



ARTESANA WINERY

“Demonstrating that the finest bottling from this emerging South American wine region will excite and impress.”

ARTESANA is a boutique estate winery located in the acclaimed Canelones winegrowing region of Uruguay. Made with the highest quality estate-grown fruit, Artesana's iconic wines showcase Uruguay's distinctive terroir and its signature varietal Tannat.

Uruguay produces dynamic and award-winning wines of outstanding quality. Differing from Argentina and Chile, Uruguay is a country of small-scale, family-owned wineries with a European winemaking tradition. The coastal Atlantic climate is often compared to Bordeaux's, producing wines with well-balanced levels of alcohol and acidity. Tannat, brought from France in the 1870s, produces rich, full-bodied red wines with dark fruit and spice aromas and flavors.

Artesana was developed in 2007 by American Blake Heinemann who recognized the unique character of Uruguay's Tannat wines and thought others would be interested in discovering them as well. "Uruguay is an extraordinary country. When I first tasted Tannat wines from the Canelones region I was struck by their richness. Uruguay is being recognized as a fine wine producer and deservedly so. There are excellent wines being made in Uruguay and Tannat is a very distinctive grape. It has an exotic spicy character that can be big and bold, yet elegant and complex."

Artesana's award-winning winemaker Ignacio Gonzales handcrafts wines that express the unique terroir of Artesana's Las Brujas vineyard. He has an intimate knowledge of the macro terroir of the Canelones region and the intricacies of the Tannat grape.

Located on an 80-acre estate in Las Brujas in the Canelones region of southern Uruguay, *Artesana's* 20-acre vineyard is planted to Tannat, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Zinfandel, Chardonnay and Petit Manseng. *Artesana* was the first to plant Zinfandel in Uruguay. A 3,500 square foot winery was constructed in 2011 complete with new French and Italian winemaking equipment and the highest quality French and American oak barrels. The *Artesana* name is a feminized derivation of the Spanish word for 'artisan,' synonymous with fine wines.

Artesana wines are sold in fine wine shops and restaurants in Uruguay, Brazil, and the United States.



ARTESANA ESTATE VINEYARD

**“Artesana’s hand-farmed vineyard is the exclusive source
for its award-winning wines.”**

CANELONES REGION

Canelones is located on the 34th parallel in line with Mendoza, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. Located 30 miles north of Uruguay’s seaside capital of Montevideo, the Canelones appellation is home to the majority of the country’s vineyards and is the premier winegrowing region in Uruguay. The Canelones region benefits from the maritime influence of the Atlantic. Ocean breezes keep the vines well ventilated and the combination of well-drained clay soils and 220 days of intense sunshine annually produces growing conditions similar to those of France’s Bordeaux region.

MICROCLIMATE & SOIL

The coastal Atlantic climate provides a temperate weather pattern with an average of 48 inches of rainfall annually, allowing for dry farming in the vineyard. The clay-rich calcareous soils combined with the warm growing season produce wines with well-balanced levels of alcohol and acidity. The vineyard site was chosen for its soil composition, good drainage and pH levels, northern aspect and proximity to the Las Brujas River.

FARMING

The Artesana vineyard is entirely hand-farmed following meticulous protocol to produce the highest quality estate-grown fruit. Sustainable, low-input, dry farming is practiced using the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program to maintain the long-term health of the land. Twenty acres of the eighty-acre estate were planted in 2007/08 to Tannat, Merlot and Zinfandel, the only planting of this variety in Uruguay. Tannat clones 474 & 717 and Merlot clones 181 & 343 were grafted on American rootstocks 3309, 101-14 & SO4. In 2013 Cabernet Franc was added followed by Chardonnay and Petit Manseng in 2019 to provide additional winemaking options. The vineyard is laid out in thirteen blocks of approximately 1.5 acres, with a spacing of 7.5' x 3' and plant density of 1,660 vines per acre. Vines are hand trained to a low wire VSP cordon system and pruned to produce low yields of approximately 2.5 tons per acre. Green harvesting and leaf pulling is done to ensure optimum maturity. Harvest occurs in late February and March. Grapes are field-select, hand harvested in the early morning hours into 30 lb boxes and sorted again before crushing. In 2023, Artesana was granted a Certificate of Sustainability by the Uruguay Association of Wines & Viticulture.

TANNAT

Tannat is the flagship varietal of Uruguay and produces rich, full-bodied wines with dark fruit and spice aromas and flavors. Originating from the Madiran region of southwestern France, Tannat was brought to Uruguay in the 1870s by a French Basque immigrant. Tannat grows especially well in the Canelones region and is softer and more velvety than its French counterpart. Named for its high tannin content, Tannat has been found to be the healthiest of red wines with 3-4 times more antioxidants and an average resveratrol concentration of 4.2%.



ARTESANA WINEMAKING

“Combining European tradition with new world technology and innovation.”

Tannat is at the heart of *Artesana's* winemaking program along with the conviction that wine is made in the vineyard. *Artesana's* small-scale production allows every aspect of winegrowing and winemaking to be monitored.

Key to *Artesana's* winemaking is separation of micro lots and gentle handling techniques throughout the process. Lots from the thirteen blocks are fermented separately in small temperature controlled stainless steel tanks, providing an abundance of winemaking options. 20-day cool maceration regimes provide excellent aroma and flavor extraction. Barrel aging is done to carefully accentuate the flavors of the wines in new and used French and American oak for 12-24 months. Reserve wines are bottled without fining or filtration and bottle aged an additional 6-8 months.

Artesana's handcrafted wines exhibit great depth of fruit and impeccably nuanced tannins. While elegant, they are also powerful and complex. Beautifully accessible upon release, our reserve wines are structured to age up to 10 years or more.

The *Artesana* line consists of Tannat, Tannat blends, Zinfandel and a Chardonnay-Petit Manseng blend. The first vintage in 2010 produced 515 cases. Current production is 2500-3500 cases.

WINES AVAILABLE IN THE US:

Tannat; Tannat-Merlot-Zinfandel; Devoción (Tannat-Cabernet Franc-Merlot); Tannat Rosé

WINES AVAILABLE IN URUGUAY:

Reservas: Tannat; Tannat-Merlot; Tannat-Zinfandel; Cabernet Franc, Merlot

Edición Limitada: Tannat-Zin-Merlot; Zinfandel

Sin Barricas: Tannat, Zinfandel

Rosados: Tannat; Zinfandel; Cab Franc; Merlot

Blancos: Chardonnay-Petit Manseng

HARVEST

Field select, hand harvested and sorted in the early morning hours.

CRUSH

Gently destemmed and crushed, followed by a 3-5 day cold soak in small stainless steel tanks.

FERMENTATION

Controlled fermentation over 15-20 days between 72-75°, must is pumped over twice a day and delestaged 4-5 times.

AGING

Free-run juice from each separate lot is racked into French and American oak barrels where it matures for 12-18 months.

BLENDING & BOTTLING

Reserve wines are custom blended, cold stabilized, bottled without fining or filtration and bottle aged 6-12 months.



WINEMAKING IN URUGUAY

“New technologies combine with traditional craftsmanship in the pursuit of world-class wines.”

The fourth largest wine-producing country in South America after Argentina, Chile and Brazil, Uruguay is a country of primarily small-scale, family-owned wineries with a European winemaking tradition. Winemaking began in the 18th century when the Spanish brought vines to the region. With approximately 3500 growers and 250 wineries, Uruguay produces 10 million cases of wine annually from 22,000 acres of vines.

Uruguay's boutique wines are receiving growing recognition in the world market. Exports account for only 5% of production, however this figure is increasing as wineries begin to focus on international markets. There are several joint ventures with international companies including Boisset, Magrez and Freixenet. Renown winemakers Michel Rolland, Alberto Antonini and Paul Hobbs consult for wineries in Uruguay.

Uruguay is one of the greenest countries in the world, ranking 3rd after Norway and Finland in the 2005 Environmental Sustainability Index. Its water is the purest on the continent. Uruguay's brand is 'Uruguay Natural' for its many organic and boutique products including wine, beef and caviar.



ARTESANA REVIEWS & SCORES

REVIEWS

Richard Jennings –Huffington Post, *Uruguay: Exciting New Producers, Promising New Regions*
“These are full-bodied, rich wines, which might well be mistaken for Napa reds in a blindtasting.”

Michael Schachner –Wine Enthusiast, *South America's Rising Star*
“Artesana's Tannat is dark, extracted and full in body and flavors, just right for pairing with grilled beef.”

John Mariani – Huffington Post, *Now It's Uruguay's Turn to Shine With Wine*
“Artesana's Tannat could easily go head-to-head with even some of the famous labels of California cabernets of much higher price.”

Dave McIntyre – Washington Post, *5 Ways to Drink like Certain Southerners Do*
“Artesana's Tannat-Merlot-Zinfandel is probably the best wine I've tasted from Uruguay.” (**Excellent +**)

SCORES:

Wine Enthusiast – 2022/23

2020 Artesana Tannat – 90 points
2020 Artesana Tannat-Merlot-Zinfandel – 90 points
2020 Artesana Devoción (Tannat-Cabernet Franc-Merlot) – 90 points
2021 Artesana Tannat Rose – 88 points

James Suckling – 2022/23

2020 Artesana Tannat – 91 points
2020 Artesana Tannat-Merlot-Zinfandel – 90 points
2020 Artesana Devoción (Tannat-Cabernet Franc-Merlot) – 91 points
2020 Artesana Cabernet Franc-Merlot – 92 points
2021 Artesana Tannat – 91 points
2021 Artesana Tannat Rose – 89 points
2021 Chardonnay Petit Manseng Reserve – 91 points

Tim Atkin, MW – 2021

2018 Artesana Tannat Reserva – 90 points
2018 Artesana Cabernet Franc-Merlot Reserva – 91 points
2019 Artesana Tannat Reserva – 93 points
2019 Artesana Tannat-Merlot-Zinfandel Reserva – 92 points

Wine Enthusiast – 2020

2017 Artesana Tannat Reserva – 89 points
2017 Artesana Tannat-Merlot-Zinfandel Reserva – 91 points, Editor's Choice
2019 Artesana Tannat Rosé – 89 points

ARTESANA INFORMATION

LOCATION:

- Canelones Region, Las Brujas, Uruguay
- Southern Hemisphere, 34th Parallel South

FACILITIES:

- 80-acre estate
- 3,500 sq. ft. winery completed in 2011
- Water Tank
- Vineyard manager small house/garage

WINEMAKING EQUIPMENT:

- Bucher-Vaslin pneumatic press & peristaltic pump
- Della Toffola 2500 & 5000L stainless steel tanks
- Nadalie, Odyse, Mistral, Saury, Magreñan, Bossuet & World Cooperage French & American oak barrels

VINEYARD:

- 20 acres planted in 2007 & 2008:
10 acres Tannat (French clones 474 & 717); 4 acres Merlot (French clones 181 & 343); 2.5 acres Cabernet Franc; 2.5 acres Zinfandel, 1 acre Chardonnay and Petit Manseng
- American rootstocks 3309, 101-14 & SO4
- 7.5' x 3' spacing; 1660 vines per acre
- Low cordon VSP trellising system

PRODUCTION:

Kilos: 70,000-100,000
Liters: 40,000-70,000
Bottles: 24,000-48,000
Cases: 2000-4000

LINE:

- **Reservas:** Tannat; Tannat-Merlot; Tannat-Zin; Tannat-Cab Franc-Merlot; Merlot; Cab Franc
- **Edición Limitada:** Tannat-Zin-Merlot; Zinfandel
- **Sin Barricas:** Tannat, Zinfandel
- **Rosados:** Tannat; Zinfandel; Cab Franc; Merlot
- **Blancos:** Chardonnay-Petit Manseng

WINES SOLD IN THE US:

Reserves: Tannat; Tannat-Merlot-Zin; Devoción (Tannat-Cab Franc-Merlot); **Rosé:** Tannat Rosé

CURRENT INVENTORY/STOCK:

2021-2024 Vintages:
20,000 bottles (approx)
25,000 liters in tank & barrel (approx)

PERSONNEL:

Owner: Blake Heinemann
Export Director: Leslie Fellows
Winemaker: Ignacio Gonzales
Vineyard Manager: Mario Iroa
Consulting Agronomist: Eduardo Felix

US CONTACT:

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