

An Inspirational Read: Exploring Wine Regions – Argentina by Michael C. Higgins, PhD

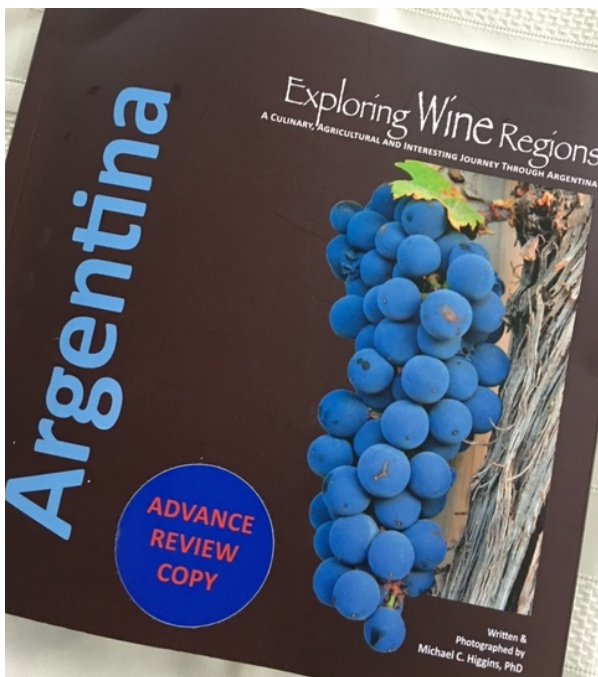
October 11, 2016 Cindy Rynning

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Argentina is a country I've longed to visit. Several of my friends have shared their photographs of snow-capped mountains, gurgling streams and mighty rivers, distinctive cuisine, and architecture of long ago. They've related stories of their "life-changing" experiences tasting wines in the vineyards or in stunning tasting rooms. Envious? You bet!

But now I have an advance copy of Michael C. Higgins' new book, **Exploring Wine Regions – Argentina** (\$34.95) for review, sent to me by those at **Geoffrey Weill Associates, Inc.** Despite the fact that I've yet to journey to Argentina in real life, thanks to Higgins' compelling encyclopedia that doubles as a travel guide, I've gained a more thorough knowledge and appreciation of this enticing country and its wines...and am inspired. Higgins' engaging narrative and breathtaking photographs are the virtual ticket.



This resource is the first in a series of coffee table books covering a variety of wine regions of the world. Michael Higgins, who has 20 years of experience in travel, food and wine publishing, traveled to Argentina for thirteen weeks, during which time he explored 58 premium wineries, talked with 107 winemakers, and tasted 583 bottles of wine. **Exploring Wine Regions – Argentina** is a fascinating resource sure to satisfy the longings of wine lovers, foodies, history buffs, and travel gurus. Technical information is woven with personal stories of the country itself...with wine at the core.

I am traveling the world Exploring Wine Regions, finding interesting and unusual wine experiences, an insiders concierge to share special and hard-to-find gems and travel experiences with you. Michael C. Higgins, Ph.D., **Exploring Wine Regions – Argentina**

The book is organized by the wine regions of Argentina: Mendoza, Salta, and Patagonia. Each has its comprehensive chapter and sub-chapters. Higgins describes the regions' major cities, recommends unique restaurants and beautiful places to stay, offers ideas for incredible activities (before, after, or while you're enjoying a remarkable glass of wine!), and suggests interesting tidbits. Where to find wine gelato in Mendoza, the location of the best areas for rafting in Patagonia, and where to learn the tango or have a special picnic are just a few...

MENDOZA LUJÁN DE CUYO
Winery (Bodega)
ALTA VISTA

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AltaVistaWines.com

English & Español
1.6 million bottles produced annually

AN AFTERNOON IN THE PARK

Le Parc... a magical afternoon, a gourmet picnic, a pairing with delicious wines, a romantic escape, a nap, a kiss, a peaceful delight under the shade of a canopy, and an enjoyment of a beautiful afternoon in Le Parc. Only at Alta Vista winery, on their 62-acre square historic estate.

In the heart of Chacras de Coria, full of hundred-year-old olive trees, the Alta Visa winery is a circa 1899 adobe brick buildings of sun-dried earth and straw, fully restored with cutting-edge technology for today's modern vineyard management and winemaking techniques.

A French-owned winery, the d'Aulan family produces wines all over the world, from France (their origin) to unique wine regions like Hungary and Argentina, where they created Alta Vista in 1998, in the search of the greatest qualities of two emblematic varieties: Malbec and Torrontés. The result is the perfect combination of French savoir faire and Argentinian passion.

I did not do a winery tour or wine tasting, although I heard it is a fantastic experience. For me, it was a beautiful afternoon in Le Parc where I enjoyed two glasses of their Atemporal Blend. I chose the Atemporal (meaning timeless) because it is a blend of Bordeaux grapes produced by a

Michael's Favorite Pick
Atemporal Blend (an Argentine Bordeaux)

Total Collection of Wines
Alto
Single Vineyard
Terroir Selection
Atemporal Blend
Atemporal Sparkling
Premium
Premium Extra Brut
Alta Vista Rosé
Classic

Specific wineries are described in detail within each chapter. You love **Achaval Ferrer** and their prized Malbec

grapes in Lujan de Cuyo? The wines of Bodegas Salentein located in the highest altitude vineyards in Valle du Uco? The “French savoir faire and Argentinian passion” of **Alta Vista** in Lujan de Cuyo? Find more of your favorites throughout this comprehensive book.



Naturally, Higgins shares the stories of beautiful wines and a plethora of talking points with winemakers or owners. Titles such as “Polo Gold and Grapes” (Tupungato Winelands in Mendoza, the first wine country club), “Luxury in the Vineyard” (Cavas Wine Lodge in Mendoza, a resort/spa/vineyard), “Artisan Pinot Noir” (Bodega Chacra in Patagonia, a winery with “biodynamic passion for extreme pinot noir”), or “Ancient Vineyards” (San Pedro de Yacochuya in Salta where full-bodied Torrontes is cultivated) are just a few of the fascinating sections within each chapter.

I know I love wine and I love travel! I know enough to know where to look, what to look for, what questions to ask, how to understand complex answers, and I have developed a palate to experience wine, and food, in an extraordinary way! Michael C. Higgins, Ph.D., Exploring Wine Regions – Argentina



When traveling to a new destination, wine lovers like me crave to discover unique characteristics of that country, those that make an appreciation of its wines more rich. Whether you're visiting Argentina in real life or in the comfort of your own space, pour yourself a glass of wine from Argentina and consider **Exploring Wine Regions – Argentina** by Michael C. Higgins, PhD your guide...and inspiration.

Cheers~ Cindy

Note: **Exploring Wine Regions – Argentina** is available at amazon.com. Click [here](#) for the direct link.

Link to Story: grape-experiences.com/2016/10/inspirational-read-exploring-wine-regions-argentina-michael-c-higgins-phd