9. Go whitewater rafting
10. Do not hesitate to enjoy a barbecue
11. Climb the Cerro de Gloria
12. Enjoy a delicious Malbec in a Traditional Tavern
13. Visit the Villavicencio Nature Reserve
14. Experience Mendoza's nightlife on Aristides Villanueva Street
15. Try their delicious olive oil
16. Visit the tiny Town of Chacras de Coria
17. Take a cooking class
18. Visit the National Wine Museum
19. Head to Lake Potrerillos
20. Visit the Museum of Fine Arts - Casa De Fader
21. Try the thermal baths
22. Visit the Inca Bridge
23. Do not miss the National Harvest Festival
24. Enjoy a wine-inspired treatment in a spa
25. Go fly-fishing



Independently minded



We Connect You With Beautiful Places.

*From carefully selected hotels
to detailed destination guides,*

We plan everything and share it with you to make sure you return home with memories that will last a lifetime. All you have to do is sit back, relax and enjoy every minute of your precious time. Every accommodation we partner with has been hand-picked to ensure the highest quality. From outstanding customer service and prime locations, we select only the best properties to recommend for your private getaways.

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